

Department.: Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 280W

Course Title: Current Topics in Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Credits: 3

Contact Person: John Rickards

Competency Group: W only

Catalog Copy: PSYC 280W. Current Topics in Industrial/Organizational Psychology. Three credits. Either semester. Prerequisites: PSYC 135, PSYC 268 or PSYC 278 or consent of instructor; ENGL 105 or 110 or 111 or 250. May be repeated for credit with a change in topic.

Example topics include the psychology of diversity in the workplace, design of human-computer interaction to promote safety and health, judgement and decision-making, and organizational behavior related to union participation.

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W Criteria: A minimum of 15 pages of writing will be required in the course, with students failing the course if a failing grade is received in the writing portion of the course. Students will receive personalized written and/or oral feedback on each writing assignment, and have the opportunity to revise each paper to earn a higher grade. Writing assignments will be integrated with the topic area depending on faculty preference (e.g., 2 papers versus 1) and the specific topic area for that semester. For example, an original research proposal in reduced-length NIH format may be required in which the student must integrate course material and demonstrate the ability to apply said material to a new research question. Alternatively, a critical review of published research using APA format may be required that requires the

student to compare and contrast a published research study with other related published research studies, and to do this in relation to topics and themes covered in class. Grading will depend on the specific course goals set by the faculty member in each course offering. While one faculty member may emphasize completeness in the case of critical review papers, another faculty member may emphasize originality in the case of a research proposal that requires an original question to identified and then developed. In any case, the specific goals for the writing will be clearly stated in the syllabus for the current topic(s) covered in that semester.

Role of Grad Students: Not Applicable. Graduate students will not be involved in teaching this course.