PSYC102

Course Summary

Description

Course Description: This course provides an overview of psychology as a profession and academic discipline. It focuses on the broad discipline of psychology and its subspecialty areas within the discipline, career opportunities available in the field and educational requirements for field entry, effective job and graduate program preparation strategies, and practical issues confronting psychologists and professionals in related occupations.

Course Scope:

This course covers specialty areas, career options, and educational requirements for pursuing careers within the field of psychology.

Objectives

During successful completion of this course students will
CO1: Explore the broad discipline and specializations within the applied field of psychology.
CO2: Examine career options for graduates with differing levels of academic preparation.
CO3: Identify skills and knowledge expected of successful applicants to graduate programs in psychology.
CO4: Examine effective strategies for acquiring and evaluating new information within the field of psychology.
CO5: Demonstrate skills in correctly using the editorial style of the American Psychological Association.
CO6: Prepare an action plan for successful completion of the undergraduate academic major.

Outline

Week 1:

Assignment Resources

Development Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/category/topics/developmental/
Kuther and Morgan (2012) textbook Chapter 11
Personality Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/category/topics/personality/

American Psychological Association Website

http://www.apa.org

Listen to several podcasts on each of the above Psych Files web pages and select one from each for use in your assignment completion. *NOTE: If either of the hot links above doesn't work, paste http://www.thepsychfiles.com/ into your web browser and use drop-down menu under the Topics tab on the Psych Files website.*

Assignments

Week 1 Model Report: Human Development and Personality
Week 1 Forum

Week 2:

Assignment Resources

Biopsychology Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/category/topics/biological-psychology/
Kuther and Morgan (2012) textbook Chapter 7
Perception Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/category/topics/perception/

Listen to several podcasts on each of the above web pages and select one from each for use in your assignment completion. *NOTE: If either of the hot links above doesn't work, paste http://www.thepsychfiles.com/ into your web browser and use drop-down menu under the Topics tab on the Psych Files website.*

American Psychological Association Website
http://www.apa.org

Assignments

Week 2 Model Report: Biopsychology and Perception
Week 2 Forum

Week 3:

Assignment Resources

Learning/Memory Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/category/topics/learningmemory/
Psychopathology/Disorders Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/?s=disorders
Kuther and Morgan (2012) textbook Chapter 2

American Psychological Association Website
http://www.apa.org

Listen to several podcasts on each of the above web pages and select one from each for use in your assignment completion. *NOTE: If either of the hot links above doesn't work, paste http://www.thepsychfiles.com/ into your web browser and use drop-down menu under the Topics tab on the Psych Files website.*

Assignments

Week 3 Model Report: Learning/Memory and Psychopathology/Disorders
Week 3 Forum

Week 4:

Assignment Resources

Kuther and Morgan (2012) Chapters 1, 12, 13 and 14

Bureau of Labor Statistics Website
http://www.bls.gov/oco/

American Psychological Association Website
http://www.apa.org

Assignments

Week 4 Module Report: Self-assessment and Education Planning
No Forum this week

Week 5:

Assignment Resources

Industrial-Organizational Psychology Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/category/topics/io-psychology/
Kuther and Morgan (2012) Chapter 8
Social Psychology Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/category/topics/social-psychology/
Kuther and Morgan (2012) Chapter 10

American Psychological Association Website
http://www.apa.org

Listen to several podcasts on each of the above web pages and select one from each for use in your assignment completion. *NOTE: If either of the hot links above doesn't work, paste http://www.thepsychfiles.com/ into your web browser and use drop-down menu under the Topics tab on the Psych Files website.*

Assignments

Week 5 Module Report: Industrial-Organizational Psychology and Social Psychology
Week 5 Forum

Week 6:

Assignment Resources

Experimental Psychology Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/category/topics/research-and-stats/
Kuther and Morgan (2012) Chapter 9
Forensic Psychology Podcasts - http://www.thepsychfiles.com/2011/07/ep-154-5-reasons-why-casey-anthony-might-be-innocent/
Kuther and Morgan (2012) Chapter 4

American Psychological Association Website
http://www.apa.org

Listen to several podcasts on each of the above web pages and select one from each for use in your assignment completion. *NOTE: If either of the hot links above doesn't work, paste http://www.thepsychfiles.com/ into your web browser and use drop-down menu under the Topics tab on the Psych Files website.*

Assignments

Week 6 Module Report: Experimental Psychology and Forensic Psychology
Week 6 Forum

Week 7:

Assignment Resources

Week 1 through Week 6 resources

Assignments

Capstone Project
No Forum this Week

Week 8:

Assignment Resources

Week 6 Resources

Assignments

Week 8 Forum
No Module Report due this week.

