

PSY 327

Career Development in Behavioral Sciences

Summer 2026

Online Flex Accelerated | 3 Credits

Course Number	PSY 327-90-2
Course Title	Career Development in Behavioral Sciences
School	School of Education and Behavioral Sciences
Department	Psychology
Term	Summer 2026
Credits	3
Delivery Format	Online Flex accelerated
Canvas	https://chaminade.instructure.com

Instructor Information

Instructor	Abby Halston, Ed.D., NCC, LMFT
Email	abby.halston@chaminade.edu
Phone	808-739-4641
Office Location	Behavioral Sciences 111A
Office Hours	By appointment
Communication	Email responses are generally provided within 24 hours. Canvas assignment comments may require up to 48 hours.

Course Description and Materials

Catalog Course Description

This course examines vocational values, interests, and aptitudes in the identification and development of a career in the behavioral sciences, including anthropology, criminal justice, environmental studies, psychology, sociology, and social services.

Course Overview

The course explores the relationship between a student's academic background and the development of a strong fit with the world of work. Students will complete career assessments, develop a vocational profile and career road map, investigate career-development tools, and examine local, national, and international labor-market trends. The course emphasizes practical career preparation, professional communication, networking, job-search strategies, and the development of a career portfolio.

Prerequisites

EN 102 and PSY 101.

Required Text

Yena, D. J. Career Directions: New Paths to Your Ideal Career (7th ed.). McGraw-Hill. ISBN-13: 978-1259712371; ISBN-10: 1259712370.

Technology Requirements

- Reliable access to the internet and a PC or Mac computer.
- Ability to stream video, play audio, and open PDF files.
- Speakers or headphones for assigned media.
- Regular access to Canvas for course materials, quizzes, assignments, and announcements.

For technical assistance, contact the Chaminade IT Help Desk at helpdesk@chaminade.edu or 808-735-4855.

Credit Hour Requirement

This three-credit course requires a minimum of 135 hours of student engagement. In the accelerated Flex format, engagement includes assigned reading, online learning activities, career assessments, research and writing assignments, professional-document development, practice interviews, portfolio work, and preparation for the final examination.

Course Activity	Estimated Hours
Online instruction and equivalent course activities	37.5
Career research and written assignments	48
Assessments and inventories	15
Final examination preparation and completion	10.5
Readings, homework, and additional course activities	24
Total	135

Learning Outcomes

Psychology Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

1. Identify key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology.
2. Demonstrate adaptation and change through the critical interpretation, design, and evaluation of psychological research.
3. Demonstrate effective written and oral communication within the field of psychology.
4. Explain the dynamic interaction among mind, body, and social influences as part of educating the whole person.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of PSY 327, students will be able to:

1. Use personal and vocational assessments to develop a viable behavioral-science career plan. (PLO 1)
2. Identify vocational interests, aptitudes, strengths, and limitations relevant to career planning. (PLO 1)
3. Use career resources such as the Occupational Outlook Handbook, O*NET, and related online tools. (PLO 1)
4. Analyze labor-market information and career opportunities within cultural, local, national, and global contexts. (PLO 4)
5. Apply effective strategies to the job-application process, including responding appropriately to difficult or unlawful questions. (PLO 1)
6. Demonstrate effective resume development, interview preparation, professional attire, and workplace comportment. (PLO 4)
7. Evaluate career-development and job-seeking opportunities across state, national, and global markets. (PLO 1)
8. Explain the relationship between research and career development. (PLO 1)

Mission and Values

Marianist Values

1. Education for formation in faith.
2. Provide an integral, quality education.
3. Educate in family spirit.
4. Educate for service, justice, and peace.
5. Educate for adaptation and change.

PSY 327 is especially aligned with Educate for Adaptation and Change. Students develop flexible thinking, critical reflection, respect for differences, and openness to changing labor-market

conditions. These values are reflected in career planning, professional communication, and the capstone career portfolio.

Native Hawaiian Values

- 1. Formation in Faith (Mana):** E ola au i ke akua - May I live by God.
- 2. Integral, Quality Education (Na‘auao):** Lawe i ka ma‘alea a kū‘ono‘ono - Acquire skill and make it deep.
- 3. Family Spirit (‘Ohana):** Recognize others, be recognized, help others, be helped; such is a family relationship.
- 4. Service, Justice, and Peace (Aloha):** Education is the standing torch of wisdom.
- 5. Adaptation and Change (‘Āina):** All knowledge is not taught in the same school.

