

## **PSY 2999-001: PSYCHOLOGICAL FORUM SPRING SEMESTER, 2012**

**CLASS TIME/LOCATION:** W 3:00-3:50, Room 2120 Physical Science Building (PHYS).

**INSTRUCTOR:** William Addison, PHYS Room 3155, 217-581-6417 (office), 217-345-3104 (home), weaddison@eiu.edu (e-mail). Office Hours: MWF 11-12, T 3-5. If my office hours aren't convenient for you, please let me know and we'll arrange another time to meet.

**TEXTBOOK:** "The Psychology Major: Career Options and Strategies for Success," by R. Eric Landrum and Stephen F. Davis (4E).

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course is designed to help you:

- Understand the basis for the organization of the EIU psychology curriculum
- Maximize your learning opportunities as an EIU psychology major
- Become familiar with curricular/extracurricular opportunities for EIU psychology majors
- Explore post-graduate opportunities in psychology, including career options and graduate training

**GRADING:** Course grades are determined as follows:

**In-Class Assignments (25%).** There will be 8 brief, in-class writing assignments that are designed to encourage you to: 1) attend class, and 2) think about some of the key issues discussed in class. These assignments can be made up only if you can provide documentation of illness, participation in a university-sponsored event, etc. on the day of the assignment; and they must be made up **within two weeks of the original assignment**. If you complete all 8 assignments, you will receive a grade of 100% for this part of the course. Completion of 7 of the assignments will give you a grade of 88% (7/8), 6 of the assignments will give you a grade of 75% (6/8), and so on.

**Homework Assignments (25%).** There are 5 homework assignments in this class, each of which is worth 5% toward your final grade. If I receive your assignment by 11:59 PM on the due date (see Course Outline for dates), and it indicates a legitimate effort to complete the work, you'll receive full credit for it. If your assignment is late (after the due date, but within one week after the original due date), or it's handed in on time but doesn't indicate a legitimate effort (e.g., instructions not followed), you'll receive half credit for it. If you don't complete an assignment, you'll receive no credit for it. **You should email your homework assignments to the graduate assistant (GA) for the class (see submission instructions on WebCT).**

**Note: Full credit for an assignment is indicated on WebCT by a letter "X" for that assignment ("ICA" for in-class assignments, and "HW" for homework assignments); a letter "H" indicates half credit, and a blank indicates no credit. You are responsible for monitoring your assignment record on WebCT. If you believe there is an error in your record, you need to contact the instructor or the GA by email within 2 weeks of the due date for the assignment.**

**Exams (50%).** There are two exams in this class, each of which is worth 25% of your final grade. They are "open-book" exams; that is, you can refer to hard copies of your notes, the textbook, PowerPoint slides, etc. during the exams (**no laptops or cell phones**). The exam questions will take a variety of forms (i.e., multiple choice, true/false, short-answer); makeup exams will have a greater proportion of open-ended questions, and must be taken **within one week of the original exam date**.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** I assume that all students will honor the tradition of academic honesty. However, if I observe what I consider to be instances of academic dishonesty (e.g., copying from another student's exam or assignment), I will notify the student and deduct 10% (one letter grade) from the grade on an exam (half credit for an assignment). A second offense will result in a grade of 0 and I will report the occurrence to the EIU Office of Student Standards.

**CELL PHONE POLICY:** Cell phones should be turned off (or on “vibrate”) during class. Please avoid talking on the phone or texting during class, which can be distracting to me and other students.

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** I will be happy to make accommodations for students who provide official notification from the Office of Disability Services.

### COURSE OUTLINE

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Topic(s)</u>   | <u>Reading</u> |
|-------------|---|----------------|
| Jan 11      | Orientation; Introduction   | _____          |
| Jan 18      | Majoring in Psychology  | Chapter 2      |
| Jan 25      | Psychology at EIU<br><b>Assignment #1: Psychology Survey due</b>                                    | _____          |
| Feb 1       | Making the Most of Your Major: Curricula Opportunities  | Chapter 8      |
| Feb 8       | Making the Most of Your Major: Psychology Organizations<br><b>Assignment #2: Study Skills due</b>   | _____          |
| Feb 15      | Making the Most of Your Major: Study Tips   | Chapter 11     |
| Feb 22      | <b>EXAM #1</b>  | _____          |
| Feb 29      | Transition from College to Workplace  | Chapter 3      |
| Mar 7       | Careers in Psychology with a Bachelor’s Degree<br><b>Assignment #3: Career Options due</b>          | _____          |
| Mar 14      | <b>SPRING BREAK!</b>  | _____          |
| Mar 21      | Finding a Job: Preparing a Résumé   | Chapter 4      |
| Mar 28      | Finding a Job: Interviewing<br><b>Assignment #4: Preparing a Résumé due</b>                         | _____          |
| Apr 4       | Careers with Graduate Degrees   | Chapter 5      |
| Apr 11      | Graduate Admissions Process: Acceptance Rates   | Chapter 6      |
| Apr 18      | Graduate Admissions Process: Primary Criteria<br><b>Assignment #5: Graduate School Requirements</b> | _____          |
| Apr 25      | Graduate Admissions Process: Secondary Criteria   | _____          |

**The Final Exam (EXAM #2) is scheduled for Wednesday, May 2, 5:15-7:15 PM.**