PSY 640 Advanced Research Seminar

Instructor: Dr. Sherri Pataki  
HSC 126  
Phone: (724) 946-7361  
Email: patakisp@westminster.edu

Course Description
PSY 640 is designed to guide senior psychology majors through the completion of their senior capstone research project. During the semester, students will complete the research project they proposed in PSY 601. The seminar will meet regularly to discuss research, receive instructor and peer feedback, and learn the skills necessary to complete the research project. The seminar will conclude with a final paper and formal research presentation that follows all current guidelines of the American Psychological Association.

Outcomes and Assessment
Students in PSY 640 will do the following:
1. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of a specific area of psychological research.  
   Assessed through the final paper and oral presentation.
2. Gain hands-on experience carrying out a complete research project as outlined in the research proposal.  
   Assessed throughout the semester through completion of the various stages of the research process and through active and ongoing seminar participation.
3. Demonstrate competency and an in-depth understanding of the data analysis process.  
   Assessed based on the quality of the data analyses using SPSS, the results section of the final paper, and the interpretation of the findings in the discussion section.
4. Acquire competency in writing a complete manuscript and giving a professional research presentation following all American Psychological Association guidelines.  
   Assessed through the final paper and oral presentation.

Final grades for PSY 640 will be based on the following: results section 20%, discussion section 20%, individual meetings and seminar participation 10%, and final paper 50%.

Due dates (late assignments will be penalized 5% per day):
Results and Discussion sections, November 8/10  
Seminar oral presentation, November 15/17  
Final paper, December 9

Academic Integrity:
If you have any questions regarding academic integrity related to your papers or , please feel free to discuss your questions or concerns with the instructor. All final papers may be submitted to turnitin.com.

Accessibility Statement:
Westminster College actively strives for the full inclusion of all our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers should contact Faith Craig, Director of Disability Resources, at (724) 946-7192 or email: craigfa@westminster.edu.