

Term Information

Effective Term Autumn 2014

General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area Psychology
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org Psychology - D0766
College/Academic Group Arts and Sciences
Level/Career Graduate
Course Number/Catalog 8880
Course Title Current Research in Decision Psychology
Transcript Abbreviation Crnt Res Dec Psych
Course Description Advanced training in the conduct, evaluation, and presentation of research related to the psychology of decision making.
Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 2

Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week, 7 Week, 4 Week (May Session), 12 Week (May + Summer)
Flexibly Scheduled Course Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component? No
Grading Basis Letter Grade
Repeatable Yes
Allow Multiple Enrollments in Term No
Max Credit Hours/Units Allowed 20
Max Completions Allowed 10
Course Components Lecture
Grade Roster Component Lecture
Credit Available by Exam No
Admission Condition Course No
Off Campus Never
Campus of Offering Columbus

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites Permission of instructor
Exclusions

Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 42.0101
Subsidy Level Doctoral Course
Intended Rank Masters, Doctoral

Requirement/Elective Designation

Required for this unit's degrees, majors, and/or minors

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- Students will learn knowledge of the theory and questions being addressed by current, cutting-edge research in decision psychology as well as in the methods commonly used to pursue such questions.
- Students will learn how to present one's own research and critique the research of others.
- Students will learn greater scientific sophistication and communication skills necessary to develop a successful program of research.

Content Topic List

- Planning a research program/career
- Skills for presenting one's own research
- Evaluating/critiquing others' research

Attachments

- Psych 8880-CurrentResearchDecisionPsychology Syllabus.docx: Syllabus

(Syllabus. Owner: Paulsen,Alisa Marie)

Comments

- Max credit hours should = 20. *(by Haddad,Deborah Moore on 09/30/2013 11:58 AM)*

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Paulsen,Alisa Marie	09/19/2013 03:08 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Vasey,Michael William	09/30/2013 07:32 AM	Unit Approval
Revision Requested	Haddad,Deborah Moore	09/30/2013 11:58 AM	College Approval
Submitted	Paulsen,Alisa Marie	09/30/2013 12:03 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Vasey,Michael William	10/01/2013 02:03 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Haddad,Deborah Moore	10/01/2013 02:04 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal Nolen,Dawn Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler Hogle,Danielle Nicole Hanlin,Deborah Kay	10/01/2013 02:04 PM	ASCCAO Approval

Current Research in Decision Psychology (Psych 8880)

Semester, Year

Syllabus

Class meetings: Fridays, 1-2:30pm
Psychology 217

Instructor: name
Office:
E-mail:
Phone:
Mailbox:
Office hours:

Course Overview and Objectives

Decision psychology is the study of the psychological underpinnings of judgments that people form and decisions that they make. As such, it provides a valuable perspective on phenomena and mechanisms related to a wide variety of complex problems and across areas of psychology. This course is intended to familiarize students with the very latest research in decision psychology and to develop students' own skills at evaluating, conducting, and presenting such research. The major objectives are: (a) to enhance students' knowledge of the theory and questions being addressed by current, cutting-edge, cross-area research in decision psychology as well as the methods that are commonly used to pursue such questions, (b) to provide experience in presenting one's own research and in critiquing the research of others, and (c) to foster the scientific sophistication and the communication skills necessary for providing insights into how a program of research might be improved or developed further. This course is required for all decision psychology graduate students and will run over the length of the regular academic year (fall and spring semesters).

Familiarize students with current cutting-edge theory and research

Throughout the academic year, students will attend weekly meetings that feature talks from OSU faculty, external visitors, and their fellow graduate students. This will allow students to remain up to date with research here at OSU and in the field at large. In a typical year, we anticipate having several visitors from off campus to speak about their research.

Prepare students to present their own work and discuss that of others

Each student will be required to make two oral presentations in this course during each year he or she is a student in the program. One talk ideally will be about ongoing or completed research the student is engaged in. The second talk can be about a current research article chosen by the student chooses and approved by the instructor. Giving talks and discussing research findings are tremendously important parts of professional life for decision psychology researchers. Faculty will work with students to polish their presentation skills in a comfortable environment to prepare them for job talks and presentations at academic conferences.

Encourage students to explore other content areas

To be an effective decision psychologist, it is important to be able to relate to and make connections across areas (e.g., other areas of psychology and also economics, neuroscience, political science, communication, etc.).

