

**INSTRUCTOR:****DANNELLE LARSEN-RIFE, PH.D.****CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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Office Location: 219 McDonald

Office Hours: M, W and F 11:30 to 12:00 pm, M and W 1:00 to 2:30 pm, and Th 2:15 to 2:45 pm, or by appointment**REQUIRED TEXT:**

American Psychological Association (APA). *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (2009). 6th ed. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Other texts to be assigned during course.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Classwork starts	22 Aug
Last day to add without a signature	24 Aug
Drop/Audit fee begins (\$10 per class)	29 Aug
\$50 Late registration/Payment fee	6 Sep
Last day for a Refund, Pell Grant census, Last day to drop without receiving a "W" grade	12 Sep
Courses dropped for nonpayment	13 Sep
Last day to ADD classes	16 Sep
Last day to apply for graduation	30 Sep
Last day to DROP/AUDIT classes	17 Oct
Last day for complete withdrawal	11 Nov
Classwork ends	9 Dec
Final Exam	12 Dec

# Capstone Research in Psychology

PSY 4910, CRN 44524

FALL 2011

## Course Description

Fulfills Psychology Capstone requirement. Requires consolidation of information, skills and knowledge learned throughout students' undergraduate studies, particularly in the Psychology core and research areas, to conduct independent research to further develop their understanding of Psychology as a science.



Human embryo 6 weeks

**Lecture:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday 12:00 to 12:50 pm, McDonald 104**Prerequisites:** Psychology major; senior standing.

## Philosophy/Expectations

This course will operate on the philosophy that active engagement with material fosters quality learning. There will be ample opportunity for in-class discussion with the entire class. Students are expected to read assigned articles prior to class and be prepared to participate in class to maximize the learning experience. Throughout your involvement in the course you should be utilizing what you have learned about specific issues in your psychology courses to contribute to discussion on assigned articles and discussions of manuscripts. The provided course calendar indicates when topics will be covered; however, please allow for some flexibility in the schedule. Course announcements may be posted on Blackboard.

There is no attendance policy for this course, other than for administrative purposes. However, absences may result in lost learning opportunities which may impact your final grade.

# Social Science Program Objectives



Developmental Psychology

As an outcome of taking courses in the Social Science program, students shall:

1. Demonstrate the ability to examine human behaviors in a structured and organized way as a means of understanding the human condition. Measured by examination and/or oral and written reports.

2. Demonstrate the ability to recognize the ideas, people and events that are generally thought to be important by social scientists. Measured by examination and/or oral or written reports.

3. Develop a perceptual frame of reference based on social scientific knowledge. Measured by the presence of an attitudinal frame

of reference which would be expressed in written or oral activities.

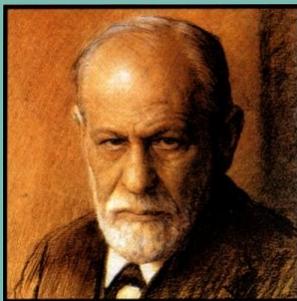
4. Exhibit concepts of critical thinking and scientific methodology in examining human behavior. Measured by the presence of an attitudinal frame of reference which would be displayed in written or oral activities.

## Course Objectives and Outcomes

The primary objective of this course is for students to demonstrate and integrate their knowledge and skills in psychology. By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the major theories, concepts, empirical findings and history of psychology.
- Demonstrate understanding of basic research methods in psychology and be able to apply and evaluate those methods.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in using the scientific approach to solve problems in psychology.

- Demonstrate an ability to apply psychological principles to behavior and mental processes.
- Demonstrate an ability to utilize their knowledge and skills in psychology in a variety of professional settings.



Sigmund Freud



- Demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively in written and oral presentations in accord with APA style.

## Paper

There will be one 25 page paper worth 250 points.

There are five paper options:

- 1) Independent Research paper (up to 4 authors);
- 2) Literature review (up to 2 authors)
- 3) Applied project paper (up to 2 authors)
- 4) Internship paper; or
- 5) Psychobiography.



## Paper Presentation

All papers will be presented in class (see syllabus) and during an end-of-semester psychology conference and poster session. Each presentation is worth 50 points for a total of 100 presentation points.

