

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Psychology 201 – Academic and Career Opportunities in Psychology

1 hour lecture, 1 unit

Catalog Description

The study of career options in the field of Psychology. Emphasis is placed on the needs of Psychology majors identifying career-related strengths and interests while providing information on post-baccalaureate options in psychology and related fields, and identification of career-related strengths and interest. Recommended after completion of thirty (30) units. **Pass/ No Pass only.**

Prerequisite

“C” grade or higher in PSYC C1000 (Formerly PSY 120) or equivalent

Entrance Skills

Without the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge, students entering this course will be highly unlikely to succeed:

- 1) Distinguishing Basic Psychological Terminology
 - a. Identify terms used within psychology
 - b. Identify different methodologies in the study of human behavior
- 2) Use and Distinguish Basic Information of each Sub-Area in Psychology
 - a. Physiological, or Biological
 - b. Behavioral Psychology
 - c. Humanistic
 - d. Psychoanalytic
 - e. Cognitive
 - f. Cultural
 - g. Evolutionary
 - h. Developmental
 - i. Social psychology

Course Content

Pursue realistic ideas about how to implement their psychological knowledge, skills, and values in occupational pursuits in a variety of settings that meet personal goals and societal needs.

- 1) Introduction to careers in psychology
 - a. Academic career options
 1. Teaching
 2. Research
 - b. Clinical and counseling career options
 1. Masters in Social Work
 2. Masters in Family therapy Masters in Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- 2) Career paths and job searches
 - a. Career assessment tests

- b. Customized Education Plan (CEP)
 - c. Curriculum Vitae/Resume development
- 3) Service learning
 - a. Volunteering
 - b. Research experience
 - c. Placement in community agencies
 - d. Internship
- 4) Networking
 - a. Building references
 - b. Personal statements
 - c. Preparing for four-year university
 - d. Preparing for graduate school

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Evaluate a variety of different career options in the field of psychology and related fields.
- 2) Research at college's University Transfer and Career Centers and develop an educational plan with career goals and objectives.
- 3) Differentiate career options at baccalaureate, Master's and Doctoral level and explore resources needed to pursue those different careers.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Individual projects and reports
- 2) Written reactions to guest speakers and class interaction
- 3) Oral presentations
- 4) Structured situation assignments based on career plan development.

Special Materials Required of Student

None

Minimum Instructional Facilities

- 1) Standard classroom with writing boards, projectors (overhead, computer, slide, movie), VCR/monitor, Internet access
- 2) Learning resource center with internet access

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and discussion
- 2) Group discussion, cooperative learning exercises
- 3) Videos, films, slides, transparencies, projection system presentations
- 4) Guest speakers
- 5) Individual and group projects, structured in-class exercises, demonstrations
- 6) Library materials and exploration of www.apa.org and www.careercolors.org
- 7) Online delivery facilitated by Blackboard Learning System.

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Exploration at the Career Center on the variety of career paths in psychology
- 2) Preparation for oral presentations
- 3) Reading and writing assignments requiring research

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative examples):
 - a. Kuther, L.T. The Psychology Major's Handbook. Sixth Edition. Thomson Wadsworth, CA. 2024.
 - b. Kuther, T. L. & R.D. Morgan. Careers in Psychology: Opportunities in a Changing World. Fifth Edition. 2019.
- 2) Supplemental: None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Research and evaluate a wide range of career opportunities in the field of psychology.
- 2) Develop an educational plan with a personalized career goal.