

PSYCHOLOGY 414 – WRITING IN PSYCHOLOGY

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

What is Psychology 414?

PSY 414 is a two-credit, online course that seeks to improve student skills in developing and presenting a written discussion of a topic in Psychology. Students develop skill in the APA style and format of expository writing. This course is approved by the University for “Writing Across the Curriculum” (WAC) credit. The PSY 414 course requirements are in compliance with WAC achievement standards.

How is the course set up?

Each PSY 414 student must be enrolled during the same term in a 300-400 level Psychology course (other than PSY 311, Stats; or PSY 412, Lab) that serves as a “host course” for a writing project. Students select their own paper topics so that they fit with the subject content of the “host course”. For example, a student enrolled in PSY 345 (Abnormal Psychology) might choose the topic of “Dissociative Disorders” for their writing project. The writing projects are completed in a “rough draft” – “final draft” format. Both drafts are graded by both the “host course” instructor and the PSY 414 instructor. Students use the feedback on their rough drafts to improve the quality of their final drafts. If the “host course” requires a term paper, the PSY 414 paper must not be similar in composition or content to the term paper. In addition to the writing project, the 414 instructor provides students with online learning opportunities and assignments to improve student and research and writing skills.

Does PSY 414 use a required textbook?

Yes, the reference for the course text is: Rosnow, R.L. & Rosnow, M. (2009), *Writing Papers in Psychology* (8th edition): Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Cengage. Students will find this text available in the CSU and LCCC bookstores.

Whom should I contact with PSY 414 questions?

For additional information please contact the PSY 414 course instructor, Dr. David Bruner, at d.bruner@csuohio.edu. During the second week of the semester, there will be one face-to-face class orientation session for all students for the purpose of reviewing online access, course requirements, and answering any questions. Please note: It is important that registrations for PSY 414 be completed prior to the end of the first week of classes.

PSY 414 ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS – The “host instructors” in upper-level Psychology courses are limited to accepting five PSY 414 writing projects for each course. If you are considering enrollment in PSY 414, it is advisable to contact a “host instructor” in advance and confirm that he or she is willing to assist with a 414 writing project, and has enrollment places available. It is important that registration for PSY 414 be completed prior to the end of the first week of classes.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAIN CAMPUS STUDENTS: Enrollment requires three steps: (1) Ask your "host course" instructor to agree in writing, using the form below, to host your PSY 414 paper. (2) Take the form signed by your "host instructor" to the Psychology Department office (CB 158). Our department Secretary is Ms. Barb Durfey (216-687-2544, b.durfey@csuohio.edu). (3) At the Psychology Department office, obtain an enrollment form to complete and take to campus 411 to register for PSY 414.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LAKELAND AND LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS AND WEB STUDENTS: Ask your "host instructor" to agree to host your writing project. If your instructor agrees, he or she will e-mail this agreement to the Psychology Department Administrative Coordinator, Ms. Karen Colston, who will create permission for you to register, and will e-mail you to tell you that she has created this permission. When you receive this email from k.colston@csuohio.edu, you should go online and register for PSY 414 as you would for any other course.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PSYCHOLOGY 414 –Writing in Psychology

Permission from Content-Course Instructor for Main Campus Students

(Name of Student)

(Student CSU ID#)

The above student has permission to register for Psychology 414 in conjunction with PSY _____ (content course number and title) during the following academic term (check one, and enter year):

Fall Semester, 20 _____

Spring Semester, 20 _____

Signature of Content-Course Instructor