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University of Toronto at Scarborough College
Department of Psychology

Psychology and its Applications

PsyD95

Thursdays 4-6 PM, MW 262

Professor Konstantine Zakzanis

Office Hours: Thursday 3-4pm (or by appointment)

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Brief Description of Psychology and its Applications:

Students will undertake library research relating to their work experience, make classroom presentations, and submit a written paper. □

Enrolment in this course is limited to students in the Specialist (Co-operative) Program in Psychology and Its Applications.

Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of the two required work terms and associated work term reports.

Important Notes:

This course is meant to be a seminar. As such, you will find that the nature of a seminar is unlike many of the courses you have taken to date. Moreover, a seminar is much like the type of learning experience you would gain in graduate or medical school. Because of its smaller size, there is greater opportunity for independent learning under the supervision of the instructor. At the same time, students are expected to learn from each other by way of participation during presentations. Hence, you will find that your final grade is very much tied to your ability to learn independently (e.g., by gathering appropriate and plentiful readings) and to your participation in class.

***NOTE: Students with a disability/health consideration are encouraged to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office @287-7560. They can also drop by the office, S302B, inside the Resource Centre. The Coordinator is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations.**

Readings:

You are expected to gather your related readings in keeping with your chosen area of interest.

Grading Scheme:

(1) Proposal (10%)

On January 31, 2008 your proposal is due.

Your proposal should include a very brief outline of your critical review paper (e.g., what you will cover, what you want). It should include evidence that you have begun an exhaustive search for research studies (e.g., outline your search methods to date).

(2) Presentation (20%)

Students are required to present a 30-minute review of their chosen area of study.

The presentation will be evaluated on your demonstrated knowledge of your area (e.g., a fluent understanding of the topic—hence, you do not want to stand there and read). It will also be to your benefit to use your acquired work related experience to provide examples of your applied learning as it relates to the research literature.

(3) Critical Review Paper (50%)

Students are required to complete a critical review paper. The review is expected to incorporate both a qualitative review of your chosen area of study and demonstration of your ability to “critically review” the research literature surrounding your area of study in keeping with your work related experience (e.g., what does the literature lack that you have found actually in a real world environment??).

As an example outline of what is expected, the following may serve useful for someone in the Behavioral Disorder Stream with a hospital related work placement:

- I. History of the disease (key people and early thinking)
- II. Epidemiology
- III. Pathophysiology
- IV. Neurobehavioral, qualitative aspects of the disorder & work related experience
- V. Critical review of the research literature
- VI. Your interpretations and conclusions

Your review paper is due on the last day of classes (April 3, 2008)

(4) Participation (20%)

As noted, students are expected to learn from each other by way of attendance and participation during presentations. Hence, you will find that your final grade is very much tied to your participation in class—20% of your final grade to be exact.

Lecture Dates:

January 10: Welcome & Course Description and Requirements. Who are you working with? What are you doing? What are your aspirations from here?

January 17: There is no scheduled class for today.

Note: Use this time to prepare your proposal for your review paper.

January 24: Library Research Skills Day. Location to meet: TBA.

January 31: Lecture: How to become a “Professional psychologist: Tips on getting into graduate school and beyond”

Note: Your proposal is due today

February 7: No Class Today

February 14: "How to Write and Avoid Plagiarism," In Class Presentation from Sarah King & Nancy Johnston.

February 21: NO CLASS—READING WEEK

February 28: Student Presentations Begin

- 1.
- 2.

March 6: Student Presentations

- 1.
- 2.

March 13: There is no scheduled class for today.

March 20: Student Presentations

- 1.
- 2.

March 27: Student Presentations

- 1.
- 2.

April 3: No Class, although please note that your paper is due today. Please submit the paper electronically by e-mail no later than 5:00pm today...