Cover Sheet: Request 11740

SOP4xxx Legal Psychology

Info

Process	Course|New|Ugrad/Pro
Status	Pending at PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
Submitter	Michael Farrar farrar@ufl.edu
Created	7/18/2017 1:40:50 PM
Updated	11/27/2017 5:21:48 PM
Description of request	Legal Psychology is the study of the interaction between individuals and the legal system. We will examine how the application of various psychological disciplines can inform the legal system. Topics will include, eyewitness identification, investigative interviewing, scientific jury selection, jury decision making, the death penalty, detecting deception, and criminal profiling.

Actions

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
Department	Approved	CLAS - Psychology 011618000	Michael Farrar		7/18/2017
No document changes					
College	Recycled	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Michael Farrar	conditionally approved, subject to the following: a) course description should be written in catalog style, e.g., "Examination of the application of psychological insights to the legal system, including such topics as eyewitness identification…; b) under "rationale", the paragraph beginning "given the current" is written three times, please delete extra occurrences; c) spacing of grading scheme makes it hard to understand; d) remove syllabus from documentation, as it is not required by the UCC	10/17/2017
UFO_welcome_letter_sop4842_cahill.docx					7/19/2017
Department	Approved	CLAS - Psychology 011618000	Michael Farrar		10/23/2017
No document changes					
College	Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Michael Farrar	Course description is still not written in catalog style.	11/27/2017
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Pending	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)			11/27/2017
No document changes					
Statewide Course Numbering System					
No document changes					

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
Office of the Registrar					
No document changes					
Student Academic Support System					
No document changes					
Catalog					
No document changes					
College Notified					
No document changes					

Course|New for request 11740

Info

Request: SOP4xxx Legal Psychology
Description of request: Legal Psychology is the study of the interaction between individuals and the legal system. We will examine how the application of various psychological disciplines can inform the legal system. Topics will include, eyewitness identification, investigative interviewing, scientific jury selection, jury decision making, the death penalty, detecting deception, and criminal profiling.
Submitter: Michael Farrar farrar@ufl.edu
Created: 12/7/2017 2:27:32 PM
Form version: 6

Responses
Recommended PrefixSOP
Course Level 4
Number xxx
Category of Instruction Advanced
Lab Code None
Course Title Legal Psychology
Transcript Title Legal Psychology
Degree Type Baccalaureate

Delivery Method(s)4136,4138,4139On-Campus, Online, UF Online - Please attach a letter of support from the Director of the UF Online program
Co-Listing No

Effective Term Earliest Available
Effective Year2017
Rotating Topic?No
Repeatable Credit?No

Amount of Credit3

S/U Only?No
Contact Type Regularly Scheduled
Weekly Contact Hours 3
Course Description Legal Psychology is the study of the interaction between individuals and the legal system. How the application of various psychological disciplines can inform the legal system will be considered.
Prerequisites Psy2012
Co-requisites none
Rationale and Placement in Curriculum Legal Psychology is a discipline in psychology that examines the interface between psychological science and the legal system. It is a unique discipline within the field of psychology because of its wide application of various areas of psychology (i.e., Clinical, Social, Cognitive, Developmental, and Research Methodology and Statistics) to the legal system as well as its connections with numerous areas outside of psychology (e.g., criminology, political science, law, sociology, etc.). Legal Psychologists use the basic principles from the aforementioned areas to help improve the legal system at the individual and institutional levels.

Legal psychology offers students an advanced course of study that takes an interdisciplinary perspective to solving real world issues and exposes students to topics that are only superficially covered in other courses, if at all. That is, a course in Cognitive Psychology might have a small section in a chapter on long-term memory about the reliability of eyewitness testimony but no meaningful understanding about such a complex topic can be gleaned from such a short treatment. This course will offer students more than just a deeper understanding of an integral part of our society, it will provide them with an opportunity to gain practice in taking an interdisciplinary approach to solving problems by applying theory to novel areas. Also, it will benefit them to gain insight into how psychology may be used to improve the lives of both society and everyday people, which is arguably

the goal of all science.

Lastly, given the current social movements occurring in our society regarding the treatment of certain demographics by our legal system I cannot think of a more important and timely class than this.
Course Objectives At the end of the course, students will have a better understanding of how the legal system can be informed by psychological research, and how psychological research can be reactive to legal issues. Specifically, students will have a better understanding of a variety of contemporary issues in the legal system, a basic understanding of research methods in the study of psychology and law, and understand how psychological research can inform legal policies and procedures.
Course Textbook(s) and/or Other Assigned Reading Castanzo & Krauss (2015). Forensic and Legal Psychology (2nd ed.). Worth Publishers, NY, NY.
Weekly Schedule of Topics 1. Psychology and Law: A Cautious Alliance,
2. nterrogations and Confessions,
3. Lie Detection,
4. The Psychology of Forensic Identification,
5. Criminal Profiling and Psychological Autopsies,
6-7. Jury Selection,
8. Eyewitness Identification and Testimony,
9-10 The Insanity Defense,
11. Interviewing Children and Memories of Sexual Abuse
12-13Juries and Judges as Decision Makers
14. .Predicting Violent Behavior
15. The Death Penalty
Links and Policieshttps://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals/Default.aspx

https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/
Grading Scheme Grading Procedure:

Grading Procedure:
Assessment   Percent of Final Grade

Exams 55% (400 pts)

Quizzes

27% (192 pts)

Discussion Posts

11% (80 pts)

Activities

7% (48 pts)

Exams: Each exam consists of 45 multiple-choice questions and 1 open ended question. Each multiple-choice will be worth 2 points and the open ended question will be worth 10 points for a total of 100 points for each exam. There will be 4 exams in all and each exam will be non-cumulative, so 4 exams x 100 = 400 points total.

Quizzes: Quizzes for each module will be due at the end of each module/week. There will be 13 quizzes in total, one for each of the modules 1 -13, each worth 20 points (1 point per question), and your lowest quiz score will be dropped: 12 quizzes x (20 questions x .8 points each) = 192 points total.

Discussion Posts: Starting with module 1 we will have a discussion post about every other module

with the total number of posts being 8. Your posts will consist of an initial post which will entail you addressing the topic posed by me as well as a follow up response to one of your fellow students' posts. The purpose of these posts is for you to think critically about a topic and share your thoughts with your fellow students. To earn your full points, make sure you fully answer/address each component in the initial post and provide a thoughtful response to a fellow student's post. Each post will be worth a maximum of 10 points, so with 8 posts x 10 points = 80 points total.

Activities: Two activities are designed to be interactive and to reinforce material covered in that particular module. Each activity will be worth 24 points for a total of 48 points.

Instructor(s) Brian Cahill