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PSYX 511.01: Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology

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Syllabus – Psyx 511 – Autumn 2014

Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology

Meeting Location and Time

CPC 121

Thursday 10:10 – 11:00 am

Instructor Information

Instructor: Bryan Cochran, Ph.D.

Office: Skaggs Bldg. 145

Email: bryan.cochran@umontana.edu

Phone: 406.243.2391

Office hours: Monday 2:30-4:00, Wednesday 9:00-10:30, or by appointment

Course Guidelines and Policies

Disability Modifications

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors and [Disability Services for Students](#). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or call 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

Academic Misconduct

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).

Incompletes

Departmental and university policies regarding incompletes do not allow changing “incomplete” grades after one year has passed since the “I” was granted.

Exiting Gracefully

Instructor permission is required to drop this course once the 15th day of instruction has passed.

Course Description

Psyx 511 is an introduction to the field of clinical psychology for first-year doctoral students. It covers the key issues in the field and serves as a way of orienting students to the training program.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will learn about Boulder-model programs such as ours and will contrast these with other training models.
2. Students will become oriented to the policies and the procedures of our program.
3. Students will learn about basic milestones in the program including masters and dissertation research, comprehensive exams, and internship.
4. Students will be exposed to the current controversies in the field of clinical psychology and will articulate their perspectives on these topics.

Grading/Evaluation

This course is offered as CR/NCR only. Attendance is expected for all class meetings. If you need to be absent due to professional or other responsibilities, please notify me in advance of the date that you will be absent. Prepare in advance for class meetings by completing the assigned readings.

Required Materials

There are no required texts for this course. All of the materials you need for this class are available on the Moodle webpage. Many of the readings are from *The Portable Mentor*, referenced below. Additional readings are listed for each week under the Course Schedule.

Course Schedule

Dates	Topics
Week 1 (8/28)	Orientation and overview of the clinical psychology program
Week 2 (9/4)	Guest: Kelly Webster, UM Writing Center; Discuss Boulder model and program orientation (Read Prinstein Ch. 3, Hayes and Berens)
Week 3 (9/11)	Review Policies and Procedures manual, flow charts and timeline expectations for the general program and for emphasis areas
Week 4 (9/18)	Self-care, stress and time management (Read Prinstein Ch. 6, Caplan)
Week 5 (9/25)	Meet at the library for a tour w/ Kate Zoellner
Week 6 (10/2)	Master's project planning (Read Prinstein Ch. 8, Baumeister)
Week 7 (10/9)	Comprehensive exams
Week 8 (10/16)	Internship and tracking of clinical hours (Read Prinstein Ch. 15)
Week 9 (10/23)	Dissertation planning
Week 10 (10/30)	Financial aid, loans, grants, fellowships, and scholarships (Read Prinstein Ch. 24, Lejuez et al.)
Week 11 (11/6)	Working with your advisor and evaluations
Week 12 (11/13)	Post-docs, licensing, and beyond (Read Prinstein Ch. 16, Habben)
Week 13 (11/20)	Social networking and graduate training (Read Wester, Danforth, & Olle, 2013)
Week 14 (holiday)	
Week 15 (12/4)	Clinical placements and experience (Read Prinstein Ch. 13, Katell and Adler)
Week 16 (12/11)	Final thoughts: In lieu of a final exam for this course, we will meet during finals week at our usual time (unless schedules conflict) to wrap up the topics for the semester

Readings

Wester, S.R., Danforth, L., & Olle, C. (2013). Social networking sites and the evaluation of applicants and students in applied training programs in psychology. *Training and Education in Professional Psychology, 7*, 145-154.

Prinstein, M.J. (2013). *The portable mentor: Expert guide to a successful career in psychology*. New York: Springer. doi:10.1007/978-1-4614-3994-3.