

Psychology as a Science and Profession

Instructor: Theresa Stueland Kay, PhD

Contacting Me:

Please email me via Canvas. I will respond to your *email* within one business day. I am deeply committed to being accessible to my students. If for some reason I do not respond within that time frame, please email me again and indicate that you tried to email earlier.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will learn about the scientific nature of psychology and its importance to the practice of the discipline.
2. Students will learn about careers in psychology, as well as how to prepare themselves for such opportunities.
3. Students will learn basic skills (critical reading, research, APA style, and ethical reasoning).

Textbook (required):

Landrum, R. E., & Davis, S. F. (2013). *The psychology major: Career options and strategies for success* (5th ed.).

Boston, MA: Pearson

*I will provide links to other required readings.

Grading: I will be explicit about the expectations for every graded assignment. The point values for each assignment are noted in Canvas. Your semester grade will be based on the percentage of the total number of points you earn according to the following scale. **A = 93-100%, A- = 90-92%, B+ = 88-89%, B = 83-87%, B- = 80-82%, C+ = 78-79%, C = 73-77%, C- = 70-72%, D+ = 68-69%, D = 63-67%, D- = 60-62%, E = 0-59%.**

Distribution of Grades:

Modules (8): 85 points

Module 1: 10

Module 2: 10

Module 3: 15

Module 4: 10

Module 5: 10

Module 6: 10

Module 7: 8

Module 8: 12

Papers (4): 45 Points

Pop Psychology: 15

Career Research: 15

APA Paper: 15

Late Assignments: Assignments are due at midnight on the deadlines noted in Canvas. You can complete these assignments early. However, a 1-point deduction will occur for each day the assignment is late (including weekends and holidays). Extensions without a penalty will only be granted only in extreme, well-documented circumstances. You will also need to email me in a timely manner. I reserve the right to determine if the circumstance and/or the documentation warrant an extension without a penalty. Please understand that while the majority of your peers lead busy and complicated lives, they complete their assignments on time. Therefore, it would be unfair to the other students to readily grant you extensions without penalties.

Class Etiquette: I am very committed to creating and maintaining a positive learning environment, so I don't have much patience for rude or offensive behavior. I will have individual discussions with offending students, but continued inappropriate behavior will result in such students being counseled to drop the course. In an online course, etiquette guidelines focus on appropriate language for educational settings.

The guidelines are as follows:

1. Use complete sentences, correct spelling, and proper grammar.
2. Avoid slang and uncommon abbreviations.
3. Obscene and/or threatening language is strictly prohibited.
4. WSU in general and I specifically value diversity and encourage open discussion. Please be respectful of diversity

when participating in course discussions.

Academic Honesty: When you submit discussion posts and papers, it is essential that the work be your own. If you use outside sources, it is appropriate that you cite these sources. Direct quotes should be used very sparingly. Appropriate paraphrasing involves restating the author's thoughts in your own words. If I suspect that you have plagiarized, I will submit your assignment to Turnitin, which is an electronic service that verifies whether or not your work has been plagiarized. I will follow WSU's best practices when using Turnitin. For more information, please see

http://wsuonline.weber.edu/plagiarism/best_practices.asp (Links to an external site.).

Computer Expectations for Online Students: If you choose to take an online course, you should have sufficient access to and knowledge of necessary computer equipment. These expectations can be found at <http://departments.weber.edu/ce/distancelearning/computerrequirements.aspx>. (Links to an external site.)

Disabilities: Any students needing accommodations or services because of a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Please see <http://www.weber.edu/ssd> (Links to an external site.) for more information.