

## CAREERS IN PSYCHOLOGY

50:830:459

FALL 2022

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**Instructor:** Dr. Courtenay Cavanaugh

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 12:30-2:30 p.m. or by appointment

**Office Location:** 359 Armitage Hall

**Email Address:** [cocavana@camden.rutgers.edu](mailto:cocavana@camden.rutgers.edu)

**Class Meetings & Location:** Fridays 12:30-3:20 PM; ATG 123

**COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES:** This course will provide students with information about different subfields of psychology and careers in psychology (e.g., clinical/counseling psychology, school psychology, health psychology, etc.). Students will gain a better understanding of their own career interests and learn about how to prepare for graduate school (e.g., how to prepare a curriculum vitae (CV) and personal statement as well as how to prepare for job interviews. The course objectives are to help students understand the different career opportunities in psychology and improve students' abilities to achieve their career goals.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** At the end of this course, students should be able to do the following:

- Identify career assessment measures
- Understand their own career interests and skills
- Describe different subfields of psychology and careers in psychology
- Produce application materials for jobs and graduate school
- Improve interviewing skills
- Develop their professional network

**METHODS OF ASSESSMENT:** Students learning will be assessed with quizzes, the completion of the Strong Interest Inventory and related paper, a psychology job and graduate school investigation, resume/CV, personal statement, elevator speech, and attendance & participation.

**REQUIRED BOOK:** Kuther, T.L & Morgan, R.D. (2020). *Careers in Psychology: Opportunities in a changing world*. 5th Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE. ISBN 978-1-5443-5973-1

A hard copy of the textbook is on reserve in the library. The book is available for 2 hours at a time. An electronic copy of the textbook is also available and may be accessed here:

[https://rutgers.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/leganto/public/01RUT\\_INST/lists/17544498680004646?auth=SA ML](https://rutgers.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/leganto/public/01RUT_INST/lists/17544498680004646?auth=SA ML)

**REQUIRED READING:** Required reading will consist of both chapters in the textbook and other materials including peer-reviewed journal articles. Students are responsible for reading the assigned reading before the class date on the same horizontal line in the table below on page 4. For example, chapter 1 of the Kuther & Morgan textbook is to be read before class on 9/16/2022.

**GRADING:** Your course grade will be based upon your performance on the following assignments. See the table below with the course activities, related points, and percent of your total grade.

Activity	Points	Percent Total Grade
Quizzes (9 drop 1)	80	32

Strong Interest Inventory & Paper	15	6
Psychology Job & Graduate School Investigation	15	6
Resume/CV	25	10
Personal Statement/Cover Letter	25	10
Elevator Pitch	35	14
Attendance & Participation	25	10
Final Reflection Paper	30	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>--</b>
Extra Credit	10	4

**GRADING SCALE:** Final grades will be based upon a grading system not more stringent than the one below.

A	224-250 points, 90%
B+	214-223 points, 86%-89%
B	199-213 points, 80%-85%
C+	189-198 points, 76%-79%
C	174-188 points, 70%-75%
D	149-173 points, 60-69%
F	0-148 points, 0-59%

### COURSE ACTIVITIES

**Quizzes (80 points each and 32% of final grade):** There will be 9 quizzes based upon the assigned reading and material covered in class (lowest score dropped). The quizzes will consist of 10 questions. The quizzes will be open book and timed. The quizzes need to be completed before our class meetings (Fridays 12:30) **Make-up quizzes will only be given for what I think are truly exceptional circumstances. In these cases, contact me within 24 hours of the quiz and explain the situation.** You will also need to provide evidence of this exceptional circumstance.

**Strong Interest Inventory (15 points and 6% of final grade):** You will need to complete the Strong Interest Inventory online (see links below) by 9/13. There is a \$10 fee to take the assessment. On 9/15, students will receive an email with their Strong Interest Inventory report and then on 9/16, Miranda Spina from the Career Center will discuss the Strong Interest Inventory and answer related student questions in class. After class on 9/16, students will write a 2-page double spaced paper about what they learned about their career interests and strengths which you need to email me ([cocavana@camden.rutgers.edu](mailto:cocavana@camden.rutgers.edu) by 9/20).

- **Strong Interest Inventory Link**  
<https://Elevate.themyersbriggs.com/Respondent/ReturningUser?tokenId=92813b45-4625-ed11-bd6e-a085fc8e55d6>
- **Fee Link - Student Assessment – Strong’s Interest Inventory (\$10.00)**  
[https://quikpayasp.com/rutgers/commerce\\_manager/payer.do?orderType=CSAStudentAssessmentStrongInterest](https://quikpayasp.com/rutgers/commerce_manager/payer.do?orderType=CSAStudentAssessmentStrongInterest)

**Psychology Job & Graduate School Investigation (15 points and 6% of final grade):** Each student will need to locate 3 job announcements that were posted in the last year related to their career interests and 3 potential graduate programs related to your career interests. Write a 2-page paper (one about the job announcements and one about the graduate programs) related to your career interests. Summarize

the announcement and materials needed to apply. Email me your paper with the job announcements attached and the links to the graduate programs in the email.

**Resume/CV (25 points and 10% of total grade):** Jobs in psychology will require resumes and graduate school applications will require a CV. You will develop a resume or CV of your own. You may make an appointment at the Career Center to get feedback on it prior to submitting it to me.

