GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

PSYCHOLOGY 201 – ACADEMIC AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN PSYCHOLOGY

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units Semester Hours

PSY 201 Academic and Career 1 1 hour lecture

Opportunities in Psychology 16-18 total hours

32-26 outside-of-class hours

48-54 total hours

2. Prerequisites

A “C” grade or higher or Pass in PSY 120 or equivalent

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None

3. Catalog Description

Psychology 201 is designed for students interested in majoring in psychology. This course is a study of career options in the field of psychology. Emphasis will be placed on academic planning, post-baccalaureate options in psychology and related fields, and identification of career-related strengths and interests. Recommended after completion of thirty (30) units. This course is offered on a Pass/No Pass basis only.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

1. Evaluate a variety of different career options in the field of psychology and related fields.
2. Research at college’s Transfer Center, Counseling Center, and Career Resource Center and develop an educational pathway with career goals and objectives.
3. Analyze personal interests, skills and career**-**related strengths.
4. Compare the differences between academic and clinical psychology.
5. Evaluate and articulate skills, training and education required for employment in the field of psychology.
6. Differentiate career options at baccalaureate, Master’s and Doctoral level.
7. Evaluate resources and information regarding transferring to a four-year institution, preparation for graduate study, and opportunities for internships and employment**.**

5. Instructional Facilities

Standard classroom.

6. Special Materials Required of Student

None.

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7. Course Content

1. Introduction to careers in psychology
2. Academic career options
3. Teaching
4. Research
5. Clinical and counseling career options
6. Masters in Social Work
7. Masters in Family Therapy
8. Masters in Industrial/Organizational Psychology
9. Career paths and job searches
10. Career assessment tests
11. Curriculum **v**itae/**r**esume development
12. Service learning
13. Volunteering
14. Research experience
15. Placement in community agencies
16. Internship
17. Networking
18. Building references
19. Personal statements
20. Preparing for four-year university
21. Preparing for graduate school

8. Method of Instruction

a. Lecture

b. Films, multimedia presentations and/or guest speakers.

1. Group discussion.
2. Cooperative learning structured exercises

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

1. Performance on written assignments and/or oral presentations
2. Class participation
3. Final written project on educational and career pathway

10. Outside Class Assignments

1. Weekly reading of textbook is required before class meetings**.**
2. Weekly reading of relevant web sources such as The Chronicle of Higher Education and American Psychological Association at [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org),

c. Written assignments: create an individual plan of study in the field of psychology, weekly journal emphasizing strengths and aptitudes. Examples include: A 2-6 double spaced page paper answering the following questions. Please use APA format and include a list of all the sources you have used.

1) Who or what inspired your choice of career, college major, or course of study?

2) Evaluate your level of independence and dependence (Autonomy).  Remember, being independent or dependent is healthy.  Identify if you are over-dependent or over-independent.  This can be economically, intellectually, or emotionally.  How does this effect your ability to put yourself where you want to be in the next year or year and a half (Personal Power)?

3) What have you learned for the class about your original career choice?  Are there 2 or 3 other careers in Psychology you might consider?  Are there 1 or 2 careers we have covered in class that you know you are not interested in right now or in the near future?

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10. Outside Class Assignments (continued)

4) Do a web quest and contact people in your desired profession in Psychology.  Report your findings in a 2-6 page paper.  What were some of the benefits of your career choice and what are some potential challenges in your chosen field?

d. Attend field trips to community agencies and research labs.

e. Assess one’s own aptitudes as they relate to careers in the field of psychology.

f. Create a variety of career path options based on personal strengths and resources.

11. Texts

a. Required Text(s):

(1) Kuther, L.T. *The Psychology Major’s Handbook.* Fifth Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publishing, 2020.

(2) Kuther, T. L. & R.D. Morgan. *Careers in Psychology: Opportunities in a Changing World*. Fifth Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publishing, 2020.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

a. Analyze the variety of career opportunities in psychology at the Baccalaureate, Master’s, and Doctoral level.

1. Critically evaluate skills, abilities, training and education required for employment in the field of psychology and develop plans to meet these requirements.
2. Evaluate the resources of information regarding graduate school and employment in the field of psychology

Date approved by the Governing Board: December 13, 2019