**COUN 8230**

Colloquium in Counseling Psychology I

***Fall 2020***

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**Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling**

**College of Education**

Instructor Information:

**Marilyn Cornish, PhD, LP**

**Associate Professor**

**2068 Haley Center**

**mac0084@auburn.edu**

**334-844-7601**

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Office Hours:

**by appointment**

**This course is reserved for students enrolled in the Counseling Psychology doctoral program at Auburn University.**



**SYLLABUS**

**1. Course Number: COUN 8230 (1 semester hour)**

**Course Title: Colloquium in Counseling Psychology I**

**University: Auburn University**

**Prerequisites: Enrollment in Counseling Psychology PhD program**

**Instructor: Marilyn A. Cornish, PhD, LP**

**Contact Info: 2068 Haley (mail: 2084); mac0084@auburn.edu; 334-844-7601**

**Class Meeting: Tuesdays 3:00-3:50pm**

**Class Format: Blended due to COVID – online except as indicated**

**2. Date Syllabus Prepared:** 8/2017, updated 8/2018, 8/2020

**3. Required Readings:**

American Psychological Association. (2017). *Ethical principles of psychologists and code of conduct.* Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/ethics-code-2017.pdf>

Borghi, A. M., & Fini, C. (2019). Theories and explanations in psychology. *Frontiers in Psychology, 10*(958), 1-3.

Kazdin, A. E. (2017). *Research design in clinical psychology* (5th ed.). Chapter 4: Ideas that begin the research process. Boston, MA: Pearson.

Robitschek, C., & Hardin, E. E. (2017). The future of counseling psychology research viewed through the Cultural Lens Approach. *Journal of Counseling Psychology, 64*, 359-368. doi: 10.1037/cou0000207

Other articles as assigned by the research lab supervisor

**4. Course Description:**

*Catalog Description:* This course provides pre-practicum students with training in the conduct of counseling psychology research to provide foundational skills in research design and implementation.

**5. Course Objectives:**

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Articulate knowledge of the American Psychological Association Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct as it pertains to research activities;
2. Conduct research and other scholarly activities under the direction of a research supervisor;
3. Engage in supervised research activities consistent with relevant laws, regulations, rules, and policies at the organizational, local, state, regional, and federal levels;
4. Understand the role of theory in conducting psychological research;
5. Develop research questions and hypotheses.

**6. Course Content** **and Schedule:**

An overview of the course content and schedule is included below (see Course Requirements for details on each assignment). This schedule may change based upon the learning needs of the class or other unforeseen circumstances. Due to COVID, most class meetings are online. Dates planned for in-person are indicated in the Date column, but are subject to change based on changing public health circumstances.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DATE | CLASS TOPIC/ACTIVITIES | READINGS | DUE |
| 8/20 | Course Introduction  Meet Research Lab Supervisors |  |  |
| 8/27 | Institutional Review Boards  Research Ethics | APA (2017) | CITI Training due 8/27 at 3:00pm |
| 9/3 | Becoming Familiar with a Research Program | Article(s) selected by research supervisor |  |
| 9/10 | Accessing AU Library Resources |  |  |
| 9/17 | Introduction to Theory in Research | Borghi & Fini (2019) | Research Reflection due 9/17 at 3:00pm |
| 9/24 | Cultural Lens Approach to Theory Testing | Robitschek & Hardin (2017) |  |
| 10/1 | Practical Application of Theory in Research |  |  |
| 10/8 – in person | Practical Application of Theory in Research, cont. |  | Draft of Theory Write-Up due |
| 10/15 | Identifying “Problems” to Study with Psychological Research | Kazdin (2017) |  |
| 10/22 | From “Problems” to Research Questions | Kazdin (2017) |  |
| 10/29 | From Research Questions to Hypotheses |  |  |
| 11/5 – in person | Practical Application of Hypothesis Development |  |  |
| 11/12 – in person | Discussion of Theory Write-Up assignments |  | Theory Write-Up due |
| 11/19 | End of semester review, planning for next semester |  |  |
| 11/26 | NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK |  |  |
| 12/3 | NO CLASS: FINAL EXAM PERIOD |  | Final Hours Log & Supervisor Evaluation due 12/3 at 3:00pm |

**7. Course Requirements/Evaluation:**

Course Requirements:

A. *CITI Training*: You are required to complete the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) course relevant to psychology research. Specifically, you will complete the Social-Behavioral-Educational (SBE) Basic course for Human Subjects Research (HSR). For information on how to complete the course, see https://cws.auburn.edu/OVPR/pm/compliance/irb/training. You must submit a PDF of your completion certificate with a passing score (per CITI requirements) to the Tevera “assignment” for the COUN 8230 course **by 3:00pm on Thursday, August 27.**

B. *Research Reflection* (20 points): You will read at least three articles written by members of your research supervisor’s lab, as assigned by your research supervisor. You will then submit a written reflection on the assigned articles to the course instructor (via Canvas) and your research supervisor (via email). The reflection should be approximately 1.5-2 pages single spaced and cover the following elements: 1) insights gained from the articles, 2) questions about the supervisor’s research program that still remain, and 3) future research questions you have that were stimulated by the articles. This is due by **3:00pm on Thursday, September 17**.

