

PSYCH 307
Writing within Psychology

Instructor: Brett D. Campbell, Ph.D.
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Hours: By appointment
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Pre-requisites:

Completion of first-year writing GE requirement Writing 150 or equivalent.
Psychology 101 and 111 or equivalent.

Note: *AP English credit or other test scores cannot be substituted for WRG150*, which is a prerequisite for PSYCH307.

Course materials

Required Text

American Psychological Association. (2010). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6thed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Course Description

The goal of this course is to increase your confidence in writing through more critical and logical writing. This course builds on general writing skills as used in the psychology discipline. You will utilize and become familiar with the American Psychological Association (APA) style. The primary goal of this course is to help you communicate psychology-related information effectively to multiple audiences.

Course Objectives

Students will demonstrate that they can write clearly, focus on a well-defined purpose in writing, use conventions of format and structure appropriate to their discipline, and adopt a voice, tone, and level of formality suited to multiple purposes and audiences, including audiences both within and outside the discipline in which the course is offered. Measurement: Informal in-class writing assignments will be given and formal writing assignments will be assigned in multiple drafts with peer- and instructor review. Genres could include a personal writing journal, letter of intent, letter to the editor, literature review, research proposal, book review, and poster presentation. Explicit focus on the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association.

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the roles that writing plays in their particular discipline, major, or career as a way of learning, as a way of demonstrating and evaluating what one has learned, and as a way of communicating with others.

Students will develop productive and flexible individual and collaborative writing processes, including prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and proofreading. These processes could include the following: collecting data, finding supporting evidence, and creating good arguments; organizing the materials for a paper, writing successive drafts of the same paper; group writing, seeking and using peer responses; revising; editing grammar, usage, and punctuation; and using conventional formats. These processes will reflect processes of inquiry within the student's discipline.

Students will demonstrate the ability to use appropriate research tools and processes of research within their particular discipline, including library research. Students will demonstrate their ability to identify and evaluate sources, retrieve and evaluate data, take notes, and follow conventions of quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing. They will cite sources properly and demonstrate an understanding of ethical issues related to research, including how to avoid plagiarism.

Course Assignments

Homework

The homework assignments are specifically designed to provide students with additional practice on relevant applied problems.

Writing Projects

You will be assigned one major project this semester: A literature review that synthesizes the current knowledge of one topic of your choice. The length of the project may be between 10 and 30 pages of text (excluding title page, abstract, references, and any appendices). This synthesis should have at least primary source 12 references. The format of this paper will be APA Style (6th ed.).

Drafts should be submitted electronically in MS Word. Drafts will be returned with comments designed to improve the final copy.

Late Work:

If you miss class, you will be able to make up projects and assessments. You will not be able to turn in-class participation activities, unless prior arrangements were made. If you believe you should be allowed to turn in work because of extenuating circumstances, you can discuss this with me during office hours or other appropriate time.

Extra credit

Every semester student and faculty researchers are searching for participants for their various research projects. Participating in such projects provide students with a deeper understanding of the research process and topics covered in the course. Opportunities to participant are found on the SONA website (byu.sona-systems.com) and sometimes announced in class. *Students may earn up to 5 SONA credits as extra credit.*

University Support

FHSS Writing Lab

I highly recommend that you use the FHSS Writing Lab. Advisors are students from our college and are trained in APA (and other styles). You can receive one-on-one assistance with organization, structure, focus and citation for your projects. The Writing Lab is at 1049 JFSB with the hours of operation being Monday through Friday 9 AM through 3 PM. You can make an appointment online at <http://fhsswriting.byu.edu> or call 801 422 4454. They do close for University Devotional.

You may also utilize BYU Writing Center at 4026 JKB, Students are encouraged to schedule appointments online at mywco.com/byu. You can call at 801 422 4306 or email at writingcenter@byu.edu. Faculty are notified of student visits via email.

Whether you visit the Lab or Center bring in a copy of your assignment or draft with questions you have.

University Research and Writing Center

The RWC is an extension of the writing center and library services. Its purpose is to help students become more effective in research and writing.

Grade Accumulation

Class Activities	20%
Homework	30%
Literature Review	40%
Presentation	10%

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

Percentage Range Grade

94-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
60-63	D-
59 and below	F

Disclaimer

Dr. Campbell reserves the right to make changes in: (a) the course schedule, (b) course requirements, (c) the course grading procedures and/or any other aspects of the course, at any time. Any alterations will be made in the best interests of the students, the course, and the professor.

BYU Policies

Academic Dishonesty

All students sign the honor code which obligates them to not engage in plagiarism or cheating; clear instances of cheating on exams or plagiarism on papers will be noticed and due action taken. We do understand that you may need to learn how to correctly cite sources and that access to the internet has made it easy to cheat in a variety of ways. Thus, we will take time in class you systematically lead you through the paper - writing process and give you support in your assignment. See <http://www.byu.edu/honorcode> for specific examples of intentional plagiarism, inadvertent plagiarism, and fabrication and falsification.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism, as defined by the BYU Honor Code, is a form of intellectual theft. It is an act of fraud; it is dishonest, deceitful, unethical, and can lead to serious and lasting negative consequences for your academic and professional career. It is an act of plagiarism to "borrow" ideas or quotes from former students' old papers and from the papers of students presently taking the course. Plagiarism also includes quoting or paraphrasing passages from any of your references without giving proper credit to the real authors (i.e., an APA-style citation). Doing so implies that this information came from you. Presenting the ideas of others as one's own is called plagiarism.

Classroom Technology

Use of laptops or other products can be helpful and are allowed to students who wish to use them to take notes. However, they can be distracting if used for other purposes. In order to prevent distracting other students (or being distracted yourself), focus on only taking notes for class, but nothing else, even if you think it is distantly related to class (for example, doing your homework during a class discussion is not appropriate even though it is a class-related activity.) Our policy is to trust students until we are given a reason not to trust them. Details will be discussed on the first day of class.

Preventing Sexual Misconduct

As required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the university prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in its education programs or activities. Title IX also prohibits sexual harassment—including sexual violence—committed by or against students, university employees, and visitors to campus. As outlined in university policy, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are considered forms of "Sexual Misconduct" prohibited by the university.

University policy requires any university employee in a teaching, managerial, or supervisory role to report incidents of Sexual Misconduct that come to their attention through various forms including face-to-face conversation, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. If you encounter Sexual Misconduct, please contact the Title IX Coordinator at t9coordinator@byu.edu or 801-422-2130 or Ethics Point at <https://titleix.byu.edu/report-concern> or 1-888-238-1062 (24-hours). Additional information about Title IX and resources available to you can be found at titleix.byu.edu.

Discrimination

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student sexual harassment. BYU's policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees of the University but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination, please contact the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895 or 367-5689 (24-hours) or contact the Honor Code Office at 422-2847.

Harassment

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education and pertains to admissions, academic and athletic programs, and university-sponsored activities. Title IX also prohibits sexual harassment of students by university employees, other students, and visitors to campus. If you encounter sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination, please talk to your professor or contact one of the following: the Title IX Coordinator at 801-422-2130; the Honor Code Office at 801-422-2847; the Equal Employment Office at 801-422-5895; or Ethics Point at <http://www.ethicspoint.com>, or 1-888-238-1062 (24-hours).

Students with Disabilities

BYU is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere which reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office at 422-2767. Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated by the SSD office. If you need assistance or feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895, D-282 ASB.