

PSYC 6361/6382 Problems in Psychology (Independent

Readings/Research in Psychology)

Fall 2023 – Summer 2024

Counseling Psychology Faculty

- A. Catalogue Description: 6361/6362 PROBLEMS IN PSYCHOLOGY I** Requires at least 80 clock hours of independent study/learning experience under the direction of a faculty member. Prerequisite: Consent of advisor. Fall, spring.
- B. Purpose:** The purpose of the course is to demonstrate the ability to develop a research idea or proposal and complete a report on this original idea.
- C. Required Texts**
American Psychological Association (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Ed.)*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Additional readings may be assigned throughout the course and are accessible to students through the instructor's web page or the College of Education's Technology Learning Center.

D. Goals

The activities addressed may include these goals, as appropriate and given the time constraints of the semester and should be determined by the instructor and student before the semester begins. The duties of the student and the obligations of the instructor should be clearly outlined with a written and signed agreement beforehand:

1. Outline a paper
2. Conduct a literature search and locate research articles
3. Propose an original synthesis of research and original thesis
4. Write summaries of articles
5. Write notecards
6. Write draft
7. Develop ideas in collaboration with professor
8. Write final paper
9. Master APA style
10. -----
11. Collect and analyze data
12. Write and report data (e.g., presentation, poster, etc.)

E. Use of Technology

Students are expected to utilize technology in a variety of ways throughout this course including (a) communicating with the instructor via electronic mail, (b) utilizing web sites related to course content, and (c) using word processing programs to complete class assignments.

F. Diversity

The issues of diversity of cultural background should be addressed as a component of this activity.

G. Course Objectives

Upon completion of the problems course, the student must complete a document (30-40 pages, not including reference pages) that illustrates the ability to generate and complete a significant independent research project, or an equivalent proof of industriousness.

H. Course Outline and Content

Content Outline

1. Develop the research idea after preliminary research and reading
2. Submit a one-page summary of proposal, including the logic of the paper and the importance/originality of the topic.
3. Construct an outline of the paper
4. Submit an annotated bibliography of each article that might be used in the paper (should include summary of article and relevance to purpose of paper)
5. Complete relevant library research (see PsychInfo in particular)
6. Read and take notes on key articles/books/topics
7. Complete a rough draft (use outline for headings and subheadings of paper)
8. Submit a rough draft and revise given edits
9. Submit final paper and references (must follow APA style).
10. ----
11. Collect and analyze data

I. Course Outcomes/Requirements/Evaluation

The student's performance is assessed periodically during the process. The final grade will be A, B, C, D, F as determined by the quality of the final paper and the level of student involvement of the process.

J. Attendance and Professionalism

K. Student Handbook Policies

Students are expected to follow the policies regarding academic dishonesty, sexual harassment, and academic issues as outlined in the most current version of the UCA Student Handbook. Students should familiarize themselves with all policies listed in the Handbook. The University of Central Arkansas adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need an accommodation under this Act, please notify the professor and the UCA Office of Disability Services at 450-3135.

DIVERSITY: Demographic characteristics, as well as including (but not limited to) age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, language, national origin, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation and identity, and social economic status. At the core of these values lies respect for the person, and the course and the department's programs are dedicated to insuring that we all support this approach. For more details, follow this link to Institutional Diversity at UCA (<https://uca.edu/diversity/>).

ACADEMIC HONESTY: The University of Central Arkansas affirms its commitment to academic integrity and expects all members of the university community to accept shared responsibility for maintaining academic integrity. Students in this course are subject to the provisions of the university's Academic Integrity Policy, approved by the Board of Trustees as Board Policy No. 709 on February 10, 2010, and published in the Student Handbook. Penalties for academic misconduct in this course may include a failing grade on an assignment, a failing grade in the course, or any other course-related sanction the instructor determines to be appropriate. Continued enrollment in this course affirms a student's acceptance of this university policy.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: The University of Central Arkansas adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need an accommodation under this Act due to a disability, please contact the UCA Office of Disability Support Services, 450-3613.

TITLE IX DISCLOSURE

If a student discloses an act of sexual harassment, discrimination, assault, or other sexual misconduct to a faculty member (as it relates to "student-on-student" or "employee-on-student"), the faculty member cannot maintain complete confidentiality and is required to report the act and may be required to reveal the names of the parties involved. Any allegations made by a student may or may not trigger an investigation. Each situation differs and the obligation to conduct an investigation will depend on those specific set of circumstances. The determination to conduct an investigation will be made by the Title IX Coordinator. For further information, please visit: <https://uca.edu/titleix>.

OTHER ACADEMIC POLICIES: Students are encouraged to review the Student Handbook for Sexual Harassment Policy and other academic policies.

BUILDING EMERGENCY PLAN: An Emergency Procedures Summary (EPS) for the building in which this class is held will be discussed during the first week of this course. EPS documents for most buildings on campus are available at <http://uca.edu/mysafety/bep/>. Every student should be familiar with emergency procedures for any campus building in which he/she spends time for classes or other purposes.