

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY
WINTER 2002
Psychology 490 Senior Seminar

Instructor:	Marie J Burghardt, MSCP	Time:	Thursdays 5:30 – 9:30
		Place:	Fort Shafter
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Texts

Forty Studies that Changed Psychology, 2nd edition by Roger Hock

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th edition by APA

Course Description:

The scope of this course is an examination and understanding of the interrelationship of the sub-disciplines of psychology studied in the psychology program at Chaminade University.

The format of the course will be group interaction between the students and the instructor. As this a senior seminar, the goal is to develop a collaborative approach to exploring and learning. The instructor will facilitate and guide relative to the discussions and thesis development. This is not a lecture course.

The Chaminade psychology program is designed to

1. Provide students with an understanding of human behavior from a biological, psychological, and social perspective while examining the dynamics of individual behavior, human development, social and cross-cultural foundations, personality, and psychopathology;
2. Provide students with an understanding of the scientific method: critical thinking, research, and statistics;
3. Allow students to develop the attitudes, sensitivities, interpersonal skills, basic counseling skills, and critical thinking skills necessary to relate effectively with others (individuals and groups) in a broad range of settings related to individual and family relationships, social relationships, employment, and the larger community;
4. Allow students to develop an understanding of the application of ethics to the field of psychology;
5. Allow students to develop the competencies and skills for integrating cognition, emotion, behavior, social/cultural perspectives, and spirituality relative to health and stress management;
6. Allow students to develop competencies and skills to apply psychological principles to organizational structures;
7. Provide those students desiring to pursue graduate work with a solid foundation in psychology.

There are three major questions that this course will explore:

1. Question number one is “**How and to what extent (indicators of quality) are these seven program objectives obtained?**” Students and the instructor will explore each one of these objectives individually.
2. Question number two is “**How are research and evolutionary psychology threaded through the various sub-disciplines of psychology?**” Students and the instructor will explore major research studies for each of the sub-disciplines in psychology. Students, along with the instructor, will also examine each of the sub-disciplines of psychology from the perspective of evolutionary psychology.
3. A third major question explored during the course of this term is “**To what extent are the five Marianist values integrated in the coursework of the Chaminade psychology program?**”

The five characteristics of a Marianist education are:

1. *integration of reason and faith*
2. *education of the whole person*
3. *family spirit/community*
4. *service, justice, and peace*
5. *adaptation to change*

The student and the instructor will examine each one of the sub-disciplines of psychology relative each one of the five Marianist educational values.

In addition to examining the three questions, each student will develop, collect data, analyze, write and submit a research thesis. This research thesis is part of the requirement for the degree in psychology. The instructor will approve and guide the student relative to the completion of the thesis. The student will present his/her findings to the class. The thesis will be graded (pass/fail) by the instructor and two faculty members. **THE THESIS MUST BE PASSED TO MEET THE GRADUATION REQUIREMENT.**

Course objectives

- Student will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the sub-disciplines of psychology.
- Student will demonstrate how and to what extent they have obtained the seven program objectives.
- Student will demonstrate an understanding of how research is threaded through the sub-disciplines of psychology.
- Student will demonstrate an understanding of how the sub-disciplines of psychology can be viewed from the perspective of evolutionary psychology.
- Student will demonstrate an understanding of how the sub-disciplines in the psychology program can be viewed from the perspective of the five Marianist values
- Student will propose, collect data, analyze, write and submit a successful thesis.
- Student will demonstrate an understanding of how ethics is integrated in the field of psychology
- Student will demonstrate an understanding of how cross-cultural issues integrated in the field of psychology.

Requirements

- Thesis
- Presentation of thesis findings to the class
- One five page paper for each of the three questions (a total of three papers)
- A presentation to the class for each of the three questions
- Attendance

Papers are due on time. 5 points a class day will be deducted for late papers.

ATTENDANCE

If you are not in class when role is taken, you will be counted absent. If you are marked absent, you will lose 10 points for each absence.

Grading

Thesis	Pass or Fail	A	450 – 500
Thesis presentation	100	B	399 – 449
5 page paper for each of the three questions	100 x 3 = 300	C	348 – 398
Attendance and Participation	100	D	287 - 347

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Reading
Week 1	The Scientific Method Experimental Designs in Psychology Ethics of Experimental Research Biology and Human Behavior Thesis Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Topic Generation – Identify the “Problem” – Statement of Problem 	40 Studies Handouts
Week 2	Statistics Perception and Consciousness Thesis Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Literature Review – Formulate Hypothesis – Develop Experimental Design – References 	40 Studies Handouts
Week 3	Learning and Conditioning Thesis Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Secure human subjects’ approval – Conduct Experiment – Analyze Data 	40 Studies Handouts
Week 4	Intelligence, Cognition, and Memory Thesis Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Interpret Results 	40 Studies Handouts

Tentative Course Schedule (continued)

Week	Topic	Reading
Week 5	Human Development Thesis Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write Report - Introduction - Title, Author, Affiliation - Abstract 	40 Studies Handouts
Week 6	Emotion and Motivation Thesis Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write Report - Method - Subjects - Apparatus or Materials 	40 Studies Handouts
Week 7	Personality Thesis Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write Report - Results - Discussion; Including Summary 	40 Studies Handouts
Week 8	Psychopathology Thesis Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write Report 	40 Studies Handouts
Week 9	Social Psychology Cross-Cultural Issues Thesis Development Thesis Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present Thesis 	40 Studies Handouts
Week 10	Health Psychology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present Thesis 	40 Studies Handouts