PSYC 2673
APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY: FIELD EXPERIENCE

María G. Cisneros-Solís, Ph.D.

Course Syllabus

Twelve Week Session

Fall 2006
APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY: FIELD STUDY
(SELECTED TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGY)
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COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYCHOLOGY 2673, OPC001/ SYNONYM#39406
FALL SEMESTER 2006: 12-WEEK SESSION

Instructor: Dr. María Guadalupe Cisneros-Solís
Course Title: Applied Psychology: Field Study
Course Abbreviation – Section Number: PSY 2673- 001
Synonym Number: 39406

Professor’s Office: RGC Attaché Building, Room 213
Professor’s Telephone Number and email 223-3388; drmariacs@hotmail.com
Office Hours: Wednesday 2:45 pm – 4:10 pm, as well as by appointment
Professor’s web page http://www.austincc.edu/mcisnero/

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This is an introductory course in Applied Psychology involving fieldwork. It is designed to acquaint students with the various types of careers in Psychology and Mental Health. Students will be required to attend seminar sessions and complete 50 clock hours of fieldwork. The student is responsible for providing transportation, insurance, and other expenses.

PURPOSE OF COURSE:
The purpose of this course in psychology is to introduce students to the actual fieldwork in mental health that is related to their career goals. This is a highly individualized class that is structured to meet the individual educational and career related needs of each student.

COMMON COURSE OBJECTIVES/ STUDENT OUTCOMES:
The common course objectives or goals include the following:
• The student will be able to outline a variety of career opportunities in the area of psychology and/or mental health related to their career interests, as well as some principles in the area of applied psychology.
• The student will be able to log and keep a journal of their required 50 clock hours of fieldwork.
• The student will be able to apply psychological theories and/or concepts to real-life situations, especially in the area of their career goals and fieldwork.
INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES:

Required Textbook: None

Required Readings: Web and Library Search of books and articles related to career goals and field experience

MANDATORY CONFERENCES WITH THE INSTRUCTOR:

The Texas State Coordinating Board of Education has required that for a self-paced or ITV course to be certified, instructors and students need to have at least two contacts with each other (in person or over the phone) during the semester, in addition to the required orientation session. THEREFORE, FOR A STUDENT TO GET CREDIT FOR THIS COURSE, HE/SHE MUST MAKE CONTACT, EITHER IN PERSON OR BY PHONE, WITH THE INSTRUCTOR OR HER TEACHING ASSISTANT ON AT LEAST TWO OCCASIONS DURING THE SEMESTER. You are, of course, welcome to have as many additional contacts with the instructor or her assistant as you wish.

TESTING CENTERS: There are no tests for this course, so the testing centers will not be used.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

As a student, you are responsible for:
1. Completing 50 hours of field experience and keeping a log of these hours
2. Keeping a journal of thoughts, feelings and observations concerning the field experience
3. Researching the web and library for readings concerning the students career goals and field experience
4. Conducting an applied mini-research survey by interviewing professionals working on their field experience or career goals
5. Writing an essay summarizing their life experiences related to their interest in mental health and their career goals.
6. Attending two seminar sessions
EVALUATION SYSTEM & GRADE DETERMINATION
REQUIRED EXAMS: NONE
REQUIRED ACTIVITY TO PASS THE COURSE: COMPLETE AT LEAST 50 HOURS OF FIELD WORK

POINT EQUIVALENCY OF EACH REQUIRED ACTIVITY:

I. Individualized Project Activities: The following activities serve as a guide, an individualized project can be created by consulting with the professor

- Keeping a log of the 50 hours and a journal of thoughts, feelings and observations concerning the field experience…………………………..100 points

- Writing an essay or verbal report summarizing their life experiences related to their interest in mental health and their career goals………………………10 points

- Attending two seminar sessions…………….20 points …The dates of the seminars are on Wednesdays 9/27 (Orientation, RGC-Room 218), 10/18 (RGC-Attaché Room 101), and 11/15 (RGC-Attaché Room 101) from 4:00 to 5:30.

- Conducting an applied mini-research survey by interviewing 2 professionals working on their field experience or career goals (verbal or written report)……………50 points

- Final Report (see outline)………………………………………………..200 points
The final report should contain the student’s goals and objectives, their action plan to accomplish their goals for the course, a description and history of their field experience site, a descriptive summary of the results of their behavioral observations and interview data, an integrated summary of their readings (results of web and library research), application of psychological principles to their field experience, a conclusion, and an appendix containing their interview questions and notes.

- Extra Credit Maximum…………………………30 points
  Extra credit points can be earned by interviewing more than 3 individuals (5 points for each additional person), attending one extra seminar or making a class presentation (10 points) at one of my lecture courses, or working additional hours at the mental health field experience site (1 point for each additional hour).
GRADE EQUIVALENCY

A = Completed 50 hours of field work and 300 Points or more
B = Completed 50 hours of field work and 250 to 300 points
C = Completed 50 hours of field work and turned in a log of their time in addition to a
final report (written or verbal) relating the field experience to psychology
D = Completed 50 hours of field work and turned in a log of their time
F = Failed to complete 50 hours of field work

APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY: POSSIBLE AREAS OF STUDY:
  o HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY
  o CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY OR COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY
  o SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY
  o CHILD PSYCHOLOGY
  o PSYCHOLOGY OF AGING
  o FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY
  o SOCIAL WORK AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO COUNSELING PSY.

