

PSY4890: Psychology Senior Seminar Spring 2015

Drs. Stephen Flusberg, Yanine Hess, & Kaori Kubo Germano

Welcome to the Psychology Senior Seminar. This one-credit class is necessary to fulfill the requirements for the Psychology major. It meets on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:50 AM. You will be graded on a *Pass/No Credit* basis. There are two requirements: the first is that you make a presentation, and the second is that you attend all classes. No more than two unexcused absences will be allowed. Arriving to class late counts as one-half an absence. More than two absences will result in a grade of *No Credit*. In order for an absence to be excused documentation is necessary, and whenever possible the documentation should be presented *in advance* of the class meeting you are not attending.

Each student will make one oral presentation in the course of the semester. In general, you will report on the current state of progress of your Senior Project. For first semester seniors, the presentation will include a brief literature report and planned methodology. For second semester seniors, it should include data and statistical analyses if possible. You must plan your presentation in consultation with your Sponsor, who will attend your presentation. You may ask your Reader whether he/she would like to attend also. Typically, two students will present in each session each week. Although we expect you to put effort into your presentation, the atmosphere will be supportive, and the questions will be for the purpose of intellectual stimulation, not to quiz you. (However, your sponsor will evaluate the quality of your presentation and take it into consideration in the final grade awarded for your senior project).

Presentation Guidelines

1. Your presentation should be about 10-15 minutes in length.
2. You should avoid reading your presentation word-for-word from a prepared script. However, you can, and probably should, refer to notes during your talk. In addition, you are expected to prepare and use PowerPoint slides in your presentation.
3. There will be about 20 minutes of discussion following each presentation. Everyone in the seminar will participate in the discussion. Other students will ask you questions about the background material, the methods, the results, and the implications of your study.
4. You should prepare (with the help of your sponsor) at least one question for the class, to begin the discussion.
5. You should answer each question yourself as best you can. Faculty should not answer for you, but will correct any misinformation.

Students with documented physical, learning, psychological and other disabilities are entitled to receive reasonable accommodations. If you need classroom or testing accommodations, please contact the Office of Access and Accommodations (Student Services third floor; 251-6035) or the Counseling Center (Module 1 on Lincoln Ave., 251- 6390).

Spring 2015 Important Deadlines for 1st Semester Seniors	
Past Due	Submit a graduation application to the Registrar. This was due last semester. If you haven't done it, <u>do it immediately</u> .
February 18 th	Due date for your one-paragraph, <u>Brief Project Proposal</u> . Should be uploaded to the Senior Sem Moodle page, though your sponsor may request a hard copy.
March 4 th	Due date for your 2-3 page <u>Full Project Proposal</u> . Should be uploaded to the Senior Sem Moodle page, though your sponsor may request a hard copy.
April 15 th	Due date for your <u>Literature Review</u> . Should be uploaded to the Senior Sem Moodle page, though your sponsor may request a hard copy, and they may want it earlier in the semester.
April 29 th	<u>Methods Proposal</u> : When the design and method of the study is ready, prepare a short description that includes a brief statement of the rationale for the study, the hypothesis/question, and the details of the design and method.
May 6 th	This will be given to the Second Reader and then there will be a face-to-face meeting of the student, Sponsor, and Reader to discuss the proposal: <u>Methods Proposal Meeting</u>

Spring 2015	Important Deadlines for 2nd Semester Seniors
February 4 th	<u>Methods Proposal</u> due. Please submit to Moodle. This is a short description that includes a brief statement of the rationale for the study, the hypothesis/question, and the details of the design and method.
February 11 th	<u>Methods Proposal Meeting</u> : By this date, meet with your second reader and sponsor to go over your study design and finalize your methods.
February 18 th	<u>IRB Approval</u> : If necessary, you should submit your IRB Application to the Human Subjects Committee for IRB approval.
March 25 th	<u>Data Collection</u> : You should try to have all of your data collected by this date!
<u>First Draft:</u> April 15 th <u>Second Draft:</u> April 24 th <u>Final Draft:</u> May 4 th	<u>Final Senior Project Paper:</u> You will submit 3 drafts of your thesis to Moodle (though your sponsor and second reader may want hard copies as well. Please ask them!). The first draft will be reviewed by your sponsor. Once you have revised your paper to their specifications, you will submit a second draft your sponsor <i>and</i> your second reader. Once you have revised your paper again, you will submit your final draft.

Overview of Dates and Topics			
Date	Flusberg: SS1039	Hess: SS1004	Germano: NS1030
January 21	Introduction: All students meet in NS 1030		
January 28	First Semesters meet in SS1039 with Dr. Flusberg to discuss project planning, ethics, and more	Second Semesters meet in NS1030 with Drs. Hess & Germano to discuss research design, statistical analyses, project planning, and more!	
February 4	Career Planning: All students meet in NS1030		
February 11	Preparing your talk: All students meet in NS1030		
February 18			
February 25			
March 4			
March 11			
March 18			
March 25			
April 1	SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS		
April 8			
April 15			
April 22			
April 29			
May 6	Finals Week Wrap-Up Party: All students meet in NS1030		