

# Psychology 2000-40 31644

## Writing in Psychology: APA Style Course Syllabus

Offered Online  
Summer Semester 2014 (3 Credits)  
Instructor: Aaron Combs  
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Office Hours: By appointment

**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.

### **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:** Participation in weekly discussions and assignments is required for this course. Updates and information for this course will be provided through email and Canvas announcements. You will be expected to check your email and Canvas site regularly.

**Rude and Disruptive behavior:** PLEASE be courteous when communicating with your classmates and instructor. Refrain from using vulgar or derogatory language in this course. Be respectful of others opinions and beliefs. The instructor reserves the right to dismiss students from the class who do not adhere to these standards. 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 Holland Centennial Commons (HCC) 421. You can also visit them online at <http://dixiewritingcenter.com>

**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:**

### **Discussion posts: 10**

Each week students will have a discussion post to respond to. To receive full credit, respond to the post by Friday and to a classmate by Sunday. Late work will be docked. Make sure to respond to each part of the discussion post for full credit. Make sure to check your announcements and emails on Canvas, some of the discussions will involve you being placed in a group and the group you will be placed in will be on an announcement or email through Canvas.

### **Quizzes: 20**

**All your quizzes will require a proctor. For your proctored quizzes, you will be required to show a driver's license or alternative form of identification.** You will be required to find and report who will be your proctor a week before the due date of the quiz which needs to be proctored. A link to the proctor request form will be posted on the module for when it needs to be completed (refer to proctor guidelines). If you plan on taking the quizzes at Dixie's testing center in St George or Hurricane you will not need to use the proctor request form. If you have computer problems while taking a proctored quiz, I can more easily allow you to try the quiz again for full credit if you take it at the testing center. Quizzes cannot be completed after the deadline or made up. Please plan ahead.

There will be four quizzes each worth 5 points. Quiz material will come from the lecturers, readings and practice worksheets. You will be able to use your book and notes for the quizzes, but if you have not reviewed your book and practice assignments, you will most likely not be able to complete the quizzes in the time given.

### **Assignments:**

Your assignments will include of a rough draft of each section of your paper and your final revised paper:

**Introduction: 10**

**Methods: 10**

**Results: 10**

**Discussion: 10**

**Abstract and Title page: 5**

**Final Paper: 25**

A Rubric for how each assignment will be graded will be provided in each assignment on Canvas.

You will conduct a full research study as part of this class. To conduct some research IRB approval has to be received, which will not have time for over the summer. For this reason I have listed topics you

could do which would not require IRB approval. Please consider the following topics for your project. If you have other ideas please email me and we can consider your ideas for your project. The topics that do not require IRB are studies involving you, close friends, or members of this class that do not involve any sensitive topics. Examples include:

Behavior change projects/interventions (exercising more, studying better, improving language/communication, compliance training, giving more compliments, serving more, going on more dates, starting a budget ect.)

**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 SCALE**

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	Assigned Reading	Course Discussion	Due
Week 1 May27- June 1	Syllabus APA manual p. 9-11, 23-37 Lecture 1,2 &3	Course expectations. Scientific writing, types of articles,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion 1 (Introduction)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Post due: May 30</li> <li>○ Reply to classmate due: June 1</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Week 2 June 2-8	APA manual p. 23-37 p. 61-77 Read example article Practice questions Lecture 4	Article sections, style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion 2 (Article sections examples)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Post due: June 6</li> <li>○ Reply to classmate due: June 8</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Quiz 1 due: June 6 (start test before 5 p.m.)</li> </ul>
Week 3 June 9-15	APA manual p. 169-171, 174-180 Review p. 27-28 Lecture 5&6	Plagiarism, in text citations. Introduction section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion 3 (Pick project, introduction outline) &amp; Extra Credit Discussion               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Post due: June 13</li> <li>○ Reply to classmate due: June 15</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Week 4 June 16-22	APA manual p. 181 (6.25)-186, 198-215 Practice questions	Reference page Introduction section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion 4/Assignment 1 (Intro peer review)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Post due: June 20</li> <li>○ Reply to classmate due: June 22</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Quiz 2 due June 20 (start test before 5 p.m.)</li> </ul>

Week 5 June 23-29	APA manual p. 77-86 111-113 Review p.29-32	Grammar& Numbers Methods section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion 5/ Assignment 2 (Methods peer review) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Post due: June 27</li> <li>○ Reply to classmate due: June 29</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Week 6 June 30- July 6	APA manual 125-160 Practice questions Review p. 32-35 Lecture 7	Presenting Results Results section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion 6/Assignment 3 (Results peer review) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Post due: July3/4</li> <li>○ Reply to classmate due: July 6</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Quiz 3 due July (start test before 9 p.m.)</li> </ul>
Week 7 July 7-13	APA manual p. 87-105, & p. 108 (4.26) Review p. 35-36	Punctuation Discussion Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion 7/Assignment 4 (Discussion peer review) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Post due: July 11</li> <li>○ Reply to classmate due: July 13</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Week 8 July14-18	Review p. 23-26 Practice questions	Abstract and Title page	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Quiz due: July 18 (start test before 5 p.m.)</li> </ul>

## Important Dates

May 26	Memorial Day
May 27	Classwork Starts
May 27	Last Day for Waitlist
May 28	Last Day to Add Without Signature
Jun 3	\$25 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Jun 5	Pell Grant Census
Jun 5	Last Day for Refund
Jun 5	Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Jun 9	Last Day to Add/Audit
Jun 9	Courses dropped for non-payment
Jun 23	Last Day to Drop Individual Class
Jul 3	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
Jul 4	Independence Day
Jul 18	Classwork Ends
Jul 18	Final Exams