**Personal Statement (25 points and 10% of total grade):** You will develop and submit a personal statement that is no more than 2 pages single spaced. This statement should focus on your academic and professional activities that have prepared you for graduate school and describe how graduate school may further your career goals.

**Elevator Pitch (35 points and 14% of total grade):** You will give a timed, 5-minute elevator pitch to an outside professional who attends our last class. This pitch should summarize who you are, your career interests and experiences. This pitch could be given to others outside of class in a variety of situations including a job interview. You need to come to this class in business professional attire or a suit.

**Attendance & Participation (25 points and 10% of total grade):** You will be graded on your attendance and participation in class.

**Final Reflection Paper (30 points and 12% of total grade):** You will write a 5-page reflection paper that describes what you have learned and how it has affected your career development and preparedness.

**Extra Credit (10 points & 4% of total grade):** You will have the opportunity to read an empirical article on career development in your area of interest. You will answer 10 questions about the article.

## **CLASSROOM CONDUCT**

To promote a positive environment for learning, I expect students to adhere to the following classroom rules:

- No electronic devices (cell phones, computers, etc.) will be allowed in this class unless you provide evidence of a disability that warrants the use of such technology.
- Please communicate with guest speakers, other students, and me in a respectful manner.
- No cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct will be tolerated. More information about plagiarism and consequences of it may be found at the following websites <https://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/pdfs/current.pdf>. If you have questions about this policy, please ask me.
- You are expected to arrive to class on time and not leave early.
- I reserve the right to lower your grade if you violate these rules.

**OTHER COURSE INFORMATION:** I will use Canvas to communicate with you about this class and may contact you through your Rutgers email address. Check that email account and use Canvas to stay informed.

This syllabus is a working document and may be revised throughout the course.

## **COMPLETE LIST OF CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES:**

<https://studentaffairs.camden.rutgers.edu/student-resource-list>

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>READING &amp; Assignments</b>
Week: 1, F, 9/9	Introductions, Course Overview, Strong Interest Inventory	Take Strong Interest Inventory: due 9/13
Week: 2, F, 9/16	Intro to Career Center, Strong Interest Inventory Results. <b>Guest Speaker: Miranda Spina</b>	Chapter 1 and <b>Quiz #1</b>
		<b>Strong Interest Inventory 2-page paper due 9/20</b>
Week: 3, F, 9/23	Career Development & Preparing for the job market	Chapters 2 & 13 and <b>Quiz #2</b>
Week: 4, F, 9/30	Applying to Graduate School. <b>Guest Speaker: Angela Wismar</b>	Chapter 15 & <b>Quiz #3. Job Announcement/Graduate School Investigation paper due</b>
Week: 5, F, 10/7	Clinical & Counseling Psychology. <b>Guest Speakers: Dr. Ellen Vaughan &amp; Alexis Kapij, M.S.</b>	Chapter 3 and Goghari article. <b>Quiz #4</b>
Week: 6, F, 10/14	School Psychology. <b>Guest Speakers: Desiree Marasa, Ed.S. &amp; Samantha Saraczewski</b>	Chapter 4 and Schilling article. <b>Quiz #5. Resume/CV due</b>
Week: 7, F, 10/21	Legal and Forensic Psychology. <b>Guest Speakers: Dr. Amanda Beltrini and Officer Mireles</b>	Chapter 5 and Neal article. <b>Quiz #6</b>
Week: 8, F, 10/28	Health Psychology. <b>Guest Speaker: Kristin August</b>	Chapter 6 and <b>Quiz #7. Personal statement due. Send to me in an email and bring hard copy to class.</b>
Week: 9, F, 11/4	Biopsychology/Neuropsychology/Building relationships, Interview Skills/Career Experiences, Tips for Elevator Pitches. <b>Guest Speaker: Frankie Fontanez</b>	Chapter 8 and <b>Quiz #8</b>
Week: 10, F, 11/11	<b>Guest Speaker: Miranda Spina</b> to discuss personal statements and interview skills	
Week: 11, F, 11/18	Industrial Organization Psych & Social and Consumer Psychology. <b>Guest Speakers: Drs. Rebecca Turner &amp; Rhonda Gutenberg</b>	Chapters 9 & 11. <b>Quiz #9. Revised Personal Statement Due for Grade. Send to me by email as an attachment before class.</b>
Week: 12, W, 11/23	<b>Classes follow Friday Schedule. No class November 25 due to holiday. Prepare and practice elevator speeches.</b>	
Week: 13, F, 12/2	Research Psychology. <b>Guest Speakers : Skylar Rucci &amp; Orgelys Vasquez-Home</b>	Chapter 14. <b>Extra credit assignment due at beginning of class. Bring printed copy.</b>
Week: 14, F, 12/9	Elevator Pitches <b>Guest Speaker: Frankie Fontanez. Last class.</b>	<b>Elevator Pitches in Class</b>
		<b>Final Reflection papers due 12/12</b>

## Additional Readings

Goghari, V.M. (2022). Reimagining Clinical Psychology. *Canadian Psychology, 63*, 169-178.

Neal, T.M.S. (2018). Forensic psychology and correctional psychology: Distinct but related subfields of psychological science and practice. *American Psychologist, 73*, 651-662.

Schilling, E.J. & Randolph, M. (2021). Voices from the field: Addressing job burnout in school psychology training programs. *Contemporary School Psychology, 25*, 572-581.

Smith, G. (2019). Education and training in clinical neuropsychology: Recent developments and documents from clinical neuropsychology synarchy. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology, 34*, 418-431.