Evaluation

PSYC102 is divided into modules which guide students through the study of specialty areas within the discipline of psychology and career opportunities and requirements for successful education and field entry preparation.

Modules include the following:

Module Reports
Each Module Report has 7 parts. Using assigned web resources and textbook readings students completing Module Reports will examine and report on 1) the types of work professionals in specialty areas within the larger field of psychology do, 2) what type and level of education one must achieve to work in those specialty areas and 3) what work settings and average incomes one can expect in related careers. Students will also 4) report, after researching the specialty areas, whether they find them to be career possibilities they are interested in or careers that don't capture student interest and why, 5) describe the most interesting thing not previously known that they learned about the specialty areas, 6) describe an everyday and real-world human experience related to two pod-casts they select to listen to on the specialty web pages provided in the classroom for each specialty and 7) describe a "Hot Topic that fits with what they know about each specialty area after researching it and how the two are related. A hot topic is a current event or issue currently highlighted in the media that has the public's current attention. PTSD in military personnel returning from deployments, the debate over whether children should be prescribed psychotropic medications, reliability of eye-witness testimony and the psychological impact of joblessness are examples of hot topics.

Capstone Project:
Due at the end of Week 7 of the course, the Capstone Project is a composite of the assignments completed in the course Weeks 1 through 6 Module Reports and ends with two summary pages describing the student's top 3 specialty areas of interest at the time of submission and identified action steps needed for continued researching of those areas, successful degree completion and post-graduation plans.

Forums:
Six Forums will be completed Weeks 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 8 of the course. Topical and general instructions for completing them are located under the "Forums" link in the classroom. Participation in Forums is not optional.

All written assignments must be in the student's own words, with content based on published materials paraphrased (restated what one reads in one's own words), source cited and referenced correctly per formatting rules of the American Psychological Association (APA). No more than 2 – 3 short sentences of direct quotes may be included in any writing assignment submissions. These must be placed inside quotation marks and correctly source credited. Failure to properly source credit, regardless of intent, constitutes plagiarism. ANY plagiarism found in any course assignments, including papers and Forums, will result in a score of zero for the first incident and course failure for any subsequent instances.

Click on this APUS Student Handbook link to access the University undergraduate grading scale.

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Module Reports	51.00 %
Week 1 Module Report	8.50 %
Week 2 Module Report	8.50 %
Week 3 Module Report	8.50 %
Week 4 Module Report - Self Assessment	8.50 %
Week 5 Module Report	8.50 %
Week 6 Module Report	8.50 %
Discussion Forum	26.00 %
Week 1 Forum	4.33 %
Week 2 Forum	4.33 %
Week 3 Forum	4.33 %
Week 5 Forum	4.33 %
Week 6 Forum	4.33 %
Week 8 Forum	4.33 %
Capstone Project	23.00 %
Week 7 Capstone Project	23.00 %

Materials

Book Title: Careers in Psychology, 4th ed.- The VitalSource e-book is provided via the APUS Bookstore

Author: Kuther

Publication Info: Cengage

ISBN: 9781133049678

Book Title: You must validate your cart to get access to your VitalSource e-book(s). If needed, instructions are available here - http://apus.libguides.com/bookstore/undergraduate

Author: N/A

Publication Info: N/A

ISBN: N/A

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted as part of coursework in the Psychology Department.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on forum assignments in the School of Arts & Humanities—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

- Tutor.com offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, we understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact your instructor before the due date so you can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes/tests, and assignments. Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes/tests, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.

Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc.) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc.). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, you are strongly discouraged from waiting until the due date to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree", even if wordy and thus, meets the length requirement, is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each other as colleagues. Hateful, aggressive, or hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
- Students must post a response to the weekly forums prompt and post the required number of replies to other students – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations on number of replies and word count requirements.

Quizzes and Exams

- Quizzes and exams may consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Each quiz/exam is accessible only once. Once a quiz/exam is accessed, you will not be able to access it again if you disconnect. Therefore, allocate time to complete your assessments.

University Policies

Student Handbook

- Drop/Withdrawal policy

- Extension Requests

- Academic Probation

- Appeals

- Disability Accommodations

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.