

Psychology as a Discipline and Profession

PSYC 198 (Section 001) / 1 credit

Spring, 2016

Wednesdays 2:00-3:15 Owens G01

Professor: Dr. Sarah Reiland
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Office Hours: TR 12:15-1:45 and 3:15-3:45; W 3:15-4:15; and by appointment

REQUIRED materials: There are no required textbooks; however, you are required to complete the Strong Interest Inventory, which will cost \$12.50. You will also need to purchase a poster board for your group project, which will cost approximately \$1 per student. Details will be provided in class.

Readings & Resources:

Reading materials may be distributed throughout the semester during class. You are responsible for material and information distributed during class, regardless of whether or not you are in attendance on the day of distribution.

Electronic Communication:

- You are expected to have a working e-mail account, through which we can communicate.
- You will need to have access to the internet in order to complete all assignments in this course.

Course Description:

This course will provide you with an overview of the breadth and depth of the field of psychology. Special emphasis will be placed on career and training options within the field. You are expected to leave the class with a more sophisticated understanding of the field and with a better understanding of your own options, including whether psychology is the right major for you. The course meets multiple Department of Psychology goals for student learning (see <http://www.winthrop.edu/cas/psychology/default.aspx?id=20116> for additional information).

University Level Competencies (ULCs)

This course will contribute to the development of the following ULC's:

Competency 2: Winthrop graduates are personally and socially responsible.

Winthrop University graduates value integrity, perceive moral dimensions, and achieve excellence. They take seriously the perspectives of others, practice ethical reasoning, and reflect on experiences. Winthrop graduates have a sense of responsibility to the broader community and contribute to the greater good.

Competency 4: Winthrop graduates communicate effectively.

Winthrop University graduates communicate in a manner appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience. They create texts – including but not limited to written, oral, and visual presentations – that convey content effectively. Mindful of their voice and the impact of their communication, Winthrop graduates successfully express and exchange ideas.

Course Goals and associated Student Learning Outcomes

Course goals are based on APA Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major: Version 2.0 (APA, 2013).

1. Communication (connects with ULC 4 and APA Goal 4).

Students will:

- Demonstrate effective writing for different purposes (APA 4.1)
- Exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes (APA 4.2)
- Interact effectively with others (APA 4.3)
- This outcome will be assessed through participation activities, the Strong Interest Inventory reflection paper, the Resume Assignment, and the Team Poster Presentation assignment.

2. Professional Development (connects with ULC 2 and APA Goal 5)

Students will:

- Apply psychological content and skills to career goals (APA 5.1)
- Exhibit self-efficacy and self-regulation (APA 5.2)
- Enhance teamwork capacity (APA 5.4)
- Develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation (APA 5.5)
- This outcome will be assessed through class participation, the Strong Interest Inventory reflection paper, the Resume Assignment, and the Team Poster Presentation assignment.

Course Resources

Writing Center

Winthrop University's Writing Center is an excellent resource that can help you improve the clarity and power of your writing. The Writing Center is located in 242 Bancroft and offers 30 and 60 minute sessions (they accept walk-ins, but you can call 323-2138 to make an appointment). To get the most out of your session at the Writing Center, have a draft of your paper ready along with a specific question or issue you want to address. They are especially helpful for issues related to developing a thesis, improving flow, and incorporating references into your paper.

Academic Success Center

Winthrop's Academic Success Center is a free resource for all undergraduate students seeking to perform their best academically. The ASC offers a variety of personalized and structured resources that help students become effective and efficient learners. The services available to students are as follows: peer tutoring, academic skill development (test taking strategies, time management counseling, and study techniques), group and individual study spaces, and academic coaching. The ASC is located in 3 University College on the first floor of Dinkins Hall, Suite 106. Please contact the ASC at 803-323-3929 or success@winthrop.edu. For more information on ASC services, please visit www.winthrop.edu/success.

Blackboard and Email

Blackboard (<https://bb-winthrop.blackboard.com/>) will be used for posting all relevant materials pertaining to the course. Thus, it is recommended that this site as well as your e-mail account be checked on a daily basis. Info about Blackboard and university email is available from Information Technology (323-2400; helpdesk@winthrop.edu).

Expectations:

- You should be able to comprehend, critique, and discuss class readings and student presentations. All readings should be completed before they are covered in class.
- You should be prepared to discuss topical issues related to class material and readings. Oral defense and presentation of ideas are as important of skills as written presentation.

