

North Carolina State University
Computer-Mediated Work Behavior
PSY 710I, Section 005, Fall 2007

Instructor

Dr. Lori Foster Thompson

Office

Poe Hall 703

Class Time and Location

Tuesday & Thursday, 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM
Caldwell Hall G110

Office Hours

Monday 5:30-6:30 PM
Tuesday & Thursday 4:30-5:30 PM
and by appointment

E-mail

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Voicemail

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Course Web Site: <http://courses.ncsu.edu/psy710i/lec/005/>

Course Objectives

1. To stimulate critical thinking about technology-driven trends, changes, and ethical issues pertaining to Industrial-Organizational (I-O) psychology.
2. To provide experience planning and facilitating small group discussion.
3. To advance formal presentation skills.
4. To develop skills in reviewing and providing feedback on manuscripts submitted for publication / presentation.
5. To prepare students to conduct independent research in the area of computer-mediated work behavior.

A grasp of the course material should advance the student's ability to function as an effective I-O researcher and practitioner in today's changing world of work.

Class Format, Policies, and Expectations

This course will cover a variety of topics, as indicated in the schedule. All required readings will be made available from the course web site. Assigned chapters / articles should be read before coming to class, and students should bring the readings to class on the days they are to be discussed.

A class member will lead each week's sessions. Session leaders will: (a) provide the class with one supplemental reading or exercise at least one week prior to the first day on which a given topic is to be discussed; (b) assist the instructor in facilitating the class discussion; and, (c) present one outside empirical study related to the week's topic.

On a weekly basis, each student should prepare a discussion board entry describing:

- revelations (i.e., one or more facts that you have learned)
- reactions (i.e., one or more emotional reactions to the material)
- questions (i.e., existing questions left unanswered and/or new questions raised by the material).

Each discussion board entry should be between 100 and 300 words in length. Entries may be informal and conversational in tone; strict adherence to APA style is not required. Entries should be posted on the course's online message board for the rest of the class to see by noon on Monday of each week.

Students are expected to attend each class ready to discuss the topic assigned for that week. Weekly readings, including classmates' message board entries, should be read prior to coming to class on Tuesday. The typical class format will be an interactive discussion involving the instructor and all students.

Assignments and Grading Policies

Grades will be determined on the basis of class participation, session leadership, a manuscript review project, and a research proposal.

Class Participation (25%). The class participation grade is determined by class attendance, active participation in class discussions, and weekly discussion board postings. Individual discussion board postings will not be graded but will collectively contribute to the overall class participation score. Although there is no formal attendance policy for this course, absences will affect the participation score.

Session Leadership (25%). The session leadership grade is determined by: (a) the quality of the supplemental exercise/reading selected for the class; (b) participation in facilitating the small group discussion; and (c) the outside article presentation.

A high-quality supplemental exercise/reading is one that stimulates thought and relates to the week's topic. Success at facilitation is reflected by thought-provoking discussions which clarify and/or expand upon the readings. All class members should have the opportunity to participate. For the outside article presentation, the session leader should select an article which is relevant, provide the citation for the class, present the material clearly, and field questions about the article as they arise.

Manuscript Review (10%). The instructor will provide a masked manuscript submitted for publication or presentation, along with guidelines for reviewing the manuscript. Students will be asked to read the manuscript and provide written feedback as if it were to be delivered to the author. Performance on this project is a function of the students' ability to critically evaluate the quality of the research presented. Performance is also determined by the appropriateness of the written feedback the students provide. This project is due ~~October 9, 2007~~ October 18, 2007 (deadline revised on 09.20.2007).

Research Proposal and Presentation (40%). Each student will write a proposal for an empirical research study in the domain of computer-mediated work behavior. The final form of the project will include (a) an oral presentation of the proposal; and (b) a written paper consisting of no more than 14 (double-spaced, 12 point font, 1-inch margin) pages of text. References, tables, figures, and appendices do not count toward the 14-page limit. Research proposals should conform to APA style. They should center on a study that could conceivably be executed and submitted in time for the SIOP 2009 conference. Students will have individual meetings with the instructor on October 9, 2007 to discuss their research ideas. The oral presentation is scheduled for the last

week in November. This presentation should fall somewhere between a colloquium and a class presentation. The main issues of the paper should serve as the basis for the presentation. The goal is for class members, including the instructor, to learn about the content of the paper and to engage the presenters in a discussion of the topic. The exchange should be helpful in terms of fine-tuning the final copy of the paper, which is due on December 11, 2007.

Disability Accommodation

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653. http://www.ncsu.edu/provost/offices/affirm_action/dss/ For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php).

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty. In the unlikely event that plagiarism or another act of academic dishonesty occurs, it will be dealt with in accordance with the academic misconduct policy as stated in NCSU's Code of Student Conduct.

Schedule

Week	Date	Topic (see web site for specific reading assignments)	Leader
01	08/23	Course Overview	Thompson
02	08/28 & 08/30	Reviewing Manuscripts; E-Recruitment	Thompson
03	09/04	E-Recruitment; Online Networking Media	Thompson
04	09/11 & 09/13	Technology in Selection	Vignovic
05	09/18 & 09/20	Technology-Mediated Interviewing	Gissel and Patel
06	09/25 & 09/27	Technology in Training	Watson
07	10/02 & 10/04	Web-Based Surveys	Whelan
08	10/09	Research Proposal Conferences	N/A
09	10/16 & 10/18	Virtual Collaboration; Manuscript Review Due	Vignovic
10	10/23 & 10/25	Virtual Collaboration	Stoughton
11	10/30 & 11/01	I-O Psychology's Role in Virtual Worlds (e.g., Second Life)	Gissel and Patel
12	11/06 & 11/08	Electronic Monitoring	Watson
13	11/13 & 11/15	Nonhuman Teammates	Whelan
14	11/20	Beyond Human: Blurring the Line b/w Person and Machine	Thompson
15	11/27 & 11/29	Research Proposal Presentations	N/A
16	12/04 & 12/06	Computer-Mediated Work Behavior Research at NCSU	Stoughton
17	12/11	Research Proposal Papers Due	N/A