Grading Policies

All students will be assigned a grade for this course (e.g., A, A-, B+, B, ...). Grades will be based on three components:

1. 50% of grade. Each student is required to give a presentation once a semester. One of these talks ideally should be on research the student is planning, conducting, or has completed; the second talk can be about the student's ongoing or completed research or can be about a current research article that the student chooses and the instructor approves. The student presenter should contact the discussant (see component 3) no later than one week before the talk in order to agree on how the discussant will be informed on the content of the presentation.
2. 40% of grade. Students are expected to be actively involved in the weekly meetings. To be involved, you must first be present. Attendance is mandatory. Absences that are not approved prior to their occurrence will negatively affect your final grade. Each student is also required once a semester to be discussant for a presentation, which implies that a few questions are asked or remarks are made. Beyond attendance and being discussant, we expect students to actively participate in the sessions. Obviously, not every student will ask a question or make a comment on a weekly basis, but students should try to contribute whenever they can, also when they do not have the role of discussant. Failing to speak during any of the meetings in an entire semester will negatively affect your final grade.
3. 10% of grade. Once a semester, each student will attend a talk in another content area. This can be another area within psychology or in another department entirely. The talk should be in some area of decision making, broadly defined. If you are not sure whether a particular talk would satisfy this requirement, contact the instructor. Any talk sponsored or co-sponsored by the Behavioral Decision Making Initiative will satisfy this requirement. After attending this talk, each student will prepare a brief paper (no more than two pages) summarizing the main theme of the talk in five lines and linking something from the talk to one's own research. These papers should be emailed to the instructor before the first day of finals each semester.

Grades for all components of the course will be converted to percentages and averaged using the weights given above. Your final grade will be computed using the OSU standard grading scheme summarized below.

E	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A
<60%	≥60%	≥67%	≥70%	≥73%	≥77%	≥80%	≥83%	≥87%	≥90%	≥93%

Other Policies

1. When an outside speaker is visiting, students will be expected to meet with the speaker during pre-arranged lunches. This is contingent on each student's availability, and on other practical considerations.
2. When an outside speaker is visiting, students may be asked to read one or two relevant papers to help prepare for the talk and the meeting with the speaker.

Week 1: Course Overview and Scheduling Student Speakers/Discussants.

Note: During this week, each student will first choose (or be assigned) a date for his/her presentation. The specific week dedicated to each other topic (and its readings) then will be modified. A revised syllabus will be placed on the Carmen website immediately after Week 1.

Three weeks of each semester will be devoted to professional issues in decision psychology. There will be readings each week and students will be required to submit at least two questions to the instructor by 5pm the Wednesday before class. The timing of these sessions will be determined Week 1 as indicated above.

Week 2: Planning a research program and career

Lord, C.G. (2004). A guide to PhD graduate school: How they keep score in the big leagues. In J.M. Darley, M.P. Zanna, & H. L. Roediger III (Eds.), *The compleat academic: A career guide* (2nd edition). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Zacks, J.M., & Roediger III, H.L. (2004). Setting up your lab and beginning a program of research. In J.M. Darley, M.P. Zanna, & H. L. Roediger III (Eds.), *The compleat academic: A career guide* (2nd edition). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Week 3: Managing your career (the instructor will pick two issues for discussion)

Example readings might include: <http://chronicle.com/article/Self-Sabotage-in-the-Academic/138875/>
http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/academic_career_confidential/mangum2
<http://money.usnews.com/money/blogs/outside-voices-careers/2013/08/29/how-to-network-when-you-hate-networking>
<http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2013/07/19/why-networking-matters-and-tips-reaching-out-essay>
<http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2013/07/08/essay-importance-rejection-academic-careers>
http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/academic_career_confidential/mangum9
<http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2013/08/12/essay-how-be-good-faculty-mentor-junior-professors>

Week 4: Getting a job (the instructor will pick two issues for discussion)

Example readings might include: <http://www.apa.org/careers/resources/academic/vitae-tips.aspx>
<http://www.apa.org/careers/resources/academic/interview.aspx>
http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/academic_career_confidential/mangum11
http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/academic_career_confidential/mangum12
http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/academic_career_confidential/mangum10
http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/academic_career_confidential/mangum3

Week 5: Student or faculty speaker

Week 6: Student or faculty speaker

Week 7: Student or faculty speaker

Week 8: Student or faculty speaker

Week 9: Student or faculty speaker

Week 10: Student or faculty speaker

Week 11: Student or faculty speaker

Week 12: Student or faculty speaker

Week 13: Student or faculty speaker

Week 14: Student or faculty speaker

A student discussant will be chosen each time a student is in charge of a presentation.

Faculty speakers (OSU or outside): We expect to have OSU or outside faculty speakers 2-3 times each semester. At least one week in advance of the scheduled colloquium, 1-2 articles authored by the colloquium speaker will be posted on the course's Carmen website as required reading.

Academic Misconduct

All students at the Ohio State University are bound by the Code of Student Conduct (see http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/pdfs/csc_12-31-07.pdf). Violations of the code in this class will be dealt with according to the procedures detailed in that code. Specifically, alleged cases of misconduct will be referred to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct http://studentlife.osu.edu/pdfs/csc_12-31-07.pdf.

For good, concise, plain-English advice on how to stay out of academic trouble, see Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity at <http://oaa.osu.edu/coamtensuggestions.html>

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>. To ensure fairness to all students, requests for special accommodations will not be granted in the absence of ODS certification.