- You should demonstrate a high level of sensitivity and respect towards other classmates and speakers, particularly when personal experiences or differing opinions are being shared. Be a considerate and thoughtful listener.
- You should practice professional communication skills through interaction with fellow students, faculty, and staff throughout the semester.
 - The instructor is a resource that is available to you upon request. Please ask for what you need.

Classroom Behavior – Your participation in class discussions is highly appreciated. Also, your input and questions are encouraged. Please be courteous to other students in the class and refrain from unnecessary talking in the classroom. Should interruptive talking take place, you may be asked to leave the classroom. All cell phones/pagers should be turned off and kept OUT OF SIGHT! No laptops may be used in class without prior permission from me. Remember that professors can see you very well from the front of the class and DO notice when students are whispering to classmates, passing notes, texting, and/or sleeping! Even if a professor does not immediately address this behavior in class, please realize that students who are doing these things are making a poor impression and will likely miss out on opportunities that are available to students who develop more positive relationships with their professors (e.g., awards, letters of recommendation, research opportunities, scholarship nominations, etc.).

Special Needs:

Winthrop University is dedicated to providing access to education. If you have a disability and require specific accommodations to complete this course, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 323-3290. Once you have your official notice of accommodations, please see me before the first class assignment.

Academic Honesty:

You are expected to complete all assignments with honesty and integrity. As noted in the Student Conduct Code, responsibility for good conduct rests with you as an adult individual (see <http://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/studentconduct/StudentHandbook.pdf>). Plagiarism, cheating, or any other form of academic dishonesty may result in failing the assignment and/or the class.

Important note: Signing-in for someone else or asking someone to sign in for you when you are absent is academic misconduct. This behavior may result in an automatic F for the course in addition to possible further disciplinary action from the University.

Grading: Final grades will be based on a 350 point scale.

324– 350 = A / 313.5 – 323.5 = A- / 306.5 – 313 = B+ / 289 – 306 = B / 278.5 – 288.5 = B- / 271.5 – 278 = C+ / 254 – 271 = C / 243.5 – 253.5 = C- / 236.5 - 243 = D+ / 219 - 236 = D / 208.5-218.5 = D- / 208 or below = F

Points	Assignment	Due Date
120	Attendance & Participation	1/13-4/20
10	Strong Interest Inventory completed on time	2/02 by 11:59 p.m.
40	Strong Interest Inventory Reaction Paper	3/2
20	Research Assignment	3/23
10	Resume for Peer Feedback Activity	3/30
40	Hard copy of resume due in class	4/6
10	Info for Poster Presentations	4/13
100	Poster Presentations	5/3
350	TOTAL	

120 points: Preparation, Attendance, and Participation

Class participation will constitute over 1/3rd of the final grade in the course. Participation points will be assessed based on frequency of class attendance and the quality (not quantity) of contributions to class discussion/activities. On days when there is an in-class assignment, you must complete that assignment in order to earn the participation points for that day (*see notes below). You may miss two classes with no participation grade penalty (but be sure to turn in assignments that may be due!). After the second absence, you will lose 10 points per day for each day you are absent, regardless of why you are absent. You are expected to attend every class. The penalty-free absences should be used for illness or an emergency situation.

* On days when there is a guest speaker, you must submit a guest speaker sheet for each speaker in order to receive your points.

20 points: Research Assignment

This assignment will involve visiting the Psychology Department office in 135 Kinard Hall to view the research posters on display. You will be asked to respond to several brief questions about these posters. Instructions and grading rubric are posted on Blackboard.

10 points: Strong Interest Inventory

Instructions for accessing and completing the Strong Interest Inventory are posted on Blackboard. This assignment **MUST BE COMPLETED ON TIME TO EARN POINTS** – computer trouble is not a legitimate excuse for missing the deadline. Give yourself plenty of time

40 points: Strong Interest Inventory Reaction Paper

After listening to the explanation of the personality inventory in class, you will write a 2-3 page paper. Further instructions will be provided in class and posted on Blackboard.

50 points: Resume → Revised Resume

The goal of this assignment is to improve your ability to market the skills that you are developing in college and to consider what steps you might take to further prepare for the job market. After listening to the presentation from Career Services, you will create your own resume. This resume should be your best effort to represent the experiences and skills that you have accumulated thus far. Grades will be based on quality and effort. No late resumes will be accepted!

You will bring a hard copy of your resume for one assignment (10 points). During that class, you will have an opportunity to receive feedback on your resume and provide resume feedback to a classmate.

