



PSY 480, Senior Seminar
in Psychology, Capstone,
4-year Review

Course Information

- Advanced exploration of the meaning of scholarship to the vocation of psychology. Students will engage in critical review of readings in psychology and develop a scholarly project consistent with discipline standards and suited to the professional goals of the student.

Pertinent Information

- Taught by two instructors
- Since 480's approval, we have gotten approval for more courses to count for the Capstone component
 - PSY 471: History of Psychology
 - PSY 478: Honors Thesis Project
 - PSY 496: Capstone Special Topics in Psychology
 - PSY 499: Independent Research Capstone

Pertinent Information

- We wanted all Capstone courses to have the same Course Learning Outcomes, and to map onto the same Institutional Learning Goals
- Why? Streamline work, especially since our Capstone courses are used for program assessment for the CAS Continuous Improvement Plan
 - Aligning assessment for CAPC and for CAS reduces work
- How? Our assessment committee met with instructors who had taught Capstone courses and created CLO that were common across courses and provided the information regarding learning that we were interested in

4-yr-review

- Originally, the course was approved for the ILGs of Scholarship, Practical Wisdom, and Vocation
- Based on experiences that those teaching the course had, as well as departmental discussions related to the implementation and assessment of the CLOs of our major, during 4-yr-review we asked for Practical Wisdom to be removed
- We streamlined our CLO, making sure that they were easily assessable

4-yr-review; CLO

1. Students will demonstrate advanced understanding of scholarship in the field of psychology and engage in a public presentation of their knowledge and understanding (Scholarship; see attached Scholarship assignment and rubric).
2. Students will use vocational language to apply their knowledge of the field of psychology to the development of their vocational plans (Vocation; see attached vocation assignment and rubric).
3. Students will be able to reflect on how the profession of psychology, and how they themselves as psychologists, relate to the community and in service to others (Vocation; see vocation assignment and rubric).

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- Our goal is for at least 60% of our students to receive a score of 2 or 3 (i.e., a score of satisfactory or outstanding) on both assessments/assignments being used to assess learning of the CLOs
- Assessment of each CLO will happen in all sections of the course being taught at least one semester per year
- The results of the assessment will then be used by the instructors to amend delivery of the course, assessment tools, and/or proficiency goals

4-yr-review

- In addition, the results will be shared with the acting chair of the department's assessment committee, in order to make changes, when necessary, to our Department Continuous Improvement Plan.