



**College of Arts & Letters, Department of Psychology**  
**PSY 3940-159 / Externship in Psychology**  
**The Star Mentee Program**  
**1 - 3 Credit Hours\* -- CRN: 41151**  
**Fall Semester 2019**  
**(17<sup>th</sup> Year of the Program)**

## **Syllabus**

“You understand what it means to have an attitude of gratitude, and you’ll teach those who are younger, or those who are for some reason less aware of their blessings, how to show and feel appreciation.” ~ Mathis Holiday

"The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn." ~ John Lubbock

"Ideal teachers [mentors] are those who use themselves as bridges over which they invite their students [mentees] to cross, then having facilitated their crossing, joyfully collapse, encouraging them to create bridges of their own." ~ Nikos Kazantzakis [Mojisola Tiamiyu]

### **Professor:**

Dr. M. Tiamiyu

Department of Psychology, UH 1063, Telephone: 419-530-2853; Fax: 419-530-8479; Email: [mojisola.tiamiyu@utoledo.edu](mailto:mojisola.tiamiyu@utoledo.edu)

Ψ Blackboard course homepage (for syllabus, attendance vouchers, grades and other course-related information) through Blackboard 9.1 Login <http://utoledo.edu/dl>

Ψ My Departmental Website: <http://www.utoledo.edu/al/psychology/>

**P.S.** You can leave notes or messages for me at my office (UH1063); slide them under my office door if you do not meet me.

### **Office Hours:**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM and by appointment. Please visit me in my office, if you have any questions.

### **Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is to participate in implementing an academic mentoring and tutoring program for students at St. Pius X School in Toledo, Ohio. This will involve you working with one of the Department of Psychology’s community partners (i.e. the elementary school). You will be working with children that need academic mentoring and tutoring in the areas of Language Arts, including vocabulary, grammar, reading and writing, Math, Physical Education, Music, other subjects of interest, and the after-school program. As this is a service-learning course, you will be engaged in a process of experiential education. Service learning is a model for educational volunteers and some of its educational values include facilitating moral development, expanding students’ cultural awareness, providing a testing ground for classroom instruction, and contributing to career planning.

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Student learning objectives are: 1) to gain program implementation skills, which are specific to the academic mentoring and tutoring of the target population; 2) to acquire knowledge of theories and empirical studies about youth mentoring and tutoring; and 3) to learn how to engage in university-community collaboration. Your service objectives: to provide tutoring in Reading, Writing, Math, etc., and to provide academic mentoring and tutoring. Your service-learning objective is to work with Dr. Tiamiyu and our community partner (St. Pius X School) to learn how to implement a successful academic mentoring and tutoring program for children in an elementary school.

You will receive individual and group supervision from the teacher(s) of the students you will be mentoring and tutoring at St. Pius X School [i.e., your teacher-partner(s)]. You will submit a mentoring-related special project (see additional information in the Special Project section below). Through these experiences, you will continue to build on your knowledge of youth mentoring and tutoring, your academic mentoring and tutoring skills, and experience of participating in university-community collaboration. Furthermore, you will complete the following forms: a student bio-form [information provided therein (e.g., your career goals) may help me to better meet your academic needs]; mentors' expectations and goals pre-post forms and a Catholic Diocese online form that will permit you to work with St. Pius elementary school children. Finally, you will complete the following evaluation forms: an end of program feedback form and **an online course evaluation form for the department. I will make the latter available for completion on our Blackboard course website from 12:00 AM on Monday, November 25 to 11:59 PM on Monday, December 2, 2019.**

**Prerequisite:**

Completion of PSY 1010 or equivalent

**My Teaching Philosophy:**

I am committed to facilitating students' understanding of the lived experiences of various groups in western and non-western societies from multiple perspectives. Thus, in sharing my understanding of the lived experiences of these groups with my students, the issue of diversity (as defined in its broadest sense), is always emphasized. I began teaching in a Nigerian university over 30 years ago (this is my 22<sup>nd</sup> year at UToledo), and having pursued my undergraduate studies in Nigeria and my graduate studies in Canada, I have firsthand experience of the challenges we all face because of our multiple roles in society. Juggling academic schedules, work and family commitments build character and resilience. I expect students to take responsibility for their learning by engaging in outside the classroom reading related to the course, submitting assignments when they are due, and always attending mentoring and tutoring sessions, eager to participate in discussions and activities. These are indications of a positive attitude, which is a key ingredient to realizing our goals in this course. The mentoring and tutoring experience should be interactive and cooperative in nature. It should also be an "AHA!" experience (i.e., insightful). In summary, my teaching philosophy guides my expectations of students.

**P.S.** You can also read my "Professor Intro." on our Bb course website.

**Electronics:**

Please, as a matter of courtesy, always remember to silence cell phones and other gadgets that may ring / beep when at St. Pius X School and at other sessions, too. No texting also -- thanks!