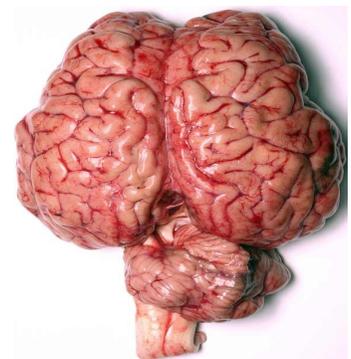
Final Presentation: Thursday, May 5, 12:30 to 2:30 pm.

## Article Presentation and Discussion

Each student will select an article in consultation with the professor to present during a class meeting. As the presenter, you will be required to facilitate discussion of the article. As a discussant, you will be required to contribute to the discussion in a meaningful way. The goals of the discussion are for students to:

- demonstrate what they have learned in psychology;
- use critical thinking skills to critique the information;
- demonstrate the ability to apply their knowledge to real-world situations; and
- integrate the information within the broader context of psychology.

The article presentation will be worth 50 points.



# Projected Course Calendar

22 Aug 2011	Course Introduction
<sup>A</sup> 24 Aug 2011	Format of course; discuss projects
26 Aug 2011	TBA
29 Aug 2011	Project consultation
31 Aug 2011	Kathi-Ann Busha
2 Sep 2011	TBA— <u>Written paper topic due</u>
5 Sep 2011	Labor Day Holiday
7 Sep 2011	Loro Vincent
9 Sep 2011	Allen Richards
12 Sep 2011	Project consultation
14 Sep 2011	Catherine Abrahamsom
16 Sep 2011	TBA
19 Sep 2011	Project consultation
21 Sep 2011	Kaylee Litson
23 Sep 2011	Aaron Combs
26 Sep 2011	Project consultation
28 Sep 2011	Morgan Hill
30 Sep 2011	Out
3 Oct 2011	Teresa Lees
5 Oct 2011	Mikell Jensen
7 Oct 2011	Callie Merrill
10 Oct 2011	Project consultation
12 Oct 2011	Debbie Celani
14 Oct 2011	Break
17 Oct 2011	Project consultation; <u>Paper resources due</u>
19 Oct 2011	Ashley Morgan
21 Oct 2011	Donnie Collins
24 Oct 2011	Project consultation; <u>Paper outline due</u>
26 Oct 2011	Justin Brader
28 Oct 2011	Liz Egbert
31 Oct 2011	Project consultaton
2 Nov 2011	Whitley Davis
4 Nov 2011	TBA
7 Nov 2011	Project consultation
9 Nov 2011	Lauren Minnick
11 Nov 2011	TBA
14 Nov 2011	Project consultation; <u>First draft of paper due</u>
16 Nov 2011	Kaycee Draper
18 Nov 2011	TBA
21 Nov 2011	Project consultation
23-25 Nov 2011	Holidays
28 Nov 2011	Project consultation; <u>Final paper due</u>

## Projected Course Calendar (continued)

30 Nov 2011	Project presentation session
2 Dec 2011	Project presentation session
5 Dec 2011	Project presentation session
7 Dec 2011	Project presentation session
12 Dec 2011	Final Presentations

### Academic Honesty

As stated in the DSC Student Handbook; “Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated at Dixie State College (Academic Discipline Policy, 3.34)” including cheating, and plagiarism. These acts of academic dishonesty are strictly prohibited. The instructor has the right to all means of academic discipline outlined in the Academic Discipline Policy: <http://www.dixie.edu/humanres/policy/sec3/334.html>



Mary Ainsworth

### Disruptive Behavior Policy



Toddlerhood

If your conduct in class affects the learning atmosphere of the class, the instructor reserves the right to drop you from the class. This will happen using the following procedure:

Verbal warning that your behavior is negatively affecting the class.

Written warning that you are negatively affecting the class.

Removal from the class. The instructor will inform the student in writing of this, along with contact information for a supervisor of the instructor so the student can appeal if desired.

### Grading

There are 400 points possible including 250 points for the paper, 100 points for the paper presentations, and 50 points for an article presentation and discussion facilitation.

Grade	Points
A	372—400
A-	360—371
B+	348—359
B	332—347
B-	320—331
C+	308—319

Grade	Points
C	292—307
C-	280—291
D+	268—279
D	252—267
D-	240—251
F	239 or less



Renee Baillargeon

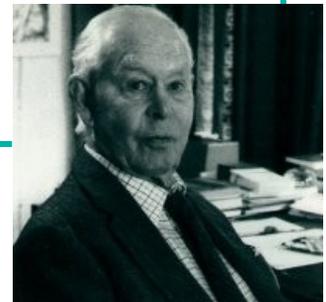
# Policies for Absences Due to College Related Functions

For students, such as student athletes, who travel as official representatives of the college, absences due to college functions will not negatively affect the student's grade. The student is required to provide the instructor with a schedule of days that will be missed and will be required to negotiate any scheduled work ahead of time with the instructor.