POSSIBLE FIELD EXPERIENCE SITES:
  o STATE HOSPITAL: VISIT THEIR WEBSITE AT: ashvolunteers.org
Download their application and immediately call Debbie Trammell at (512) 419-2323 for an
interview (ASAP)….orientation is usually on a Saturday after this class begins.
  o Schools, Daycares, Hospitals, or Nursing Homes
  o MHMR community centers
  o Residential Treatment Centers
  o Your choice of setting related to your career goals (needs to be approved by your
  professor)
COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDER

Summary of Course Deadlines

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay on self and career goals</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/06/06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview Questions</td>
<td>Outline of Final Report &amp; draft of behavioral observations and/or research information/or schedule class presentation</td>
<td>10/12/06</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Draft of final report</td>
<td>11/02/06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Log, Journal, and Final Report</td>
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<td>11/28/06</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>12/11/06</td>
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SCHEDULE OF SEMINARS

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME/Type of Seminar</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 9/27</td>
<td>4:00 to 5:30p.m. Orientation &amp; Introduction to Applied Psychology. (required of all students)</td>
<td>RGC 218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 10/18</td>
<td>4:00 to 5:30p.m. Description of Field Work and Meditation Activity</td>
<td>RGC –Attaché 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 11/15</td>
<td>4:00 to 5:30p.m. Update on Field Work and Meditation Activity</td>
<td>RGC –Attaché 101</td>
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SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

STUDENTS CAN EMAIL, DROP OF AT MY OFFICE, OR MAIL TO:
Maria Cisneros-Solis, Ph.D
Austin Community College / RGC/Psychology
1212 Rio Grande Street
Austin, Texas  78701

PREFERED EMAIL: drmariacs@hotmail.com
COURSE POLICIES:

WITHDRAWAL POLICY:
A student may withdraw at any time during the semester until the withdrawal deadline without academic penalty. To withdraw from a course, simply complete the withdrawal form available at any ACC Admissions and Records office. It takes about five minutes, does not affect GPA, and looks much better on your transcript than a “D” or an “F”. While the instructor reserves the right to withdraw a student for lack of progress in the course, the responsibility of officially withdrawing rests entirely with the student. If you stop meeting the requirements of the course and are not officially withdrawn, you will then receive a grade of “F”. The last day to withdraw is 11/27/06.

INCOMPLETE:
In general, incomplete will not be given. Exceptions to this would include verifiable cases involving hospitalization or excessive travel required by one’s employer. The instructor has the option to evaluate the severity of the student’s situation and decide if an incomplete is merited.

SCHOLASTIC HONESTY/ETHICAL CONDUCT:
“Acts prohibited by the college for which discipline may be administered include scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to cheating on an exam or quiz, plagiarizing, unauthorized collaboration with another in preparing outside work. Academic work submitted by students shall be the result of their thought, research, or self-expression. Academic work is defined as, but not limited to tests, quizzes, classroom presentations, and homework.” (Student Handbook 2002-2003, p.32) The instructor will be responsible for specifying the penalty that will be assessed for violation of this policy……..Students are expected to produce their own work. Plagiarism, collusion, or any other type of dishonest behavior on tests, written assignments, or other required tasks will be sufficient cause for the student to receive a zero or F on that task. Also, students may be reported to the appropriate ACC official and required to drop the course, or receive an F in the course. Plagiarism is the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another person’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own work. Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of a course.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM/LEARNING ATMOSPHERE:
In any course situation that includes discussion and critical thinking, there are bound to be many differing viewpoints, especially on sensitive, controversial topics. We must respect the views of others and create an atmosphere where both the students and the instructor are encouraged to think, learn, and share information. Viewpoints that are carefully thought and expressed in an organized, orderly manner can be used to enhance learning. These viewpoints as well as any feedback or general comments must be provided in a non-offensive, respectful manner. Your course grade will not be adversely affected by the viewpoints that you may express on assignments. Instead, the grade will be based on your knowledge and understanding of concepts and principles within the specific subject area as well as their theoretical and research-based foundations and applications.
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER:
For the library research project, students will be using the Learning Resource Center (Library). Students will need a current ACC student ID in order to be able to check out textbooks and other instructional materials.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS/OFFICE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
It is very important that students who have special educational needs notify the instructor as soon as possible so that the appropriate modifications in instruction and evaluation can be made. This instructor welcomes all students and is committed to making the needed modifications to ensure the student’s success.

Each ACC campus offers support services for students with documented physical or psychological disabilities. Students with disabilities must request reasonable accommodations through the Office for Students with Disabilities on the campus where they expect to take the majority of their classes. Students are encouraged to do this three weeks before the start of the semester.” (Student Handbook 2002-2003, p. 14)

FINAL REPORT OUTLINE GUIDE

I. Career, Educational, and Personal Goals (Brief description of your life as it relates to your current goals)

II. Description of Action Plan for Your Field Work (Describe how you will implement your 50 hours of field work)

III. Interview Data Summary

IV. Library and/ web research on areas of interest (Health Psychology, Counseling Psychology, Abuse, Geriatrics, etc)

V. Description of Field work site

VI. Application of field work with Psychological Concepts

VII. Evaluation of your experience
# FIELD WORK LOG

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Total Hours ______

Name of Supervisor ____________________________________________

Name of Agency ________________________________ Telephone ____________

Signature of Supervisor ________________________________________