**Course Calendar:**

Orientation Session at UToledo

**Dates:** Tuesday, **August 27**

**Time:** 12:45 - 2:05 PM

**Place:** UH 3023

Mentoring Sessions (hours must be spread relatively evenly throughout the semester and as arranged with the teacher/staff partners: **1 credit hour = 30 mentoring hours; 2 credit hours = 40 mentoring hours; and 3 credit hours = 50 mentoring hours.**\*

**Dates:** Tuesday, **September 3** – Friday, **December 6**\*\*

**Time:** As arranged with teacher partners

**Place:** St. Pius X School, 2950 Ilger Avenue, Toledo, OH. 43606 [Directions: Drive west on Bancroft St. West to Middlesex Street, go north (turn right) past Central Street, get to a dead-end, go east (turn right) less than a block, school is to your right]

\* Course credit hours are flexible so that mentors can participate in the course/Program without exceeding the maximum hours for their respective majors and / or elective / related course requirements. Students **MUST** meet the minimum mentoring hours required for the course credit hours they registered for at the beginning of the semester. Students **CANNOT** change their registered credit hours during the semester. So please plan accordingly.

Orientation Session at St. Pius X School

**Dates:** Thursday, **August 29**

**Time:** 12:45 - 2:05 PM

**Place:** St. Pius School

First week of mentoring at St. Pius X School **is the week of September 2.**

Mid-Semester Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, **October 15**

**Time:** 12:45 - 2:05 PM

**Place:** UH 3023

Your last week of mentoring at St. Pius X School is **the week of December 2.** Please plan accordingly (i.e., give your teacher partners and mentees at least one week heads-up).

**P.S.** Your final grade will be adversely affected (lowered by at least one grade) for not mentoring weekly and/or through to the last week of mentoring at St. Pius School.

Wrap-up Session

**Dates:** Thursday, **December 5**

**Time:** 12:45 - 2:05 PM

**Place:** St. Pius X School

### **Attendance and Participation:**

You should plan to attend all orientation, mid-semester, mentoring and wrap-up sessions. I will greatly appreciate promptness and active participation at these sessions. Absences do have a bearing on your grade (will lower your grade). You **must** complete the sign in and sign out log for parents and volunteers at St. Pius X School. You **must** also complete an attendance voucher for the Star Mentee Program and obtain your teacher's signature *every time* you are at a mentoring session. (I have provided you with a copy of the voucher on our Blackboard course website, and will collect all completed vouchers at the end of the semester wrap-up session, so I can include in your attendance score computation.) Students will lose four points for days/times that the *provided* attendance vouchers are not used. If you will be missing a mentoring session, you need to inform St. Pius X School general office staff at (419)535-7688 or the teacher of your mentees as soon as possible, and arrange your make-up mentoring hours. Program begins promptly at 12:45 pm *or* as arranged with your teacher partner(s) – please be at St. Pius X School / other sessions on time. Thanks.

**P.S.** As mentors, please take control of your mentoring experience. People can be useful in almost all

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environments. Be outgoing and assertive with how you want your semester at St Pius to go. Doing this is important and will be very beneficial to you.

**P.P. S.** The University expects all students to attend every class meeting of courses in which they are registered. Please, read the **UToledo Missed Class Policy**.

**\*\*Holidays:**

When St. Pius X School has a holiday, you will not have a mentoring session. Your teacher also ought to let you know ahead of time about other days that you would not come for a mentoring session because of a conflicting school event or other reasons. Kindly, inform your teacher about a forthcoming UT holiday ahead of time if it falls on a day you ought to be at the school but you will not be coming for the session.

**Dress Code:**

There is a dress code for all mentors participating in the Star Mentee Program. Please dress professionally when going to St. Pius X School. Do **NOT** wear out-fits that expose chest, stomach, back, etc. Also, do not be overly dressed (as if you are going to a party). Wear comfortable shoes. Kindly cover-up tattoos, if possible and please avoid using nose/tongue/lip rings when going to St. Pius. Thanks for being a good role model to your mentees and representing UToledo in the best light that you can.

**ACADEMIC POLICIES:**

As a student in my course and enrolled at The University of Toledo you should be familiar with the policies that govern the institution's academic processes, for example, Academic Dishonesty, Enrollment Status, and Grades and Grading. Please read Undergraduate Academic Policies:

<http://www.utoledo.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate/>

*Academic Dishonesty:* The Policy Statement on Academic Dishonesty in the UToledo Catalog is detailed and explicit. Please consult the catalog for the description of academic dishonesty. Students involved in academic dishonesty should expect to receive a "0" on the specific assignment or an F for the course, depending on the severity of the violation.

