

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

PSYC 4953 PSYCHOLOGY CAPSTONE

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisites: Senior standing, psychology major, 18 hours upper-level psychology courses

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Review and synthesis of the psychology major's knowledge of their chosen field. Preparation of students for graduate school or career entry. The Senior Comprehensive Examination is a requirement.

B. Additional Information

1. The course is a web-enhanced course and is required for majors.
2. Goal oriented towards self-assessment and personal identity. The student is viewed in this course as a "Bachelor Level Psychologist" who is able to self-define a psychological view based upon science and theory.
3. The Senior Comprehensive Examination must be completed as a part of the course requirements. It is a pass/fail exam. While this assessment will be completed and graded separately from other course assessments, the student must pass this exam to pass the course. Preparation for this exam will be covered in face-to-face class hours and via the Blackboard Learning System (Blackboard). The exam will cover the major topic areas in the discipline (i.e., Methods, History and Systems, Developmental, Physiological, Social, Learning, Perception, Personality, and Statistics) and issues concerning Global/Cultural Diversity. The exam will include multiple-choice and essay items. Study guides will be provided on Blackboard at the beginning of the semester and a student/faculty study session will be made available before the exam date. Examination date will be at least two weeks before the final exam week.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply previous learning and critically review theories in the history of psychology to everyday living.
2. Synthesize their orientation to psychology.
3. Make clear career choices.
4. Prepare for the Graduate Record Examination's General and Psychology test.
5. Prepare a strong application for graduate or professional school or professional employment.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate effectively with a variety of audiences in any setting.

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking

Students will draw conclusions and solve problems.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Synthesis to an orientation to psychology
- B. Review of behavioral theories
- C. History and systems review
- D. Research in psychology and testing
- E. Career choices in the discipline of psychology
- F. Senior Comprehensive Examination