



UNDERGRADUATE SENIOR THESIS PSY 490, 491, & 492 (Total of 12 credits)

PURPOSE: Students are encouraged and challenged to develop their scholarly interests and to evolve as independent thinkers. The culmination of this process is through the completion of a senior thesis project. Engaging in this process provides a unique opportunity for students to pursue original research and scholarship in a psychological field of their choosing.

EXPECTATIONS: Integral to the senior thesis process is the opportunity to work one-on-one with a faculty mentor who will collaborate with the student on the development of their project. The expectation is that you will work with your research mentor and develop an independent project as your senior thesis. This may include an extensive literature review on a topic of interest; a first-authored manuscript on archival or secondary data; first or co-authored manuscript of original data. In addition, students are expected to present (e.g., poster) at a regional or national conference before the completion of the final term of the senior thesis sequence.

PROCESS: Planning for the senior thesis begins within the students' junior year. The interested student needs to: (a) secure a faculty research mentor before the start of the project; (b) craft a plan of study for this project; and (c) develop a formal means of evaluating the student's work for the end of this project. This typically involves a written product (e.g., manuscript, literature review paper, etc). This is a 3 consecutive term commitment. To partake in the senior thesis sequence, you must be considered a senior (i.e., have completed at least 130 credits) by the term you wish to enroll.

Registration Form

Note: To register for senior thesis, all signatures on this form must be submitted to the UG Director TWO WEEKS prior to the term you plan to start your senior thesis.

Name of Student: _____ ID#: _____

Completed credits by start of thesis: _____

Student Email Address: _____

Name of Faculty Mentor: _____

Faculty Email Address: _____

Start Term (Check one): F W Sp Su Academic Year: _____

Brief Description of Senior Thesis project. Ensure to explicitly state the type of project that you will undertake, topic of interest, and research question that you will address.

Plan of Student Evaluation. Ensure to outline the evaluation process across the three terms within the senior thesis sequence.

Faculty mentor and student have discussed a timeline for submission of assigned assessments

Faculty mentor and student discussed method of communication _____

Faculty mentor and student have discussed meetings which include at least one such meeting during each term _____

*****Approvals*****

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Faculty Mentor's Signature _____ Date _____

Program Director's Signature _____ Date _____