

Course Syllabus

PSY 4680 | PSYCHOLOGY PEER ADVISING

SEMESTER YEAR

The University of Utah - Department of Psychology

2-3 Credit Hours, 2 Semester Sequence

Check your UMail for a Canvas course invitation

Hours: 9 AM-5 PM | GC 2455 & BEHS 521/522



This syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification.

Lead Advisor: Maddi Olsen

Office GC 2455 | BEHS 521

Phone

Email

Office hours M-F 9 AM-5 PM

People to Know

Maddi Olsen—Lead Psychology Advisor

Bethany Perkes—Lead Sociology advisor

Tricia Cook—Lead Criminology advisor

Kate Keddington—Psychology Advisor, UOnline, Return to the U (RTU), Utah Asia Campus (UAC)

Jenny Stout—Lead Family & Consumer Studies Advisor

Taryn Horner—Associate Director of Student Services; advises for Psychology, Sociology, Criminology, & FCS cluster

In the College of Social and Behavioral Science advisor practice collaborative advising. This means we each advise for the various academic programs in the psychology, sociology, criminology, and family and consumer studies departments.

Prerequisites

Students must be a Psychology major

Maintain psychology 3.0 GPA

Have earned at least 30 credits from the University of Utah

Flexibility to come to main campus 6-9 hours per week for two semesters

Required Materials

You may want to bring your laptop to do modules or other homework during downtime.

Online Course

Assistance and Troubleshooting

https://tlt.utah.edu/course_support.php | 801-581-6112

Course Description

Psychology Undergraduate Advising exists to provide accurate information, guidance, and support to students pursuing a major, minor, and/or certificate in Psychology at the University of Utah.

We do this by providing accurate information about Psychology requirements. We also provide information on preparing for graduate school and departmental opportunities such as the Honors Track, Human Factors certificate, departmental scholarships, research assistantships, internships, teaching assistantships, and more.

The goal of every undergraduate psychology advisor is to be an excellent listener, to be attentive, and to be motivated to improve the undergraduate experience for Psychology students. All students who visit our office should leave confident of the requirements they need to meet.

Learning Outcomes

- 3.2 Build and enhance interpersonal relationships
- 4.2 Exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes
- 4.3 Interact effectively with others
- 5.4 Enhance teamwork capacity
- 5.5 Develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation

Course Objectives

First semester:

Students will understand and be able to teach the requirements for the Psychology major and minor, plus general education requirements.

Students will be able to provide resources regarding careers in Psychology and preparing for graduate school.

Students will be ready to advise one-on-one in the subsequent semester.

Second semester:

Students will have developed excellent listening and communication skills.

Students will feel confident in creating their personal academic plan.

Evaluation Methods

Attendance is of upmost importance and absolutely required. In the first semester, missing 6 total hours will result in a step down in grade (example: A to A-). In the second semester, missing 9 total hours will result in a step down in grade. There are opportunities to make up hours, if necessary. Please let Maddi know of any time off needed as far in advance as possible.

Assignments and quizzes in Canvas will be required to supplement your learning and training from what

you will receive in person.

You will be required to do a final project. In the first semester you will propose your project and in the second semester you will deliver the project and a 2 page write up about your reasoning for the choosing that project, its purpose, and how it will impact students. This project involves what you have learned as a peer advisor and its purpose is to ultimately benefit our students. Past projects have included creating a career guide worksheet, a comprehensive guide for applying for graduate school, college/departmental outreach to high schools, class presentations, and designing a webpage for the departmental website. Creativity is welcome!

Grading

The following table shows evaluation methods and their corresponding weight within overall final grades.

Evaluation Method	Weight
Attendance	65%
Assignments	10%
Quizzes	5%
Project	20%

The following table shows point totals and their corresponding letter grades. Within the letter grade category, the pluses and minuses will not be assigned on a predetermined scale.

Letter	Percentage
A	90% and Above
B	80% – 90%
C	70% – 80%
D	60% – 70%
E	Below 60%

Conduct

One of the first assignments regards the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; what it is and why it's important. ALL email communication with a student about their record must be through UMail and students must provide their FERPA Consent to Release PIN to discuss their record over the phone. Always check for valid ID before each appointment to ensure you're speaking with the correct person (only applicable at the BEH S tower or if no one is at the front desk in GC).

Remember! Releasing confidential information is not only a violation of the department and university's policies, you can also be personally prosecuted. Anything containing students' personal information, such as their Social Security Number, University ID, telephone number, address, etc., that is not needed should be shredded.

Dress Code

Remember that you want our students to feel comfortable. Please avoid wearing revealing and/or offensive attire. Utah gear is always appropriate!

Cell Phones

Cell phones should be silenced while in the office.

Advising Friends

Because sensitive situations or personal experience may come up during an advising appointment, please do not advise your friends. Additionally, let the lead advisor know if you feel uncomfortable advising a specific student.

Americans with Disabilities Act Policy

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability & Access (<http://disability.utah.edu/>), 162 Union Building, 801-581-5020 (V/TDD). CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, detailed in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with the verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: <http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html>

Academic Calendar

<https://registrar.utah.edu/academic-calendars/index.php>