You will also turn in a hard copy of your final draft to be graded. A grading rubric to help you with this assignment is posted on Blackboard. (40 points)

110 points: Team Poster Presentations

Students will work in groups of 3 or 4 to create a poster presentation of an assigned topic. There will be several half and full class periods devoted to work on this project. In one of these class periods, teams will turn in a task list that delineates each team member's task in the project. In a later class period, information for each person's assigned task must be brought to class (worth 10 points). The presentations will be held on the day of the final, and students will be expected to briefly present their poster to me and small groups of students. Students will also be expected to view other teams' posters and provide feedback about these presentations. More information about this project, including a detailed grading rubric, will be distributed in class and posted on Blackboard.

Up to 10 points: Extra Credit

All extra credit is due by the start of class on 4/20. Turning things in early is welcome and appreciated!

Option 1: Extra Credit submission of final draft of resume to EAGLELink for feedback (5 points). The staff in the Center for Career and Civic Engagement will provide feedback on your resume through this site. Go to <http://www.winthrop.edu/cce/> and look for the EAGLELink button on the right side of the screen (near the middle of the page). You can watch a 3 minute video on how to use EAGLELink to help you submit your resume (<http://bit.ly/LaeFki>). For extra credit, take a screen shot or print the submission confirmation page to show that you submitted the resume.

Option 2: Attend the career and internship fair at Winthrop and bring back a flyer or other evidence that you attended (5 points). More info about the fair will be presented in class.

Option 3: Attend a psychology club meeting or event and write a 3/4 to 1 page paper (double spaced) on what you learned and how participation in student groups could help you gain skills that may help you get a job (consider your resume, things to talk about on job interviews, networking, career advice shared in club events, etc.). (5 points)

Option 4: Participate in Psychology department research studies that are announced in class. Points vary depending on the duration and complexity of participation, but you will generally get 1 to 2 points per 10-15 minute survey.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Any changes will be announced in class and/or distributed over the class listserv.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC/ ACTIVITY</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENTS DUE & CLASS ACTIVITIES</u>
1/13	Introduction/ Group Assignments	
1/20	Professional Topic: Time Management Introduction to Psychology Club/Psi Chi	
1/27	2:00 Dr. Merry Sleigh-Ritzer (Developmental/Biopsychology) 2:35 Work on Student Presentations – task assignment list due by end of class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online Strong Interest Inventory completed by 11:59 pm on 2/2 (Graded – 10 points) Task Assignment List Due by end of class (activity points)
2/3	Professional Topic: Impression Management	
2/10	Strong Interest Inventory Explanation: Mr. Tom Injaychock from the Center for Career & Civic Engagement (http://www.winthrop.edu/cce/)	<i>You will need the information from this class in order to write your Strong Interest Inventory Reaction Paper.</i>
2/17	2:00 Dr. Kathy Lyon (Experimental Psychology) 2:35 Dr. Cheryl Fortner-Wood (Developmental Psychology)	
2/24	Graduate School in Psychology vs. Jobs with an Undergraduate degree	
3/2	Clinical Psychology as a Career	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hard copy of Strong Interest Inventory Reaction Paper due at the start of class (Graded – 40 pts)
3/9	2:00 Dr. Jeff Sinn (Ecological Psychology) 2:35 Importance of Research in Psychology	
3/16	<i>No Class – Spring Break</i>	
3/23	Resume Writing Workshop: Staff member from the Center for Career and Civic Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>If you have a resume, bring it with you to class. (Recommended, not graded)</i> Hard copy of Research Assignment Due (Graded – 20 points)
3/30	2:00 Ms. Laura Cozart University Program Manager from Autism Charlotte 2: 35 In-Class Resume Feedback Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hard copy of Resume Due at the start of class (Graded for effort – 10 points) <i>In class, you will exchange your resume with a partner in order to provide feedback to and suggestions for one another.</i>
4/6	2:00 Professional Topic: Networking/Interviewing Skills 2:35 Work on Student Presentations – can bring laptops or use smart phones, can use instructor as resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hard copies of revised resume are due at the start of class (Graded – 40 points)
4/13	Work on Student Presentations-put poster together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information for Poster Presentation is due by start of class for 10 points (I will walk around and check this off; turn this in early if you will be absent)
4/20	Work on Student Presentations – develop 1-2 min. oral presentation for poster	
5/3 6:30 pm	Final Exam – Student Poster Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poster presentation due (Graded – 100 points) Attendance is mandatory