C. *Theory Write-Up* (20 points): You will write a 3-5 page (double spaced in APA style) summary of a selected psychological theory, integrated with empirical research on your selected research problem area. The summary will also include research questions and hypotheses that address the research problem area. **A draft of the summary (without questions and hypotheses) will be due at 3:00pm Thursday, October 8 (via Canvas)** and discussed in that class meeting. **The final paper will all required elements will be due at 3:00pm on Thursday, November 12 (via Canvas)** and discussed in the class meeting.

D. *Participation in Research Lab*: After meeting the research lab supervisors in the first week of class, you will select one research lab to be involved in throughout the semester. **Your lab selection needs to be approved by the research lab supervisor and communicated to the course instructor no later than the second week of the semester**. Some research labs may include in-person requirements, so students with COVID-related concerns should consider those requirements when selecting a research lab. Involvement in the selected research lab includes attendance and participation at weekly lab meetings, completion of research tasks assigned by the research supervisor, and involvement in at least one specified research project in the lab.

1) Weekly Research Hours Log: You are required to submit an accurate and sufficiently detailed record of your research hours completed each week (including time spent in lab meetings) using the Weekly Research Hours Log “assignments” in the Tevera course for COUN 8230. You are expected to complete the logs weekly by the day of the week established between you and your research lab supervisor. Your supervisor will review and sign off on your documentation within Tevera.

2) Semester Research Hours Log: Using the Weekly Hours Log documentation, you will complete a final summary of your research hours using the Semester Research Hours Log “assignment” in the Tevera course for COUN 8230. A Satisfactory grade in the course requires a minimum of 30 hours during the semester. This log must be completed with sufficient time for **your Supervisor to sign the log in Tevera no later than Thursday December 3 at 3:00pm.**

3) Research Supervisor Evaluation: Your research lab supervisor will complete an evaluation of your performance as a research lab member. This evaluation will be completed within Tevera and is used to ensure you are meeting competency benchmarks set forth by the Auburn University counseling psychology program and the American Psychological Association Commission on Accreditation. **The evaluation must be submitted by the supervisor in Tevera no later than Thursday, December 3 at 3:00pm.**

Evaluation:

This course uses Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading. Your evaluation will depend on your performance on class assignments and your performance as a student researcher in your selected research lab. A key ingredient in your course grade will be the evaluation completed by your research supervisor near the end of the semester.

A grade of Satisfactory in the course requires all of the following:

* A passing score (per Auburn IRB requirements) on the CITI training;
* A score of 80% or higher on each of the point-based assignments in the Course Requirements;
* No more than 1 unexcused absence from class meetings;
* No more than 1 unexcused absence from research lab meetings;
* Evaluation from your research supervisor that indicates performance “Consistent with Beginning Doctoral Student Skill Level” across each of the rated domains;
* Accurate submission of semester research hours with a minimum of 30 hours;
* No indication of behavior that violates APA ethical standards as it relates to the student’s research lab participation.

If it becomes evident that you are not meeting expectations for a satisfactory grade, I will meet with you to discuss this matter. If you do not receive a satisfactory evaluation from your research supervisor, you may be required to take steps toward remediation as allowed in the program policies and professional judgment of counseling psychology program faculty. Please note that program policies specify minimally acceptable scores on the research supervisor evaluation. Failure to achieve these benchmarks means you will not pass this course and may need to undergo remediation.

**8. Class Policy Statements:**

COVID Related Policies: Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, public health measures have been implemented across Auburn’s campus. Students should stay current with these practices and expectations through the campus reentry plan, [A Healthier U](https://ahealthieru.auburn.edu/). We are all responsible for protecting ourselves and our community. Please read about student expectations for Fall semester, including completing the daily [GuideSafe™ Healthcheck](https://ahealthieru.auburn.edu/). You are expected to (1) take your temperature daily and (2) complete your Healthcheck screener to receive your A Healthier U pass. **You may be asked at any time during in-class meetings to show your pass.** The below policies have been modified to address issues related to COVID-19 in addition to standard course policies.

Course Delivery Methods: Please be aware that the situation regarding COVID-19 is frequently changing, and the delivery mode of this course may adjust accordingly. This class is currently set in a Blended format (some in-person meetings and some meetings via Zoom). In-person class periods will also include a link for Zoom participation for students who need to meet remotely. Students are asked to communicate in advance of they need to meet remotely to allow for adequate planning of the class period.

In the event that the delivery method is altered due to changing COVID circumstances, please be assured that the learning goals and outcomes of the course will not change; however, some aspects of the course will change in terms of the mode of delivery and participation. Those details will be shared via email as soon as any necessary changes are determined. Please be prepared for this contingency by ensuring that you have access to a computer and reliable Internet.

