

Mary Baldwin University
PSYC 150L – Survival Skills for the Psychology Major
Online Tutorial
Fall 2020

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Course Description and Goals:

This course, required for all declared psychology majors, will foster an understanding of the career field and the acquisition of the basic learning and professional skills necessary to succeed in the field. Because the transition from general education and introductory level psychology courses to upper level psychology courses can be difficult for some students, this course is designed to acquaint students with the increased demands of upper level courses and prepare them to successfully meet those demands.

This course is designed to help the beginning scholar in psychology to explore questions involved in planning a career with a psychology degree, while assisting the student with the process of developing the needed knowledge base and requisite skills for success in the discipline. We believe that the core content and activities involved in this course will have an enormous payoff for the student during their studies at Mary Baldwin University and after graduation. Spending time and energy thinking about what you want to do professionally, and how to best go about reaching your goals early in your college career can have an enormous payoff.

Required Reading:

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2020)

(Seventh edition). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

ISBN:978-1-4338-3216-1

Kuther, T. L. (2020) **The Psychology Major's Handbook**. Fifth Edition - Belmont, CA: Thomson-Wadsworth. **ISBN: 978-130511-8430**

Course Requirements/Activities/Assignments:

1. **Homework Questions/Class Assignments.** There will be homework questions and class assignments designed to familiarize the student with various topics and skills important for a psychology major. (Worth 70% of your grade)
2. **Personal Reflection/Discussion Board.** Every other week there will be a forum posted on Canvas. You are required to make one original post for each forum, in addition to posting at least 2 responses to your classmates comments. (Worth 10% of your grade)
3. **Quizzes.** Four short quizzes will be given. These will be available online. The questions will be related to recently covered material. (Worth 10% of your grade)
4. **Literature Search Assignment** - This assignment will require you to conduct a literature search on a topic of interest and then write a short 2-3 page literature review. It is suggested you explore topics you may want to use for your senior thesis. (Worth 10% of your grade)

Course Schedule:

(unless otherwise specified, all readings refer to the Psychology Major's Handbook)

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>	<u>Written Assignments Due</u>
Week 1 (8/24-8/28)	Chap. 1 – What is Psychology?	
Week 2 (8/31-9/4)	Chap. 2 – Choosing a Major and	Homework Questions for Week 1
Week 3 (9/7-9/11)	Chap. 3 – What can I do with a with a Psych Degree?	HQs week 2
Week 4 (9/14-9/18)	Chap. 4 – Active Role In Education	HQs week 3 Quiz 1
Weeks 5 (9/21-9/25)	Chap. 5 – Self Management Skills and Chap. 6 – Study Tips	HQs week 4
Week 6 (9/28-10/2)	Chap. 7 – Writing Literature Reviews Familiarize yourself with the APA Publication Manual	HQ's week 5
Week 7 (10/5-10/9)	Chap. 8 – Writing Empirical Papers	HQ's week 6 Quiz 2
Week 8 (10/12-10/16)	Chap. 9 – Finding a Job	HQ's week 7
Week 9 (10/19-10/23)	Chap. 10 – What can I do with a graduate degree?	Short Lit Review
Week 10 (10/26-10/30)	Chap. 11 – Applying to Graduate	HQ's week 9 Quiz 3
Week 11 (11/2-11/6)	No New Work Assigned	Resume/Cover letter
December 4th -	ALL REMAINING WORK DUE	HQ's 11 and Grad Sch. Assign.

Quiz 4

Honor Code:

Students are expected to abide by the Mary Baldwin University honor code and conduct themselves accordingly. Any form of plagiarism, cheating, or dishonesty will be reported to the Dean.

Late Policy:

Without prior notification and a valid excuse, late assignments will be marked down half a letter grade for every week they are late. Keeping your instructor informed is critically important! Because the material in this class builds upon itself, handing in assignments late or missing assignments altogether will severely impair your ability to successfully master the material. It is better to hand in assignments on time, even if you know there are mistakes. Assignments that are more than two weeks late will not be accepted unless the student contacts me by the original due date and has extenuating circumstances.

Extension Policy:

At the student's request, extensions may be granted to those who have not completed all the course work by the MBU declared deadline for the given semester. However, students must have completed at least half of the required work in a good faith effort and/or have extenuating circumstances in order to be approved for an ET.

E-mail Activation:

All MBU students are required to activate their MBU issued e-mail accounts. These accounts will be one of the primary sources for communication from the instructor and are thus crucial for your success in this course.

Group Work:

With the exception of tests and exams students are permitted to help one another with their assignments. For instance, consulting a classmate about the correct way to set up a study is perfectly acceptable. However, each student must complete her or his assignment individually (e.g. you can't simply copy someone else's answers).