

# Psychology 2000 27202

## Writing in Psychology: APA Style Course Syllabus

Offered Monday Wednesday and Friday 9:00-9:50 a.m.

Spring Semester 2014 (3 Credits)

McDonald room # 111

Instructor: Aaron Combs

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Office: McDonald 218

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:00-12:00, and 1:00-2:50 p.m.

**Text for the course:** Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition by American Psychological Association (Jul 2009). ISBN: 9781433805615

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Required of psychology majors and recommended for students in all disciplines interested in understanding and more effectively using APA writing style. An introduction to the effective use and application of APA style for research projects, technical papers, and expository writing in the psychological and behavioral sciences. Combination lecture / lab. Prerequisites: PSY 1010; and ENGL 1010. Fulfills: FA, SP. 3 lecture hours per week.

### **PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR**

This course is required to earn the Psychology Bachelor degree (BA/BS)

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

*LEARNING GOAL 1: KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PSYCHOLOGY: Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical trends in psychology.*

- a. Describe the relevant ethical issues addressed by the APA code of ethics.
- b. Apply relevant ethical principles, as addressed by the APA code of ethics.
- c. Identify careers associated with psychology at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels.

*LEARNING GOAL 2: RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY: Understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.*

- a. Identify the basic components of APA style
- b. Explain (in writing) the methods, results, and conclusions of a data collection project.
- c. Identify and locate relevant journals and databases in psychology

*LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN PSYCHOLOGY: Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.*

- a. Discern difference between personal views and scientific evidence in understanding behavior
- b. State connections between diverse facts and theories

**Attendance:** You are expected to attend class. Roll will be taken in each class. **NOTE:** In college, there are no "excused" absences. If you are participating in extra-curricular, social, athletic, or leadership activities (or even in off-campus field trips or activities required for other courses), you do so by your own choice, and you are responsible for the consequences of those choices (e.g., work turned in late is LATE, even if you were absent on the due date). It is the student's responsibility to find out which assignments are missed during an absence. This class requires participation. **If you are absent you will lose points.**

**Rude and Disruptive behavior:** PLEASE respect others and do not bring food, drinks, laptops, or cellular phones to class. Teachers at Dixie State College have the right to manage the classroom environment to ensure a good learning climate. Toward this end, teachers (or college security) may dismiss and remove disruptive students from individual class activities. If a student's behavior continues to disrupt class activities, the teacher may dismiss and cause the removal of disruptive students from their course. Students who believe themselves wrongfully disciplined may appeal those disciplinary actions through the standard grievance procedure

**Disability Statement:**

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring reasonable academic adjustment, accommodations, or auxiliary aids to be successful in this class will need to contact the DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER Coordinator ( Baako Wahabu) for eligibility determination. Proper documentation of impairment is required in order to receive services or accommodations. DRC is located next to the testing center on 1000 East, in the North Plaza Building. Visit or call (435) 652-7516 to schedule appointment to discuss the process. DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

**Academic Honesty Policy:** Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated at Dixie State College, including but not limited to plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, and cheating on exams or quizzes. Teachers at Dixie State College may discipline students proven guilty of academic dishonesty by:

- Giving a failing grade on the specific assignment where dishonesty occurred,
- Failing the student in the entire course,
- Immediately dismissing and removing the student from the course, and/or
- Referring the student to Student Affairs, a committee which may reprimand, place on probation, suspend, and/or expel the student.

**College resources:** Several college resources are available to help you succeed. Check out the links for each one to get more information.

**Tutoring Center:** If you need help understanding the content of your courses, go to the Tutoring Center located in the new Holland Centennial Commons, Room 431. There is a schedule of what courses have tutors at what times outside the door or by accessing this page <http://www.dixie.edu/tutoring/schedule.php>. You can also view the general hours for the tutoring center online at <http://www.dixie.edu/tutoring/>.

**Writing Center:** If you need help writing papers, go to the Writing Center in the Browning Learning Center, Room 105. You can also visit them online at [http://www.dixie.edu/english/dsc\\_writing\\_center.php](http://www.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php).

**Computer Center:** If you need to use a computer to do schoolwork on campus, go to the Computer Center in the Smith Computer Center or the Library located in the Holland building.

