University of Toledo
PSY 4100-059 / PSY 4100-063
Practicum – Resiliency Lab
Syllabus for Fall Semester 2014

"Fear defeats more people than any other one thing in the world." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Time and Place:
TBA

Instructors:
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Office Hours (Dr. Tiamiyu):
Mondays and Wednesdays: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and by arrangement.
Please visit me in my office, if you have any questions. You can also speak with me before or after practicum sessions.

Office Hours (Dr. Elhai):
Mondays and Wednesdays: TBA.
Please visit me during my office hours if you have any questions. You can also speak with me before or after practicum sessions.

Course Description:
The purpose of this course is to provide you with opportunities to acquire/enhance and practice research skills that will contribute to making you a more research-friendly professional in the near future. This course should help you to develop new research ideas; incorporate clinical, community, and positive psychological theories into research ideas; design studies that address research questions and rigorously test research hypotheses; and know what to do when research is completed.

Prerequisite: Completion of PSY 3110/Research Methods or equivalent.

Technical Skills
In order to succeed in this course, it will be important for students to possess the following technical skills:

1. Rename, delete, organize, and save files.
2. Create, edit, and format word processing and presentation documents.
3. Copy, paste, and use a URL or web address.
4. Send and receive email with attachments.
5. Locate and access information using a web search engine.
6. Locate and access information using a research database (e.g., PsycINFO).

Technology Requirements
Software
Student computers need to have recent software and the necessary tools to be kept free of viruses and spyware. The computer needs to run the following software:

- Word Processing Software
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Internet Browser (e.g., Firefox, Chrome, IE, Safari)

Internet Service
High-speed Internet access is recommended as dial-up may be slow and limited in downloading information.

Practicum Student Responsibilities:
In the course of the semester, you will be taking on a number of important duties as a practicum student. You will work with Dr. Tiamiyu, Dr. Elhai, clinical psychology graduate students, and other undergraduate students. In general, you are expected to devote at least 3 hours per week for every 1 credit hour you are registered for. You are expected to make your schedule open and flexible enough to accommodate your commitment to this research practicum experience.

It is expected that you …

Ψ <u>Attend Weekly Practicum Sessions</u>. You should plan to attend all practicum sessions. We will greatly appreciate promptness and active participation at these sessions. Absences do have a bearing on your grade (will lower your grade). If you will be missing a practicum session, you need to inform Dr. Tiamiyu or Dr. Elhai as soon as possible.

Ψ <u>Collaborate With Others</u>. Working in a lab offers you an opportunity to interact with like-minded people (e.g., other people who are interested in psychology, research, graduate school, etc.). Make the best use of this opportunity.

Ψ <u>Collect Data</u>. Careful data collection is one of the most important responsibilities of a practicum student. Always remember that the outcomes of our research projects will have significant impact on the professional lives of all of us in the lab (faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students). Thus, we greatly depend on you during the data collection stage of the research endeavor and we greatly appreciate all your assistance. Data collection can involve:
◦Serving as an experimenter / someone in charge of a research session involving subjects
◦Serving as a confederate / someone who pretends to be another subject
In either of the above roles, it is important that your study is ready to be implemented when participants arrive. This means that you need to have arrived early enough to have set up and prepared all the necessary materials before the study start time. In addition, when carrying out a study, watch out for problems and prepare to offer quick solutions. Finally, as an experimenter,

you are expected to dress professionally when you will be working with participants

Ψ <u>Code/Enter Data</u>. An important step in the research process is coding and entering data. After research participants have provided us with their thoughts, feelings, and behavior, we need to translate these into numbers for data analysis. Data coding/entry help us make the transition from a pile obtained to the synthesized findings we and other researchers present at conferences and write-up as research articles. This step in the research process requires that we be careful and conscientious because it is one of the most critical steps. During the semester, everyone in the lab will be involved in data coding and data entry

Ψ <u>Use of Electronics</u>. Laptops, I-Pads and other such gargets are permitted during practicum sessions only when used for practicum-related duties. Please, as a matter of courtesy minimize noisy distractions and other disruptive behaviors during practicum sessions.

Evaluation:

There is no formal exam. Grading will be done by Dr. Tiamiyu and Dr. Elhai based on your reliability and productivity (this includes mandatory attendance at practicum and experiment sessions and prompt submission of individual and group assignments). Students must meet all course requirements in order not to fail the course. We begin the semester with the assumption that all students will earn "A" in this course.

P.S. Dr. Tiamiyu and Dr. Elhai reserve the right to discretionary grade adjustments.

FLEXIBILITY CLAUSE: The aforementioned requirements, etc. are subject to change. Students' experiences and needs, as well as emerging knowledge, will be considered in modifying this course syllabus.

Academic Honesty:

The Policy Statement on Academic Dishonesty in the UT Catalog is detailed and explicit. Please consult the catalog for how academic dishonesty is described.

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PSY 4100 – Resiliency Research Practicum
COURSE SCHEDULE
(Tentative Practicum Meeting Dates and Topics)
Fall Semester 2014
(Subject to modification)

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Date	Topic/Activity	Homework Assignment*
Week 1 (Week of August 25, 2014)	Orientation: Complete Bio-form [provide name, telephone number, information that will help us meet your learning needs, and career goal(s); Introductions; Review of Syllabus; Determine meeting days	No assignment
Week 2 (Week of September 1)	How do researchers determine their ideas?	No assignment
Week 3 (Week of September 8)	Training & Ethics; Assignment to research projects	No assignment

Week 4 (Week of September 15)	Discuss identified journal articles for each group	Complete CITI Training, if you haven't before. Group Work: Each group identifies at least 10 relevant journal articles
Week 5 (Week of September 22)	Discuss identified journal articles for each group	To Be Announced
Week 6 (Week of September 29)	Discuss introduction & literature review sections of research papers	Group Work: Draft introduction & literature review
Week 7 (Week of October 6)	Discuss literature review & method sections	Group Work: Draft literature review & method sections
Week 8 (Week of October 13)	Fall Break	No Assignment
Week 9 (Week of October 20)	Finalize & submit IRB proposal	Group Work: Refine draft of introduction, literature review, & method sections
Week 10 (Week of October 27)	Discuss data collection	Group Work: Finalize online survey (on Psychdata)
Week 11 (Week of November 3)	Discuss data collection &/or Graduate School related matters	Prepare to discuss about graduate school
Week 12 (Week of November 10)	Discuss data collection&/or Graduate School related matters	Prepare to discuss about graduate school
Week 13 (Week of November 17)	Analyze data & discuss findings	Group Work: analyze data
Week 14 (Week of November 24)	Thanksgiving Break	No assignment
Week 15 (Week of December 1)	Discuss results & discussion sections	Draft results & discussion sections
Week 16 (Week of December 8)	Discuss complete research papers; Wrap-up	Draft complete research paper
Week 17 (Week of December 15)	No meeting during Finals week	No assignment

P.S. All course requirements must be completed by Friday (Dec. 19) in order not to fail the course.
* Assignments should be completed by the time we meet in a particular week in class.