

Senior Seminar in Psychology (3 credit hours)

PSY 470-ON, Spring 2022, Session II

Phone: 860.249.1720

A. Whitney Shea, MA, LPC, TLMHC

Email: awshea@peace.edu

Course Materials

Text resource of your choice (you will be reporting what you learned later in the term). <https://oxfordsummercourses.com/articles/books-for-psychology-students/>

Additional videos, talks, and readings as assigned.

Course Goals

There are two major goals of Psychology 470.

First in using the theme of “psychology as a science and psychology applied” you will be exposed to the best of psychology as a science as well as how to apply that information to your personal and professional life.

We will be using several topics of your choice, and using psychological examination to accomplish that goal.

The second goal of the class is to close the loops in your preparation for the world of work. The topics and assignments were carefully selected because they represent areas in which you need to gain further knowledge, expertise and/or skills.

Objectives

In this course we will work to develop knowledge and skills in the following areas:

Writing

Adhering to APA style

Applying understanding of intellectual property and plagiarism in the correct citation of sources

Writing effectively using appropriate grammar, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure and organization of ideas; presenting written products in a neat, professional manner.

Oral Communication

Demonstrating effective organization, delivery, and professionalism for formal presentations

Effectively engaging in informal settings, including articulating expression of ideas/perspectives and asking relevant questions

Understanding Research and Critical Thinking

Finding and using scientific information to support points

Integrating relevant research to develop a logical thesis

Drawing appropriate conclusions from theory or research findings

Understanding basic statistical analyses (e.g., reading a graph, creating a simple data file, knowing appropriate analysis to perform)

General Knowledge and Application of Psychology

Mastering key theories and concepts in Psychology and utilizing them effectively in papers, projects and assignments

Using psychological concepts to explain current events

Demonstrating knowledge and skill in applied settings

Class Policies

Preparation for class and active participation:

In order for class to be as productive as possible, each student should be prepared and willing to participate. Everyone is expected to have completed all readings and other assignments in a timely manner. In order to encourage you to complete this goal, you may be expected to respond to questions related to the resources that are geared towards provoking discussion and to identify current events related to the topic. If students are clearly unprepared, they may be asked to 'leave class'.

Attendance and participation:

Consistent course "attendance" and participation are expected of everyone.

Class members will show respect for one another's comments and opinions.

Class members will avoid disrupting by either coming in late or leaving early from meet-ups.

Class members will turn off/put away cell phones during meet-ups (accepting calls or texting are unacceptable as even concealed texting is typically noticeable and disruptive). If there is a valid reason you must have your phone nearby, please speak to me prior to our time together.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty occurs because students choose to engage in academic dishonesty. This choice comes about as an active choice to cheat or plagiarize or a passive choice not to prevent dishonesty from occurring (i.e., by not allowing enough time to write a paper well without copying). Any instance of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the relevant assignment with documentation sent to the Office of Academic Affairs.

Academic Integrity

William Peace University seeks to develop both the intellect and character of its students. All members of the University are expected to promote a culture of academic integrity, and all students are expected to inform themselves of the University's policies and procedures related to the Honor Code.

All forms of academic misconduct are violations of the University's Honor Code. These include, but are not limited to...

Cheating: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in academic work or in working with others on academic requirements (tests, assignments, etc.)

Plagiarism: Representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic work, whether intentional or not

Falsification: Falsifying or inventing any information or citation in academic work

Facilitating academic dishonesty: Helping or attempting to help another student to commit an act of academic dishonesty

Lying: Misrepresenting information that is relevant to the classroom or academic performance

If a faculty member suspects academic misconduct has taken place, s/he will complete an Honor Code Violation Report and meet with the student to discuss. A student may accept or decline to accept responsibility. If a student accepts responsibility, s/he will be subject to the penalty determined by the faculty member. If a student declines to admit responsibility, the case will be turned over to the Honor Board for adjudication.

A complete summary of the Honor Code and Honor Board policy can be found in the WPU Academic Catalog.

Disability Services

Disability Services are available to all WPU students who require reasonable accommodations due to any cognitive, physical, or psychological disability, in order to provide equal access to the educational environment. Students will need to be certified with the Disability Services Office and provide appropriate documentation to receive an Academic Accommodation Plan. For more information or to become certified, please contact a counselor in the Disability Services Office, which is located on the 1st Floor of Joyner House. You may also reach Disability Services by sending an email to Disability@peace.edu.

Tutorial Services

Peer Tutoring is available for all WPU students free of charge.

Support is offered in many subjects, including anthropology, biology, business, chemistry, criminal justice, history, math, political science, psychology, simulation and game design, and writing. Free workshops on study skills and documentation styles like MLA and APA are also offered each semester. Tutorial Services also has many resources on studying, citation, grammar, and other academic topics.

Students can sign up for individual appointments using WPUConnect or in person at the Center for Student Success, located on the 2nd floor of Finch Library.

For more information, contact Dr. Deanna Rogers, Director of Academic Support, at drrogers@peace.edu or 919-508-2080.

Assignments

Week 1

Introductory Discussion Board

‘Choose your Own Adventure’ book selection and presentation

Week 2

Ethics Video
Ethics Article
Quiz

Week 3

Top 10 Trends in Psychology video
10 Things You Should Know About Your Psychology Degree article
Trends in Psychology Discussion Board

Week 4

Careers in Psychology video
Psychology Job Options article
Your Professional Future Discussion Board

Week 5

Nutritional Psychology video
The Role of Nutrition in Psychiatry (TedTalk)
Reflections Discussion Board

Weeks 6 and 7

Once during the semester, each student will be responsible for leading a presentation relating to the book of his/her/their choice (options shared during Week 1).

You will be expected to do the following:

Present a summary/synopsis of the text you selected (as a guideline: 10 minutes is too short, 30 minutes is too long), integrating current events and research findings as appropriate. This can be done synchronously- we will decide on a day/time that will work for all of our schedules, or asynchronously- you may record your

presentation and your fellow classmates will be required to view and contribute as requested.

You must incorporate a related class discussion (please communicate with me directly regarding this forum prior to the unit week you will be facilitating it) , identifying at least three (3) questions for our dialogue.

You will be expected to guide this conversation, clarifying student responses and making sure that our interactions are meaningful and stay on topic.

Project Grading:

- Knowledge of subject matter
- Preparation of information
- Quality of questions
- Ability to guide class discussion
- Inclusion of outside information (to support presentation as well as stimulate class discussion)
- Participation of classmates
- While you may use PowerPoint, videos, etc., this project is not intended to be a formal presentation. You are to lead the class in understanding the material, but classmates should be actively involved.

Your overall grade on this project (as well as your final course score) will include marks based on the following scale:

A ≥ 90% of points

B ≥ 80% of points, but < 90% of points

C ≥ 70% of points, but < 80% of points

D ≥ 60% of points, but < 70% of points

F < 60% of points

All written assignments (including discussion questions) will be graded on writing style, professionalism and use of appropriate APA style.

Late Work:

Assignments turned in late will not be accepted unless student has reached out to Prof. Shea prior to the deadline, with a valid circumstance. We are all adults; I will not be chasing after you when it comes to submission of coursework.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit opportunities are unlikely.

This will only be assigned if an opportunity arises that I would like for each of you to take advantage of, but that I was unaware of at the beginning of the semester.

It will be provided for the entire class and is designed to supplement student learning; never given to accommodate a student who has underperformed early in the semester who would like extra work to raise his/her/their grade.

Let's do this!