

University of North Texas at Dallas
Spring
2016
SYLLABUS

PSYC 4040: Advanced Seminar in Psychology (Capstone); 3 Hrs			
Department of	Sociology & Psychology	Division of	Liberal Arts and Life Sciences
Instructor Name:	Mario P. Casa de Calvo, Ph.D.		
Office Location:	DAL2 257		
Office Phone:	972.338.1321		
Email Address:	mario.casadecalvo@untdallas.edu		
Office Hours	M & W from 1:00 – 5:00; T & TR from 1:00 – 4:00; by appointment		
Classroom	DAL2, 240		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Thursday from 7:00-9:50 PM		
Course Catalog Description:	Advanced Seminar in Psychology (Capstone). 3 hours. This course is designed for Senior Psychology majors to develop a senior thesis that integrates and applies psychological ideas, theory, and methods in order to complete primary or secondary analysis.		
Prerequisites:	"C" or better in PSYC 4600, 3100, 3200, and 3210. Required of all Psychology majors. Senior level Psychology majors only.		
Required Text:	Required Text/Readings: 1) American Psychological Association. (2010). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. 2) Galvan, J.L. (2013). Writing literature reviews: A guide for students of the social and behavioral sciences (5th ed.). Glendale, CA: Pycszak Publishing.		
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com		
Course/Program Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will:			
1	Identify assumptions underlying theoretical arguments		
2	Identify limitations of theoretical arguments.		
3	Identify assumptions underlying particular research methodologies		
4	Identify limitations of particular research methodologies		
5	Understand alternative viewpoints on scientific issues		
6	Describe how theory contributes to psychological knowledge.		
7	Compare and contrast major theoretical orientations		
8	Describe major theories in selected substantive areas of psychology		
9	Design and carry out a research project		
10	Critically assess empirical research of others		
11	Summarize current research in the particular area		
12	Be able to identify the critical ethical issues in research such as confidentiality, informed consent, and minimization of risk to subjects		
13	Be aware of various professional codes of research such as the code of ethics from the American Psychological Association		

COURSE OUTLINE

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by announcements during class.

TOPICS/TIMELINE	ASSIGNMENT DUE
Weeks 1-2 (1/21 & 1/28): Introduction to the Course -The selection of a research design -Review of literature <div style="text-align: right;">Galvan, Chapter 3</div>	Assignment 1: Introduction & Research Question
Weeks 3-4 (2/4 & 2/11): Building the Lit Review -Use of Theory -Writing Strategy and Ethics <div style="text-align: right;">Galvan, Chapter 4</div>	Assignment 2: 5 Annotations Assignment 3: 5 More Annotations
Weeks 5-6 (2/18 & 2/25): Organizing the Literature Review -Organizing the Literature by Relatedness -Creating a Paper Outline <div style="text-align: right;">Galvan, Chapters 7 & 8</div>	Assignment 4: Organize Your Literature Assignment Assignment 5: Create an Outline for Your Paper
Weeks 7-8 (3/3 & 3/10): The Method -Introduction to Designing Research -Research Questions & Hypotheses	Assignment 6: Developing Research Questions and/or Hypotheses
Weeks 9-10 (3/17 [Spring Break] & 3/24): Data Collection -Quantitative Date Collection	Assignment 7: Developing Method and Data Collection
Weeks 11-12 (3/31 & 4/7): Data Analysis and Interpretation -Data Analysis Consultation	
Week 13 (4/14): Results and Discussion	Assignment 8: Results and Discussion
Week 14 (4/21) Capstone Consultation/Feedback/Review <div style="text-align: right;">Galvan, Chapter 9</div>	-Draft Research Paper Due -Reaction Paper
Week 15 (4/28) PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH AND CRITIQUE	-Presentation -Peer Critique
Week 16 (5/5) Wrap Up <div style="text-align: right;">Galvan, Chapters 12, 13, & 14</div>	Final Research Paper Due

COURSE EVALUATION METHODS

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course. If you are having a problem with your performance in this course, please schedule an appointment with me as soon as possible so that together, we can figure out what needs to be done. I am willing to help solve any problem you might experience involving this course, other than failure to read the assigned materials or missing class.

1. ASSIGNMENTS

Students will be required to submit 8 assignments. The 8 assignments together will be worth **160 points (20 apiece)**. Detailed instructions on these assignments will be posted on Blackboard.

It is the student's responsibility to approach the instructor **in advance** of a due date if further explanation is necessary. **Students who miss a deadline must document an illness or family emergency to become eligible for turning in assignments without penalty.** Failure to do so will result in an assigned zero. The qualifying student will be given 7 calendar days following the missed date. Beyond the 10-day period, except under extreme circumstances, no late assignments will be allowed and a zero will be assigned.

To safeguard against any errors in recording your grades, it will be your responsibility to retain all assignments submitted and returned to you. If there is a discrepancy, you will then have on hand the original score and based on this, the proper corrections can be made.

2. PRESENTATION

Each student will upload a file presenting their research to the class. It could be a PowerPoint presentation or a recorded audio/video clip. Guidelines on what is to be expected will be posted on Blackboard. The presentation will be worth of **50 points**. In addition to presenting their own research, students will be expected to critique and review fellow classmates' presentations.

3. RESEARCH PAPER:

Each student will write a research paper (**100 points**). The research paper will be a write-up of research that you conducted over the semester. It will include a Literature Review, Method Section, Results Section, and Discussion. A minimum of 20 scholarly references need to be included in the Reference Section. The paper (including all sections) should be between 17-25 pages. A guideline that describes what should be included in each section and approximate page length for each section will be posted on Blackboard.

4. REACTION PAPER

Students will write a short (approximately 750 words) reaction paper (**30 points**) as a follow-up to their final project in which they reflect on how their capstone project has enriched their thinking and will aid in their future professional endeavors. The paper will be graded using a rubric (see Blackboard).

Grading Matrix

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Assignments 1-8	8 @ 20 points each	160
Research Paper	1 paper at 100 points	100
Presentation	1 @ 50 points	50
Research Paper Draft	1 @ 50 points	50
Peer Critique	1 @ 30 points	30
Reaction Paper	1 @ 30 points	30
Total:		420

Grade Determination:

A = 378 - 420 pts; i.e. 90% or better

B = 336 - 377 pts; i.e. 80 – 89 %

C = 294 - 335 pts; i.e. 70 – 79 %

D = 252 - 293 pts; i.e. 60 – 69 %

F = 251 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas at Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT-Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

If you are unable to submit the assignments due to serious illness where you are physically incapacitated (e.g., hospitalized), medical documentation is required to resolve the missed assignment. *Be sure to speak with me immediately if you fail to meet the assignment submission deadline.*

Exam Policy:

*Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). If you are unable to take an exam due to serious illness where you are physically incapacitated (e.g., hospitalized), medical documentation is required to resolve the missed exam. **If you miss any exam, then you will be given an essay make-up exam.** Be sure to speak with me immediately if you miss an exam. Remember, you must submit official documentation in order for this policy to apply to you.*

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs.%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNT-D Academic Integrity Policy.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.untDallas.edu. Students are encouraged to update their contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they

are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

Optional Policies:

- *Use of Blackboard: Review the course website several times per week, if not daily.* Visiting the website frequently will familiarize you with the resources available on the site as well as alert you to any changes or additions to the website (e.g., possible changes to the syllabus, due date reminders posted in the calendar, etc.).
- Please provide me, the instructor, with **48 hours** to respond to e-mail messages.
- Please provide me, the instructor, with about a week to grade and provide feedbacks to your submitted work.