Course Activities and Assignments

Chapter Quizzes

Quizzes assess understanding of key concepts from assigned chapters and are completed in Canvas.

Dream Job Research Paper

Students will prepare a 3-4 page APA-style paper examining a preferred employer or organization. The paper should address organizational history, indicators of success, possible positions and salaries, employee benefits, location and education requirements, and the strengths and limitations of working for the organization.

Career Assessments and Inventories

Students will complete five online assessments or inventories related to interests, values, personality, abilities, and vocational preferences. Results will be used to develop a personal vocational profile.

Career Plan - Milestone Two

Students will prepare a 3-4 page APA-style short- and long-term career plan that addresses desired positions, salary expectations, location, assessment findings, and career information drawn from resources such as the Occupational Outlook Handbook and O*NET.

Networking Plan

Students will identify networking goals, develop a list of professional contacts, create open-ended questions for career conversations, and develop a follow-up plan.

LinkedIn Profile

Students will create a complete LinkedIn student or professional profile. Students may choose whether to make the profile public.

Companies with Educational-Aid Opportunities

Students will research ten employers that offer tuition assistance, degree stipends, or other educational benefits and explain the eligibility requirements for each benefit.

Internship Research

Students will investigate three possible internship sites and prepare a 1-2 page summary describing each site's focus, expected responsibilities, and application process.

Cover Letter

Students will prepare one professional cover letter using a standard format appropriate for a selected position.

Resume

Students will develop a polished, error-free resume that clearly presents marketable skills, abilities, qualifications, education, and experience.

Elevator Pitch

Students will record a professional elevator pitch of fewer than four minutes addressing: Who am I? What do I do? What is my ask?

Video Interview

Students will complete a recorded 10-minute practice interview tailored to a preferred employer or position. Students will research the organization, prepare interview questions and responses, and submit the recording and supporting materials in Canvas.

Contemporary Issues in the Workplace

Students will select three current workplace issues and prepare a 3-4 page APA-style paper using professional sources published within the last five years.

Career Portfolio

Students will assemble a professional portfolio containing 10-12 work samples, including evidence of at least five applied skills and five transferable skills.

Final Examination

The final examination assesses key concepts from assigned readings and course learning activities.

Grading

Total possible points: 292.

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

Course Policies**Attendance and Participation**

Students are expected to participate regularly in all courses for which they are registered. In an online Flex course, attendance is demonstrated through Canvas activity, timely submission of assignments, and completion of required milestones. Students should contact the instructor promptly when illness or other extenuating circumstances interfere with participation.

Milestone Assignments

Because career-development skills build sequentially, milestone assignments must be completed on time. Failure to submit the first milestone by the seventh day of the course may result in administrative withdrawal for nonattendance under Flex policy.

Late Work

Assignments should be submitted by the dates listed in Canvas. Students should contact the instructor before a deadline when circumstances may prevent timely submission. Acceptance of late work and any associated deduction are at the instructor's discretion unless an approved accommodation applies.

Changes to the Syllabus

The instructor may revise course requirements or the schedule when necessary. Changes will be communicated through Canvas or Chaminade email.

Grades of Incomplete

An Incomplete may be considered only in exceptional, documented circumstances when the student has completed at least 75% of the coursework with a passing grade. A written agreement identifying the remaining work and completion timeline is required.

Academic Honesty

Students must submit original work, cite sources appropriately, and follow Chaminade University's academic honesty standards. Plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, or unauthorized collaboration may result in academic and disciplinary consequences.

Student Accessibility

Students seeking accommodations should contact Kōkua 'Ike: Center for Student Learning. For information, email ada@chaminade.edu or call 808-739-8305.

Title IX and Nondiscrimination

Chaminade University is committed to a learning environment free from sex discrimination and gender-based violence. Faculty members are required to report disclosures that fall under University reporting obligations. Current policies and support resources are available through the University's Title IX and compliance offices.

Student Support Resources

Kōkua 'Ike: Center for Student Learning: Tutoring, writing assistance, and accessibility services. tutoring@chaminade.edu | 808-739-8305

Chaminade IT Help Desk: Canvas and technology support. helpdesk@chaminade.edu | 808-735-4855

Canvas: Course materials, assignments, quizzes, announcements, and feedback.