

Psychology 409 – Practicum

Winter 2006 Syllabus

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Office Hours: Thursdays 10am-12pm; Fridays 11am-2pm
I am also available by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

By participating in a practicum, you will have the opportunity to gain practical knowledge and hands-on experience by working in a specific area/field of psychology. Becoming involved in a practicum gives you the chance to apply information that you have learned in the classroom to real world situations, and it is also a great way to explore personal and/or career interests.

EVALUATION

In addition to working a specified number of hours over the course of the term, you will also be required to send weekly emails and write a reflection paper at the end of the term. **FAILURE to fulfill any one of these three requirements will result in your receiving a “NO PASS” for this course.**

Hours Worked – The number of hours that you are required to work over the course of the term is determined by the number of credits that you have registered for. For every 1 credit you register for, you are required to work 3 hours per week (30 hours over the course of the term). The way in which these hours are scheduled is decided upon by you and your on-site supervisor. Some students work the allotted number of hours each week, while others work a different number of hours depending on the week. What is important is that you have worked the required number of hours by the end of the term.

Weekly Emails – You are required to send a weekly email that answers the questions listed below. Address your email to practica@psych.uoregon.edu and your SUBJECT LINE should read: **PSY409 Week [#]**

Questions – [Last Name]. Emails are due the following Tuesday by 5pm (e.g. Week 1 questions are due by 5pm on the Tuesday of Week 2), but feel free to send them sooner ☺.

Questions:

- 1) How many hours did you work this week?
- 2) Tell me about one of your experiences this week that either (a) taught you something new about psychology, or (b) taught you something new about your educational/personal goals.
- 3) Are you having any problems/difficulties at your site or with your supervisor? If so, please explain and indicate whether or not you would like my assistance in addressing the issue.

Reflection Paper – You are required to write a 2-3 page reflection paper that is due by 3pm on March 22. This paper should BRIEFLY introduce your practicum site (where you worked, what the organization does, etc.) and give an overview of your responsibilities. The majority of the paper should focus on your experience (this section should account for at least 75% of your paper). The way that you “reflect” upon your experience is up to you, but try to include information pertaining to the educational benefits of your experience, what you learned about psychology, what you learned about yourself, etc. (make sure you give specific examples). Your paper should be double-spaced, typed in Times New Roman size 12 font, and the margins should be 1 inch all the way around.

POLICY ON EMAIL

Make sure that the email address listed for you on duckweb/blackboard is correct. You will need to check this account frequently because I often communicate with you outside of class. If the address you have listed on duckweb/blackboard is not the account that you regularly use, you can change your primary email address by going to <duckweb.uoregon.edu>, selecting <personal information>, selecting <change email address> and then following the instructions. **YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL INFORMATION THAT IS SENT TO YOU VIA EMAIL.**

POLICY ON CLARIFICATION OF INFORMATION

It is your responsibility as a student in this course to ask questions and clarify any points in this syllabus that you find confusing. “I didn’t know that...” or “I wasn’t sure about...” will not excuse you from completing any of the requirements for this course.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Guidelines for Teaching & Learning at the UO, Psychology Department

The Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) has drafted a set of guidelines that outlines the responsibilities of the program, students and instructors regarding courses offered through the Department of Psychology. This information includes sections on (a) the mission of the undergraduate program in psychology, (b) best practices for students, (c) best practices for instructors, (d) special student concerns, and (e) where to get help and additional information. All of this information is available at <http://psychweb.uoregon.edu/guidelines/>.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and need accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me.

Academic Dishonesty

Students are responsible for reading and understanding the University’s policies on academic dishonesty. This information is available at the following web site: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~conduct/sai.htm>.
