

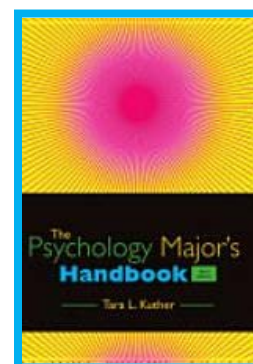
Dr. Kim A. Case
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Required Textbook:

1) *The Psychology Major's Handbook*, 3rd edition by Tara L. Kuther (2012)

Recommended Texts:

- What Psychology Majors Could (and Should) Be Doing: An Informal Guide to Research Experience and Professional Skills (Silvia, Delaney, & Marcovitch, 2009)
- Careers in Psychology: Opportunities in a Changing World, 3rd edition (Kuther & Morgan, 2010)
- Finding Jobs with a Psychology Bachelor's Degree (Landrum, 2009)
- Career Paths in Psychology: Where Your Degree Can Take You, 2nd edition (Edited by Sternberg, 2007)
- Getting In: A Step-by-Step Plan for Gaining Admission to Graduate School in Psychology (APA, 2007).



Course Description:

Overview: The purpose of this course is to provide information about selecting and pursuing a career in psychology and/or psychology-related field. In addition, the course will orient you to the UHCL Psychology Faculty, the requirements for the major, and how to get the most out of your education both in and beyond the classroom. Specific topics to be covered include: career opportunities, active learning, professionalism, graduate school, and job search skills/strategies.

Purpose & Objectives:

This course is intended to help students:

- (1) understand the psychology major candidate plan of study requirements.
- (2) understand the psychology and HSH advising process.
- (3) recognize ways to make the most out of their undergraduate education.
- (4) demonstrate professionalism in their written and oral communication.
- (5) acquire knowledge about a variety of career possibilities for psychology majors.
- (6) develop their job search skills (e.g., cover letters, resumes, interview skills).
- (7) identify graduate school programs and develop application materials.

Course Requirements:

The following assignments will be explained within the course units on the course site.

- Orientation Quiz
- Student Homepage Discussion Post
- Candidate Plan of Study Tutorial & Quiz
- Sign Your CPS
- Academic Honesty Quiz
- Resume/ Curriculum Vitae
- Cover Letter/ Graduate Statement of Purpose
- Discussions
- Active Participation & Professionalism

Course Topic Units:

When you enter the Course Topics area, you will see each unit listed on the Course Menu to the left (once you pass the orientation quiz). For example, we dive into Meet the Faculty, The Psych Major, etc. Content units on Blackboard will include information on textbook readings for that unit, as well as additional materials such as PowerPoint slides with audio lectures, videos, assignments for that unit, etc. The textbook readings are parallel to the reading you would do before attending the face-to-face class meeting. Your review of the course units, along with participation in discussion postings are parallel to attending and participating in a face-to-face class.

Discussion Boards:

Please note that within this course, the instructor operates under the assumption that you are reading all discussion postings, as well as other course materials. There are several separate discussion areas for this class:

- The Discussions area is intended to simulate traditional classroom conversations, and will be used for most of our class discussions.
- Any announcements, changes, or otherwise helpful information will be posted under the topic "Messages from Dr. Case." It is your responsibility to check the discussion boards each day.
- The "Student Homepage" discussion board exists so that we can get to know each other a little better. We need an online community that feels a little less isolating, so please drop in to let us know more about you. Please read the Orientation page within the course for details on what to include.
- "Ask Dr. Case & the TA" is a space for posting questions after reviewing course materials and all discussion posts. Most questions have already been answered there for you, but if not, just ask!

Grading Policy:

Grade Posting: You will be able to view all of your grades on Blackboard. In the course menu, click on "View My Grades" listed under "Assignments and Grades." As you begin to complete assignments and receive grades, there are a few things you should know. After I grade an assignment, you will be able to view comments by clicking the "graded" link on your assignment drop-box screen; otherwise you will see only the number grade and not my typed comments. Please approach me with any questions about your assignment and/or grade after you have read through my comments.

Total Points: There are 1000 possible points to be earned for this course. The following assignments will be explained at length in the assignment instructions. Grading sheets with tips are available on the relevant course unit pages.

Point Breakdown of Final Grade:

- 50- Orientation Quiz
- 50 - Student Homepage Discussion Post
- 150 - Candidate Plan of Study Tutorial & Quiz
- 100 - Sign Your CPS by deadline
 - **[Must be completed to earn a grade in this course. An incomplete will be assigned if you fail to complete this task, After 1 semester, the incomplete becomes an F]**
- 50- Academic Honesty Quiz
- 150 - Cover Letter OR Graduate Statement of Purpose
- 150 - Resume OR Vita
- 200 - Assigned Discussion Posts
- 100 - Active Participation & Professionalism (includes following instructions & reading all posts)

Factors that DO NOT influence grading or your final grade:

- How many times you have taken the course in the past
- How much you feel you deserve a certain grade
- How much and how often you beg me for extra points
- How hard you worked on your assignments

Factors that DO influence your final grade:

- Total points you have at the end of the semester
- Quality of work you have done up to that point
- Ability to show (assignments) that you have mastered the concepts & can apply them to real life

Final Course Grades by Points:

A	930 or more	C	730 – 769
A-	900 - 929	C-	700 - 729
B+	870 - 899	D+	670 – 699
B	830 - 869	D	630 - 669
B-	800 - 829	D-	600 - 629
C+	770 - 799	F	0 - 599

Tips for Success:

- WARNING- this course moves fast!! The pace is triple that of a regular semester, so get ready! You should be checking the course page for discussion posts and emails EVERY DAY to keep up.
- Since this is an online class, your self-motivation and self-pacing are absolutely critical. For this 1 hour course, you should plan to work about 4-5 hours per course unit as we move through the materials. Be sure to plan your time accordingly.
- Make yourself a calendar with all of your due dates and plan for when you will work on each one for completion in advance of the due dates.
- Do not wait until the end of the term to discuss problems you are having in the course. Procrastination will only make it harder to bring your grade up.

Technology for Learning:

Since this is an online course, there are some minimum hardware and software requirements to complete the course. For recommended operating system requirements and web browser compatibility, visit the Blackboard Tune-up page. For all browsers, JavaScript and cookies must be enabled.

In addition, since the class has a number of flash interactive presentations, film clips, and other audio-visual content, a high-speed internet connection is highly recommended. If you do not have a high speed connection where you usually do your class work, do keep in mind that you can always use on-campus machines, as well as those at your local public library. Laptop users can also make use of the increasing numbers of Wi-Fi Hot Spots around, from public libraries to Chick-fil-A, Panera Bread, and some Starbucks locations. In addition, students will need to obtain Adobe Acrobat Reader, the Adobe Flash Player, the Quicktime player, to read articles and view most audio-video content in this class. Please see the “Free Software” page for complete details.

Course Schedule:

The course schedule for this class will be available online. The course schedule will explain each week’s reading assignments and due dates for all assignments. **PRINT the course schedule** and make it your best friend for success in this course!! That will be the most important document for success in the course

Please note that changes to the syllabus may occur at the instructor’s discretion and will be announced in class or on Blackboard.

You will be responsible for any changes.