## Student Support Services

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 (DRC) Coordinator, Baako Wabahu, for eligibility determination **within the first two weeks of the beginning of classes**. Proper documentation of impairment is required in order to receive services or accommodations. DRC is located on the ground floor of the Financial Aid

Office. Visit or call 652-7516 to schedule an appointment to discuss the process. The DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.



Sir John Bowlby

## Campus Resources

“What a distressing contrast there is between the radiant intelligence of the child and the feeble mentality of the average adult.”  
Sigmund Freud

**Library:** For information concerning the library and hours of operation go to <http://library.dixie.edu/>.

**Computer Lab:** The Computer Lab is located in the Smith Computer Center. For more information go to <http://new.dixie.edu/cit/cis/>.

**Writing Center:** The Writing Center is located on the

first floor of the Browning Learning Resource Center if you need assistance with a written assignment in any class. For more information go to [http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc\\_writing\\_center.php](http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php).

**Testing Center:** The Testing Center is located at the North Plaza. For more information go to <http://>

[new.dixie.edu/testing/](http://new.dixie.edu/testing/).

**Tutoring Center:** The Tutoring Center is located on the first floor of the Browning Learning Resource Center. For more information go to <http://dsc.dixie.edu/tutoring/index.htm>.

## DMail

You are required to check your dmail account. Important class and college information will be sent to your demail account, including DSC bills, financial aid/scholarship notices, and notices of cancelled classes, reminder of important dates and deadlines, and other in-

formation critical to your success at DSC and in your courses. If you don't know how to access your dmail account, go to [www.dixie.edu](http://www.dixie.edu) and select “Dmail” from the left column. To locate your dmail username and password, go to [www.dixie.edu](http://www.dixie.edu),

and click on “Log in to student services” (upper right corner).

# Paper Options

## Option 1: Independent Research Project

Up to four students may collaborate in designing and conducting scholarly research. Each student will be required to contribute at least one research question to the study, and each student will be the first author on their individual paper. The paper will follow the guidelines for empirical research in the APA Manual, and should include a minimum of 10 scholarly citations.

## Option 2: Literature Review

Up to two students may conduct a literature review on an identified topic. The goal of the review is to critically evaluate the research. Your paper should follow APA guidelines for a Review article. This paper should include at least 15 scholarly citations. A literature review will be 25 pages per person.

## Option 3: Applied Project

For this option, up to two students will identify an application for the knowledge gained in your psychology courses. You may write a grant for a real or hypothetical project, or develop materials to use in a real or hypothetical setting. Your paper will consist of the text portion of the grant, or the protocol or manual for your project. Your paper should contain a minimum of 10 citations from scholarly journals or books. Applied projects will be 25 pages per person.

## Option 4: Internship and paper

For this option, you will identify an internship site and volunteer a minimum of 25 hours throughout the course. In addition, you will write a paper applying four concepts in psychology to your experience. Your paper should include at least 8 citations from scholarly journals or books.

## Option 5: Psychobiography

For this option, you will identify a person of interest and use psychological theories and research to analyze an aspect of their life and/or work. Your paper should include at least 8 citations from scholarly journals or books.

# Paper Requirements

All papers must follow the guidelines as set forth in the APA Publication Manual. Papers must include a cover page, abstract and references. The text of the paper should be no less than 20 pages, double-spaced using 12 point Times New Roman font. The paper length is exclusive of appendices or other attachments.

The grade for your paper has 5 parts:

Paper topic—written statement of your chosen topic with a brief explanation of your approach (15 points). **DUE SEPTEMBER 2, 2011**

Paper resources—an initial list of your resources with a short description of the purpose of each resource in your own words (35 points). **DUE OCTOBER 17, 2011**

Paper outline—a complete outline of your paper incorporating your resources (50 points). **DUE OCTOBER 24, 2011**

First draft—a complete draft of your paper for peer review (50 points). **DUE NOVEMBER 14, 2011**

Final paper (100 points) **DUE NOVEMBER 28, 2011**