Psychology 4999.01 and 4999.01H  Thesis Research  
Spring, 2016

Attention!

This is a representative syllabus. The syllabus for the course when you enroll may be different. Use the syllabus provided by your instructor for the most up-to-date information. Please refer to your instructor for more information for the specific requirements of a given semester.

Course Objectives:  This course will provide a structured format for students to begin their senior thesis research. It is the first of a two-course sequence, followed by 4999.02 and 4999.02H in Spring, 2016.

Specific goals for this semester:

1. Understand the research process as performed under the supervision of a faculty mentor (your advisor)
2. Generate and refine research hypotheses for the thesis project
3. Present a research proposal in oral, written, and poster formats
4. Practice providing and incorporating critical comments and feedback
5. Better understand the ethics of conducting research and the nature of IRB or IACUC review
6. Learn about grant and scholarship opportunities

Pre-requisites:  You must have the agreement of a faculty member affiliated with the Psychology Department to serve as a mentor and supervise your senior thesis.

Grading:

Creating and revising a research timeline in consultation with your faculty mentor (10%)
Summarize an IRB plan for your research (5%)
Oral presentation of your research to the class (30%)
Written research proposal (35%)
Poster presentation (10%)
Class participation (10%)
Prior to assigning a final course grade, the instructor will consult with your faculty mentor regarding your progress on your research project.

**Required text:**


**Academic Misconduct Warning**

All students at The Ohio State University are bound by the Code of Student Conduct (see [hppt://student affairs.osu.edu/pdfs/csc 12-31-07.pdf](http://student affairs.osu.edu/pdfs/csc 12-31-07.pdf)). Violations of the code in this class will be dealt with according to the procedures outlines in that code. Any alleged cases of misconduct will be referred to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.

**Students with Special Needs**

Any student who feels she or he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss specific needs. Also, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 614-292-3307 in Room 150 Pomerene Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations for your documented disability. Their website is [www.ods.ohio-state.edu](http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu)
Approximate Class Schedule

Jan. 11:  Course overview
          Scholarship opportunities and deadlines
          Communication with the ASC Honors Office

Jan. 18:  Martin Luther King Day, no class

Jan. 25:  Constructing a research timeline.
          Ethical issues and obtaining IRB or IACUC approval.
          **Turn in the questionnaire describing your background and research goals.**

Feb. 1:  APA style guidelines for written research reports.
          Oral presentation guidelines

Feb. 8:  Searching behavioral and biological databases – Natalie Kupferberg
          **Turn in a written research timeline with your faculty mentor’s signature.**
          **Turn in a copy of your application to graduate with Research Distinction or Honors Research Distinction (See the links at http://aschonors.osu.edu).**

Feb. 15:  No class. Meet with instructor individually.

Feb. 22:  Student presentations and discussion
          **Turn in a brief written IRB or IACUC plan (http://orrp.osu.edu).**

Feb 29:  Student presentations and discussion
          **Turn in a completion report for the online CITI course in Social and Behavioral Research (http://go.osu.edu/citi) for research with human participants, or the online course on Animal Use and Care (http://orrp.osu.edu/iacuc or equivalent classroom course). Also turn in a completion report for the OSU Conflict of Interest form (http://go.osu.edu/coi).**

March 7:  Student presentations and discussion
March 21: Student presentations and discussion

March 28: Student presentations and discussion

April 4: Student presentations and discussion

April 11: Student presentations and discussion

April 18: Poster presentations

April 25: Poster presentations

Meet with instructor as needed

April 27: Course overview and goals for the coming year.

Turn in a written research proposal.

Turn in a revised research timeline as needed.

Note: All written assignments should be turned in as a paper copy, not an electronic copy.