**Testing Center:** If you are assigned to take a test in the Testing Center, go to the east side of the north plaza building. You can get information on their website at <http://www.dixie.edu/testing/>.

**Library:** The Library has all kinds of information and resources. Visit the library located in the Holland building.

## **Grading:**

### **Attendance/ Participation: (48 class sessions; Total 96 points)**

You earn points by coming to class and actively participating. If you come to class and engage in the tasks we are doing, you will earn full credit. If you come to class late, leave early, or do not exhibit professionalism or courtesy in class you will lose points.

### **Introduction Paper: 10 points**

**Peer review: 3 points**

### **Methods assignment: 10 points**

**Peer review: 3 points**

### **Term Paper (Total = 175)**

You will be graded on your adherence to APA style.

**\*\*On days that a draft of your term paper is due, you are required to do a peer review of at least one peers paper. If you do not review a peers paper within 48 hours, you will lose 5 points on your paper. Peer reviews will improve your paper and will help you develop editorial skills. You should use the editorial review checklists available in the 'FILES' section of the CANVAS website (general checklist and references checklist) to assist you with your review. You must bring these papers to class on the day of peer reviews or use an electronic version of the forms for online peer review days. Quotes are not allowed in the paper.**

**Reference page with 10 references: 5 points**

**Two article reviews: 10 points (2 points peer review)**

**Topic and 10 Annotated References: 10 points**

**Draft of Introduction/ Hypotheses: 10 points (2 points peer review)**

**Draft of Methods, results, Table, Figure: 15 points (2 points peer review)**

**Draft of Discussion: 10 points (2 points peer review)**

**Title page and Abstract Draft: 5 (2 points peer review)**

**Presentation: 20 points**

**Final Paper: 75 Points (5 points peer review)**

Final paper will include: cover letter, title page, abstract, introduction, method, results (students will make up results), discussion, at least 10 references, one table, and one figure. Introduction, method and discussion will be no less than eight pages

**Presentation (Due Day of Final; 20 points total)**

Make 3-5 minute presentation in class with on day of final (10 points)

Needs to appear professional:

- No spelling, grammar, punctuation errors (1 point)
- Needs to be aesthetically pleasing and well organized (2 points)

Needs to have:

- Introduction (1 point),
- Hypothesis (1 point),
- Method (1 point),
- Results (1 point),
- Discussion (1 point),
- 1 Table (1 point), and
- 1 Figure (1 point)

**Final Term Paper Grading Rubric- 75 Points Total for Paper**

Publication Cover Page (5 points)

Title Page (5 points)

- Font
- Name
- Affiliation
- Centered
- Running Heads/ Page Numbers

Abstract (5 points)

- Not indented
- 200 words or less
- Follows guidelines on p. 26 of blue APA book

Introduction (15 points)

- Citation in each paragraph
- Proper citations in the text (style of citation, are citations included where they should be)
- All paragraphs are coherent and lead reader to the hypothesis (hourglass approach)
- Four pages in length, no longer than 5 pages in length
- Information is synthesized and well integrated/organized
- Font
- No quotes
- Rational provided
- Hypothesis stated clearly

Method (10 points)

- Font
- Participants
- Research Design
- Measure
- Procedure

Results (3 points)

- Font
- Restate hypothesis
- Results are coherent, match what the hypothesis stated
- State if results are significant or not

Discussion (12 points)

- Summary of Results
- Theoretical Implications
- Practical Implications
- Conclusion
- Font

References (10 points)

- At least 10
- Formatting of references

Table displaying demographic characteristics (5 points)

- APA style

Figure displaying results (5 points)

- APA style

**Late/Missed Assignments:** Assignments must be turned in on the day they are due. Late assignments will be docked by 10% every class period they are late.