Attendance Policy: Class attendance is required. Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Active, cooperative, and collaborative learning are strongly emphasized in this class. Thus, open and active participation is expected from students. **As stated in the Course Requirements, students with more than one unexcused absence will receive an Unsatisfactory grade in this class. After one unexcused tardy or early departure of 15 minutes or more, each subsequent tardiness or early departure will be considered an unexcused absence from class.**

Students are granted excused absences for the following reasons: illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student’s immediate family, death of a member of the student’s immediate family, trips for student organizations sponsored by an academic unit, trips for university classes, trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoena for a court appearance, and religious holidays. Students who wish to have excused absences from class for any other reason must contact the instructor in advance of the absence to request permission. The instructor will weigh the merits of the request and render a decision. When feasible, the student must notify the instructor prior to the occurrence of any excused absences, but in no case shall notification occur more than one week after the absence. Appropriate documentation for all excused absences is required. Please see the [*Student Policy eHandbook*](http://www.auburn.edu/studentpolicies) for more information on excused absences. In order for an excused absence to not count against the attendance grading requirement, students must make up the missed class period in a manner acceptable to the course instructor.

Modifications to the above policy have been made to accommodate COVID related absences. If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, or if you discover that you have been in close contact with others who have symptoms or who have tested positive, you must follow the instructions on the Healthcheck app. If you are feeling ill or if you have been exposed to someone with the virus, you are asked to stay home to protect others. If you are not experiencing symptoms of illness, you are asked to participate in course meetings remotely. Some class meetings are already set for Zoom format, and in-person meetings will include a Zoom link for students who need to participate remotely for any reason. Students with questions about COVID-related illnesses should reach out to the COVID Resource Center at (334) 844-6000 or at [ahealthieru@auburn.edu](mailto:ahealthieru@auburn.edu).

Late Work Policy: It is expected that you have completed all assignments by the due date and time. Failure to turn an assignment in on time will result in unsatisfactory completion of that course requirement, and in many instances would mean an inability to pass the class. It is therefore imperative that students complete all course requirements on time. I reserve the right to allow exceptions to this policy, for example, in the event of an emergency.

Accommodations: Students who need accommodations are asked to electronically submit their approved accommodations through AU Access and to arrange a meeting with me during the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. If you have not established accommodations through the Office of Accessibility, but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Office of Accessibility, 1228 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).

Honesty Code: All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code (Title XII) found in the Student Policy eHandbook (http://www.auburn.edu/student\_info/student\_policies/) will apply to this class. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee.

Professionalism and Student Behavior: As faculty, staff, and students interact in professional settings, they are expected to demonstrate professional behaviors as defined in the College’s conceptual framework. These professional commitments or dispositions are listed below:

* + - Engage in responsible and ethical professional practices
    - Contribute to collaborative learning communities
    - Demonstrate a commitment to diversity
    - Model and nurture intellectual vitality

As students enrolled in a training program accredited by the American Psychological Association, you are bound by the *Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct* adopted by that organization. The Student Policy eHandbook contains information on procedures to follow in the event you have an academic grievance. It also contains information about the student code of conduct. It is your responsibility to be familiar with and to follow the code of conduct in the eHandbook.

As a member of the Auburn University academic community you are required to follow all university guidelines for personal safety with face coverings, physical distancing, and sanitation. **Face coverings are required for in-person meetings and in all campus buildings**. Note that face coverings must meet safety specifications, be worn correctly, and be socially appropriate.  
You are required to wear your face coverings at all times. If you remove your face covering or are non-compliant with the [university’s policy on face coverings](https://ocm.auburn.edu/news/coronavirus/updates/20200618-face-masks-required.php?ref=coronavirus), you will be instructed to leave the classroom and will be held to the protocols outlined in the [Auburn University Policy on Classroom Behavior](https://sites.auburn.edu/admin/universitypolicies/Policies/PolicyonClassroomBehavior.pdf). Any student who willfully refuses to wear a face covering and does not have a noted accommodation may be subject to disciplinary action.

Students should also observe appropriate **physical distancing** and follow all classroom signage/avoid congregating around doorways before or after class. If the instructional space has designated entrance and exit doors, you should use them. Students should exit the instructional space immediately after the end of instruction to help ensure social distancing and allow for the persons attending the next scheduled class session to enter.

Office Hours: I am available by appointment. Campus email is the best way to reach me to schedule an appointment, but you can also see me after class or call my office phone. I encourage you to make an appointment with me if you have any questions or concerns about the course or your performance in it.

Course Contingency: If normal class activities are disrupted due to serious illness, emergency, or crisis situation, the syllabus and other course plans and assignments may be modified to allow completion of the course. If this occurs, an addendum to your syllabus and/or course assignments will replace the original materials.

**9. Justification for Graduate Credit:**

This course includes advanced content in graduate psychology education and is designed to partially meet standards for accreditation by the American Psychological Association (APA). This includes rigorous evaluation standards of students completing the student learning outcomes specified in this syllabus. As a pre-practicum course designed to teach knowledge and skills related to the scientist-practitioner model of counseling psychology, only students enrolled in the counseling psychology doctoral program are eligible to take this course.