Penn State Altoona Psychology Capstone Application (10/2024 revision)

This application is necessary only for students who wish to enroll in PSYCH 493, 494, 495, or 496. Students who intend to enroll in PSYCH 439 or PSYCH 490 may schedule them without completing this application.

This first section provides an overview of the capstone application procedure. The second and third sections provide, respectively, the application for all projects and the supplemental application for internships. The fourth section provides a sample syllabus for PSYCH 495, which provides details about the specific expectations for that capstone.

How to get started

All psychology majors must complete a capstone course in order to graduate. Typically, students complete the capstone in their senior year. If you are thinking about the capstone you should first consult the Psychology Program Handbook, available on-line (www.altoona.psu.edu/psych). The handbook provides detailed descriptions of the various options. Next, you should consult with a psychology faculty member about your interests.

**Eligibility requirements are a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a minimum grade of C in PSYCH 301W. Students who are not eligible for PSYCH 493, 494, 496, or 496 may take PSYCH 439 or PSYCH 490 to satisfy the capstone requirement.**

If you are interested in PSYCH 493, 494, or 496 you will complete only the basic application for review.

If you are interested in PSYCH 495 you will complete both the basic and supplemental application for review. Before beginning work on these applications, you should review the other documents about our PSYCH 295/PSYCH 495 internship and talk to Dr. Furer for more information.

Timeline

You should begin preparations for the capstone project **no later than the beginning of the regular semester preceding the anticipated capstone semester**. This advice is particularly important for students interested in PSYCH 494 and 495 because those courses require additional up-front work that can require a long wait. For 494, this includes submitting and gaining approval of an IRB application. For 495, this includes submitting and gaining approval of various work clearances (e.g., criminal background check).

You must submit the Psychology Capstone Application **no later than the tenth week** of the regular semester preceding the anticipated capstone semester. So, for a *fall* capstone project, students should aim to submit an application by **March 15**. For a *spring* capstone project, students should submit an application in that previous fall semester by **October 15**. Early submissions are welcomed.Psychology Capstone Application

Instructions: Type responses in the indicated blanks. Save the document using a file name modeled on “Jones.Capstone Application.22May13.” Eliminate the previous two pages and the sample syllabus before emailing complete applications to your desired faculty supervisor no later than the tenth week of the semester preceding the anticipated capstone semester.

Name:

Penn State Email:

GPA: (Note a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA is required)

PSYCH 301W grade: (Note a minimum grade of C is required)

Desired capstone course: (Choose among PSYCH 493, 494, 495, or 496)

Desired capstone semester:

Desired capstone faculty supervisor:

Desired credit hours for project: (The standard capstone course is 3 cr. in one semester. You must provide an academic justification for taking more than 3 cr. and/or taking more than one semester to complete the project.)

Project proposal: (Provide a brief description (< 1000 words) of the intended academic focus of the project. Depending on the 49x course, you might define the specific research area or question you wish to review or provide the hypothesis or working thesis and include a few preliminary references. This is not the place to describe the practical portion of the course. It would be a good idea to consult with the intended faculty supervisor before completing and submitting this section.)

Supplemental Application for PSYCH 495

Contact Information

Name:

PSU Email:

PSU ID #:

Academic Background

Current GPA:

Have you taken PSYCH 212? YES NO GRADE:

Have you taken PSYCH 270? YES NO GRADE:

Interests

Please describe **THREE** population(s) you are interested in working with (e.g., children, families, individuals whou use drugs/alcohol, those with intellectual disabilities):

Please describe **THREE** professional activities you are interested in shadowing (e.g., home visits, classroom interventions, 1-1 therapy, crisis interventions, human resources trainings, advocacy meetings):

Professional Goals

Please describe your professional goals. Consider both your plans following graduation, and long-term.

Logistics (Answers will NOT influence your application’s success; planning purposes only)

Do you have your own vehicle? YES NO

Are you a U.S. citizen? YES NO

Do you have a registered disability? YES NO

Resume

Please include an updated resume which details your previous work, volunteer and extracurricular experiences.