**P.S.** I expect students to complete all assignments individually in this course.

**Evaluation:**

There is no formal exam. Grading will be done by me (the course instructor) based on your special project submission, and attendance and input from St. Pius X School staff as to whether student has attained the learning and service learning objectives at the completion of the externship. Students must meet both course requirements in order not to earn an IN (incomplete) as a final grade.

**P.S.:** Attendance and input from the principal and teacher- / staff-partners: **300 Points**; End-of-semester special project submission: **100 Points**; Total **Points: 400**.

*Grading:* The final course grade will be determined in accordance with the grading system below, which lists category floors (**letter grade and applicable points; there will be no rounding off of points / percentages**):

	A 95% = 380	A- 90% = 360
B+ 85% = 340	B 80% = 320	B- 75% = 300
C+ 70% = 280	C 65% = 260	C- 60% = 2400
D+ 55% = 220	D 50% = 200	D- 45% = 180
F 00% = 0		

**P.S.:** I reserve the right to discretionary grade adjustments.

**P.P.S.:** Joining the class after the term has officially started is not an acceptable excuse for making up missed course assignments / requirements.

**Assurance Statement:**

If you do **NOT** agree to the following, I advise you to drop the course....

Work Integrity:

I will complete all course requirements using only my own work. I will not engage in any activities that would dishonestly improve my scores/grades, or improve or hurt the scores/grades of other learners.

Test/Exam Sharing:

I will not share the Special Project assignment or any other submissions on any website, via email, photocopying, or by any other means.

**Special Project (SP):**

Each student will work on a research project in which s/he will apply knowledge gained in the course (i.e., while mentoring) to a self-identified mentoring related research topic. Do a project that will be beneficial to you in future (e.g., think of your career goal). The project format will be in the form of a PowerPoint presentation (slides) submitted via our Bb course website (click the *SP Assignment* link on the left side of our course website).

Your project / submission should include your first then last name; the course code and title; the semester and year; a creative title (related to / about the topic you selected) and the instructor's name (Dr. M. Tiamiyu) on your **FIRST** slide. Your submission should also include a reference section titled **References** towards the end. In this Reference section, provide the complete information about your sources / references (use APA style; you can refer to the APA Style Blog: <http://blog.apastyle.org/>).

The main body of your submission should begin with and have on ONE slide, information related to the following sub-titles: **WHAT** (i.e., the project topic you selected); **WHY** (i.e., reasons for selecting the topic); and **WHO** (i.e., the audience project is targeted to, e.g., parents of adolescents with Cancer, adolescents with Cancer, general public, etc.). This section of your submission should then provide information of interest to your target / audience. Also, include sources of your information on your slides wherever applicable (in brackets, e.g., Cole, 2017 or Cole & Smith, 2019; i.e., use APA style, you can refer to the APA Style Blog: <http://blog.apastyle.org/>). Please do not cite every sentence / bullet point you make – this will clog up a slide. State your complete references in the Reference section of your submission.

I will not specify number of sources or length of your submission as this will depend on your topic; however, I cannot imagine how an acceptable submission will use / have less than six (6) empirically based references (i.e. studies obtained via a research database such as PsyINFO). Feel free to use additional sources that are not from a research database. Furthermore, I cannot imagine how an acceptable submission will have less than ten (10) slides (excluding the title slide; the What, Why, Who slide; and the reference slides) with text of font size ranging from 20-44 (e.g., use 20 for your references in the main body of your submission and in the reference section).

Your Special Project submission is due as an attachment via our Blackboard course website via the *SP Assignment* tool **by 11:59 PM on Monday, December 2** (as I need sufficient time to grade all students' submissions before the end of the term). Students can begin to submit their Special Projects as from 12:00 AM on Monday, November 18. **I have allotted separate points for submitting on time (10 points) and for the actual project (90 points).**

**P.S.: Students will lose 5 points for each day** they submit their projects after the due date (December 2, 2019) up to the day before they make their submissions without an acceptable excuse note. You shall scan and email to me your documentation as a Microsoft Word/JPEG/PDF **ATTACHMENT** as soon as possible. **If submitting a doctor's note, please REMOVE the health condition stated therein.**

**P.P.S.** Here are some things to consider when putting together and/or uploading your PowerPoint (PPT) slides: **You need to include relevant and creative pictures/images on your slides**; mainly having texts on your slides will not earn you a high score. It will take longer for you to upload your slides because of its larger size compared to a word document paper, and once your submission has uploaded you need to see it in the box screen to make sure that I can view it (the PPT). Do NOT copy and paste your submission in the textbox. Do NOT provide a link to an external website. I will NOT grade emailed or hard copies of submissions. I have also provided directions for uploading your submission on Bb (*SP Assignment* link).