### GRADE EQUIVALENTS

93%-100% = A	73 - 76 = C
90 - 93 = A-	70 - 72 = C-
87 - 89 = B+	67 - 69 = D+
83 - 86 = B	63 - 66 = D
80 - 82 = B-	60 - 62 = D-
77 - 79 = C+	59 and below = F

Day	Date	Assigned Reading	Course Discussion	Due
Monday	Jan 6			
Wednesday	Jan 8	pp. 9-11	Syllabus and Course Intro	
Friday	Jan 10		Empirical Research: Begin introductory project	
Monday	Jan 13		Sections of research article	
Wednesday	Jan 15	pp.21-36	Data analysis	
Friday	Jan 17		Peer Review	Due: Draft of Introductory Project Due: In-class peer reviews
Monday	Jan 20		No Class	Martin Luther King Day No Class
Wednesday	Jan 22		Introductions and Methods	Due: Final draft of Introductory Project
Friday	Jan 24		Hypotheses	
Monday	Jan 27	11-20, 170-171	IRB and ethics	
Wednesday	Jan 29		Methodology	In-class Methodology Activity
Friday	Jan 31		Methodology	In-class Methodology Activity
Monday	Feb 3		Begin Research Project Generate topics for research	Due: Revised Methodology
Wednesday	Feb 5		Proposals & Research	
Friday	Feb 7			Due: Proposal Due: In-Class PR of Proposal
Monday	Feb 10	180-189 198-224	References page	
Wednesday	Feb 12		Research	

Friday	Feb 14			Due: References Page Due: in-class PR of References page
Monday	Feb 17		No Class	President Day No Class
Wednesday	Feb 19		Article Review	
Friday	Feb 21		Peer Review	Due: Article Review 1
Monday	Feb 24		Article Review	
Wednesday	Feb 26		Peer Review	Due: Article Review 2
Friday	Feb 28		Annotated Bibliography	
Monday	Mar 3	pp.87-114		Due: Annotated Bibliography
Wednesday	Mar 5		Synthesis of sources	
Friday	Mar 7	pp.61-84	Peer Review	Due: Intro Section Due: In-class PR of Intro Section
Monday	Mar 10			Spring Break!
Wednesday	Mar 12			Spring Break!
Friday	Mar 14			Spring Break!
Monday	Mar 17		Methodology Section	
Wednesday	Mar 19			
Friday	Mar 21		Peer Review	Due: Methodology Section Due: In-class PR of Methods section
Monday Results	Mar 24	pp.125-150	Results	
Wednesday	Mar 26	pp.151-167	Figures and Tables	
Friday	Mar 28		Peer Review	Due: Results Section Due: PR of Results section
Monday	Mar 31		Discussion Section	
Wednesday	Apr 2			
Friday	Apr 4		Peer Review	Due: Discussion Section Due: PR of Discussion Section
Monday Title Pages	Apr 7	pp.23-25	Abstracts & Title pages	
Wednesday Abstracts	Apr 9			
Friday	Apr 11			Due: Abstract and Title page Due: In-Class PR of Abstract and Title page

Monday	Apr 14		Student Conferences	
Wednesday	Apr 16		Student Conferences	
Friday	Apr 18		Editing	
Monday	Apr 21		Editing	
Wednesday	Apr 23		Journal work	Due: Final draft of Research Projects
Friday	Apr 25		Journal work	
Wed	Apr 30		Poster presentations	10:00 am

## Important Dates

Jan 6	Classwork Starts
Jan 9	Last Day to Waitlist
Jan 10	Last Day to Add Without Signature
Jan 15	Drop/Audit Fee Begins (\$10 per class)
Jan 15	Residency Application Deadline
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan 21	\$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Jan 27	Pell Grant Census
Jan 27	Last Day for Refund
Jan 27	Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Jan 29	Courses dropped for non-payment
Jan 31	Last Day to Add/Audit
Jan 31	Associate's degree Graduation Deadline - Spring 2014
Feb 17	President's Day
Feb 24	Mid-Term Grades Due
Feb 28	Last Day to Drop Individual Class
Feb 28	Bachelor's degree Graduation Deadline - Summer 2014
Mar 10-14	Spring Break
Mar 17	Fall 2014 Class schedule available online
Mar 17	Summer Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Mar 18	Summer Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Mar 19	Summer Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Mar 20	Summer Registration open to all students
Mar 28	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
Apr 1	Bachelor's degree Graduation Deadline - Fall 2014
Apr 7	Fall Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Apr 8	Fall Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Apr 9	Fall Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Apr 10	Fall Registration open to all students
Apr 23	Classwork Ends
Apr 24	Reading Day
Apr 25	Final Exams
Apr 28-30, May 1	Final Exams