

PSYC 397
Independent Field Study
Course Syllabus, Spring 2022

Course Philosophy

PSYC 397 is an independent internship course, which uses many of the majority of tools learned in previous research courses. Of primary use will be experimental psychology and statistics. This course revolves around an internship oriented in the field of psychology. During this course of study, the student will become immersed in an applied field of psychology in an effort to master the principles of psychology as they relate to the workplace. The methods you learn in this course will lay the foundation, and are the tools, for the rest of your psychology program at UWSP and will prove invaluable in your future careers.

Course Reference Materials

American Psychological Association. (1994). Publication manual of the American psychological association (4th ed.). Washington, D.C.: Author.

Instructor	Section	Office	Email	Phone	Office Hours
Justin Rueb	T (3 PM)	B301 Science Center	Jrueb@UWSP.edu	346-2883	T 10-11 AM T 3-4 PM By appointment

Independent Study Goals

- *Apply* psychological principles to the workplace.
- *Apply* introspective thought to reflection of the work in written form.
- *Apply* the principles of the scientific method to conduct experimental research.
- *Describe* and *analyze* interpersonal interaction in both oral and written report.

Course Structure and Policies

Unrestricted Joint Effort - For any assignment presented in this course, ***excluding exams and daily questions***, you may work with anyone and use any outside sources. However, the final product must reflect your own work and ideas. ***Any exceptions must be duly noted through proper documentation techniques***. I strongly encourage the use of fellow students as editors and reviewers of papers prior to your submittal for grade.

Attendance – Internship meeting attendance will be at every two weeks in the instructor’s office. Papers **are due when noted** in the syllabus unless prior arrangements are made.

Late turn-in policy - The policy for this unlikely event will be a 10% reduction in your score for each day the paper is late. A paper is due by 3 PM on the due date or it will be considered late.

Any exceptional circumstances that may result in an unforeseen late submission (e.g., hospitalization, emergency) will be worked out (in advance when possible) with your instructor.

Course Evaluation

The student will have many opportunities to practice the research skills they develop in the course. The course is comprised of 1000 points. The course has 2 examinations, 5 written projects, and a research presentation. The exams will test student knowledge of the course material and will draw heavily from student-teacher discussion. The written projects and the course presentation are direct products, both interim and final, of the research project and afford the student the opportunity to conduct different types of research.

Examinations (300 points -30%) – Oral examinations (3) will test the instructor-student discussions of the internship. Examinations will evaluate a student’s ability to apply psychology to the internship.

Written Assignments

All written assignments will be typewritten and abide by the rules of APA format as outlined in the APA Manual. Students are required to turn in written projects regularly throughout the course using strict adherence to APA format.

Reflection Papers (300 points - 30%) – The reflection papers will be a personal journal revealing your views about various psychology examples/thoughts that you encounter during the two-week period (1 entry per week, 100 Points per submittal). You will submit your journal every other class meeting (3 submittals) for a total possible points of 300 points. You should generate one to two paragraphs (1 page per week maximum for at least two different psychological situations for each week.

Final Presentation (200 points - 20%) – The individual will present a 15-20-minute presentation that covers the main aspects of their Leadership Demonstration Community Project paper. At the completion of the presentation, a question and comment session not to exceed 15 minutes will follow. The final presentation will be on **May 10**.

Internship Evaluation (200 points – 20%) - The host agency providing the internship will evaluate the student on their view of how well the student did the job, as well as their ability to interact with the organization. The final score out of 200 points will reflect the student’s motivation, interpersonal skills, ability to complete the tasks, and potential to continue in the career field. Any questions can be directed to Dr Justin Rueb (Faculty Sponsor) at 715-214-7488.

Course Summary:

Exams	3 @ 100 pts. each	300
Reflection Papers		300
Final Paper		200

Internship Evaluation	200
Total	1000

THE MEANING OF GRADES IN PSYC 397

Since scores on papers and examinations reflect the student's ability, instructor's grading tendencies, and the difficulty of the test, a contract grade schedule for this course would be inappropriate. Therefore, this course will not use a rigid contract for converting percentages to letter grades. However, the following guidelines will be used to assign points to papers. Although final grade cuts may be associated with lower percentages, these guidelines do represent guaranteed grades for achieving these percentage levels. For example:

A	94-100	B+	88 – 89.99	C+	78 - 82	D	67 – 71.99
A-	90-93.99	B	85 – 87.99	C	75 – 77.99	D	64 – 66.99
		B-	82 – 84.99	C-	72 – 74.99	F	Below 64

The most important question remains: What do these grades/percentages mean in terms of academic performance?

The "A" project - Work is clearly an outstanding example of the best effort a student can be expected to give. I'd be willing to take this project to my boss and have her read it, as is, and defend it as meeting or exceeding the highest academic standards established for undergraduate education. This project, with minor modifications, would be *suitable* for publication in a scholarly journal.

The "B" project - Work is of superior quality. With relatively minor changes, this project has the potential for becoming an "A" project.

The "C" project - Work satisfies the bare minimum technical requirements for the assignment. Without major revisions, this could never become an "A" project.

The "C- and below" project - The project fails to satisfy the minimum requirements for the assignment.

For purposes of a Writing Emphasis Course, these grades can be interpreted specifically into the following:

**PSYC 397 - Independent Field Study
Spring 2022 Schedule**

Week Start	Topic	Readings	Items Due
Jan			
25	Course Introduction		
Feb			
15	Discussion 1		J1 Entry 10%
Mar			
1	Discussion 2		Exam 1
15	Discussion 3		J1 Entry 10%
29	Discussion 4		Exam 1
Apr			
12	Discussion 5		J1 Entry 10%
26	Discussion 6		Exam 1
May			
10	Final Discussion Internship Evaluation”		Final Discussion
	Have a Great Summer!		

***Internship Evaluation due from host agency**