

Academic Internship in Psychology

Fall 2016

PSYC 461 & 462

PSYC 461 section 001, CRN 12142, 1 credit; & PSYC 462 section 001, CRN 12143, 2 credits

Location: TBA

Instructor: Tara Collins, Ph.D.

Office: Kinard 121

Office Hours: TR 2:00-3:15pm; W 1:00-3:00pm, and by appointment

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Goals and Objectives. This course is a class within a class. You will be on the other side of the desk in a college course. You will be working with me to design, deliver, and evaluate the Psychology Research Methods course.

University Level Competencies

- **Competency 1:** Winthrop graduates think critically and solve problems.
- **Competency 2:** Winthrop graduates are personally and socially responsible.
- **Competency 4:** Winthrop graduates communicate effectively.

Department of Psychology Student Learning Goals

PSYC 302 also addresses several department of psychology student learning goals:

- **Goal 2.** Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking.
- **Goal 3.** Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World.
- **Goal 4.** Communication.
- **Goal 5.** Professional Development.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to design, deliver, and evaluate exercises and assignments that apply psychological principles to everyday situations.
- Students will regularly assist in designing and delivering class activities and will design and deliver portions of class sessions that include oral presentations and written activities.
- Students will regularly assist in designing and delivering class activities that promote student self-empowerment through self-awareness, self-management, and self-improvement.
- Students will be able to apply psychological concepts to a variety of real-world situations and know how to design, implement, and assess educational activities.

Course Policies. There are two central policies for this course. First, everyone does their work. This means everyone (including me) reads and completes the tasks agreed on during our meetings. Second, there are no stupid questions or stupid ideas. This is a collaborative effort in which each of us has a valid perspective. Our success depends on honest and open communication. It is your job to be honest with me, even if we don't always agree.

Requirements. You will serve as the Academic Intern/ Teaching Assistant (TA) for a section of Psychology Research Methods (PSYC 302). As a TA, you will learn more about psychology, pedagogy, and assessment through intense involvement in designing, implementing, and assessing educational activities, including class lectures, labs, demonstrations, and activities. Through this course you will learn about best practices for education and gain practical experience for graduate school and careers in education. All course design, grading, and assessment will be heavily supervised. This course is designed to give you an introduction to educational pedagogy and assessment.

This is a 3-hour upper-level college course. I expect you to put in just as much effort in this project as you would in any other senior level course. I expect you to be working on this course for approximately 9 total hours each week. You will spend approximately 4 hours of that time attending the Psychology 302 lab and between 0-2.5 hours assisting in the lecture portion of the course (depending on availability). You will spend the remaining 2.5-5 hours each week holding office hours, which will be scheduled at the beginning of the semester. During office hours, you will be available to meet with students who need assistance and, when not assisting students, may be asked to engage in other activities necessary to prepare for upcoming classes and/or events including, but not limited to: searching for and reading articles and other instructional resources; reading the textbook; designing the materials and procedures for class activities; grading assignments; engaging in course assessment; and other duties as required. Every semester is a little different, with its own requirements and proceeding at its own pace. Some weeks will be much busier than others and we may need to complete portions in a very short time (for example, to design a new activity).

Grading. The majority of your grade will be based on participation as the TA in the Psychology 302 course. I will provide verbal feedback throughout the semester that outlines areas of strength and any areas that need improvement.

There will be no final exam for this course. Instead, your grade will be determined based on 3 things:

Participation. You are responsible for any necessary readings and other preparations for the course with which you are assisting. You are also expected to help deliver course activities and demonstrations in Psychology 302.

Journal. You will keep a log of all of the students who came to see you during your office hours throughout the semester, how much time you spent with each student and what you discussed. I may ask to see this log at various points throughout the semester and will ask for a copy of the full log at the end of the semester.

Final Reflection. Using your Journal, you will write a short (1-2 page) paper at the end of the semester summarizing what you did in this course and what you learned. Complete instructions will be provided near the end of the term. This paper serves two purposes. First, it assists me in determining your grade for the course. Second, and more importantly, it helps you identify your accomplishments and the skills you developed during this project so that you can include them in your resume, CV, or grad school application.

A (A-) – Superior work quality and effort

B (+/-) – Exceeding minimum expectations in work quality and effort

C (+/-) – Meeting the minimum expectations in work quality and effort

F – Failing to meet the minimum expectations in work quality and effort

Students with Disabilities/Need of Accommodations for Access

Winthrop University is committed to providing access to education. If you have a condition which may adversely impact your ability to access academics and/or campus life, and you require specific accommodations to complete this course, contact the Office of Accessibility (OA) at 803-323-3290, or, accessibility@winthrop.edu. Please inform me as early as possible, once you have your official notice of accommodations from the Office of Accessibility.

Statement about academic misconduct and consequences. Any form of academic misconduct, including cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade for the entire course. You are expected to do your own work and give credit to others as appropriate when you include it in your own work. All students are bound by the Student Conduct Code at Winthrop, which states “Responsibility for good conduct rests with students as adult individuals.” The policy on student academic misconduct is outlined in the “Student Conduct Code Academic Misconduct Policy” online at <http://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/studentconduct/StudentHandbook.pdf>

Syllabus change policy. Due to the nature of this course, this syllabus is intended as a preliminary guide. Our meeting schedule, assignments, assignment due dates, and other requirements will depend on the course and your interests and will emerge as the class progresses. Modifications to the syllabus will be discussed in person and via email.