**P.P.P.S.** I will grade submissions based on content, clarity and creativity.

Examples of Titles of Projects Submitted By Past Mentors:

“What to do about my feelings: Emotional regulation in kindergarteners.”

“The importance of integrating foreign language in elementary schools.”

“Parenting style and academic achievement.”

“Mood Cloud Art activity at St. Pius X.”

“Implementing theatre in education.”

“Working in the childcare profession: Exploring burnout and strategies to avoid it.”

“Working out the kinks of ADHD.”

“Does it really matter where they sit? Flexible seating in the kindergarten classroom.”

“Piecing the puzzle together: Keeping autistic children engaged.”

“Mindfulness based practice in the school setting.”

**Attendance Vouchers:**

Submit **hard copies of your attendance vouchers** (stapled together with a stapler at the top left-hand corner) *at the wrap-up session*. The wrap-up session will be at St. Pius X School on **Thursday, December 5 (12:45 - 2:05 PM)**.

**P.S.:** Without acceptable excuse documentation (e.g., **doctor’s note, obituary announcement of death in the family, etc.**), you **lose 5 points** for each day that you do not submit your attendance vouchers latest to **my office by Friday, December 6, 2019**.

**Course News / Announcements:**

**Email:**

I expect students to check our Blackboard course website frequently for important course information. When I post *course news* / announcements on Blackboard, students will also receive these via their UToledo email account OR might be prompted to log in to our Blackboard course website, **so also check your UToledo email account at least once a day**. I am teaching this course for you, so if you are having trouble, please email me via my UToledo email account ([mojisola.tiamiyu@utoledo.edu](mailto:mojisola.tiamiyu@utoledo.edu)). I am here to help YOU SUCCEED, and will do my best to respond to you within 24 hours. **Please, if emailing me about ANY course-related matter, always include “Star Mentee Program: [INSERT SUBJECT MATTER HERE]” in the subject line as I would not want your email to get lost among the hundreds I receive via my UToledo email account.**

**P.S.** Please read the additional expectations regarding correspondence by e-mail on our Blackboard course website by clicking on the link, “Email Correspondence.”

**Flexibility Clause:**

The aforementioned requirements, assignments, policies, evaluation procedures, etc. are subject to change. I will consider students’ experiences and needs, as well as emerging knowledge, in modifying this course syllabus.

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

**Policy Statement on Non-Discrimination on the basis of Disability (ADA)**

The University is an equal opportunity educational institution. Please read [The University's Policy Statement on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability Americans with Disability Act Compliance.](#))

**Academic Accommodations**

The University of Toledo is committed to providing equal access to education for all students. If you have a documented disability or you believe you have a disability and would like information regarding academic accommodations/adjustments in this course, please contact the [Student Disability Services Office.](#)

**Resources Related to Sexual or Gender-based Violence and Harassment**

The University of Toledo cares greatly about the health and well-being of our students, staff, and faculty, and takes all sexual or gender-based violence and harassment very seriously. If you have experienced sexual assault, sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, and/or stalking and want a confidential place to obtain support and information, please contact the Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness on the main campus in Health and Human Services Room 3017. You can call 419.530.2497 during regular business hours and 419.530.3431 for 24-hour assistance from a trained advocate. In-person, walk-in appointments are also available Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness provides free and confidential advocacy and counseling services to students, faculty and staff. The YWCA H.O.P.E. Center as an off-campus confidential resource at 419.241.7273. Faculty, teaching assistants, and other university employees are mandated reporters of any incidents of sexual or gender-based violence or harassment. Faculty, teaching assistants, and other university employees are mandated reporters of any incidents of sexual or gender-based violence or harassment. Thus, any disclosures of sexual or gender-based violence or harassment on or off campus made to faculty or teaching assistants, or other university employees has to be forwarded to the Title IX Coordinator.. The Title IX Office will then contact you regarding your rights, your option to participate in the investigation, interim safety measures and/or academic accommodations, and the need to proceed with an investigation (even if none is requested). Your participation in the process is voluntary. You may call 419.530.3152 to file a complaint or visit the following website for more information and resources:

<http://www.utoledo.edu/title-ix/>. You can find policies relating to Title IX at <http://www.utoledo.edu/title-ix/policies.html>

**FINALLY**, I will be sending students' final grades to the Registrar's office **before the end of finals week (i.e. week of December 9, 2019).**

**P.S.:** A student who does not complete all the course requirements (e.g., have satisfactory attendance at St. Pius School by Friday, **December 6, 2019**; have adequately completed attendance vouchers; have an end-of-semester special project submitted; etc.) before I send final grades to the Registrar's office, *may* earn an IN (incomplete) as a final grade. I will convert an IN to another grade after a student has completed all course requirements (this may be at the end of the following semester, for instance, if the incomplete course requirement has to do with attendance).

**WELCOME!**  
**To a Productive Semester! :-)**