

Psy 599 – Thesis

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Course Credit: 1-5 hr in a semester. Each student must complete a total of 6 hr.

Catalogue Description

Intensive study of topic selected by student and approved by thesis committee. Includes definition of problem, review of related literature, application of appropriate methodology, and interpretation of results and conclusions. Oral presentation and defense of thesis required.

Prerequisites PSY 580 and IRB or IACUC approval for research project.

Course Description

In this course, you will implement your thesis as outlined in your prospectus and approved by your thesis committee. You will collect the necessary data, analyze data, and write a thesis document according to APA format and the format outlined by the Graduate School. Substantial changes to the project in terms of subjects, method, or analysis should be approved by the thesis committee. You will orally present and defend your thesis.

Student Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, you should have:

1. collected and analyzed data,
2. written a thesis,
3. orally presented the thesis to a public audience,
4. defended the thesis to thesis committee members.

Writing

The thesis should be written in APA format and in the format outlined by the Graduate School. Deadlines for submission of individual sections will be determined by the student and their research mentor. At least 15 days before the thesis is due **and** before the oral defense is scheduled, a full draft of the thesis should be submitted to the Graduate School for format check. Once approval is granted by the Graduate School, the oral defense can be scheduled. The deadline for the format check and final submission of the thesis is set by the Graduate School and can be found here:

<http://www.uncw.edu/gradschool/thesis/index.html> The final version of the thesis is the defended and revised thesis (see below about final edits under Oral Defense).

Oral Defense

There must be 6 months between the prospectus defense and the thesis defense. Defenses should be planned no later than 2 weeks before the graduation requirement date for the semester to give time to make any last corrections to the written draft required by the committee. Once the Graduate School has approved the thesis format, you need to arrange meeting of your committee (usually 1.5-2.5 hr). Once a date and time have been confirmed, you need to reserve a room for

the defense and post flyers around the building and campus. You need to distribute a copy of the thesis to your committee members at least 1 week before the defense; you should ask each committee member if they prefer an electronic or paper copy of the prospectus. If the member prefers a paper copy, it is your responsibility to provide one, unless the faculty members say no.

At the defense, you will give a 30-45 min PowerPoint presentation of your thesis for a public audience at the beginning of the defense. At the end of the presentation, the general audience is allowed to ask questions. After which, they will be excused, and your committee will ask questions. When your committee has finished asking questions, you will be excused from the room, and your committee will discuss the defense and decide whether you have passed or failed. If you fail, your committee will determine appropriate remediation and if/when a second defense will take place.

You will be asked to return to the room, and the result of the defense is communicated immediately. The committee will sign the [Thesis Defense Form](#) and your title page; you will give the form and the signed title page to the Graduate Coordinator. Your committee members will give/email edits to the thesis document. It is expected that you will incorporate these edits and suggestions into the final document.

Grading

You will receive a grade of S (Satisfactory) or U (Unsatisfactory) in this course based on your performance on your thesis. You should discuss expectations for satisfactory performance on your thesis in each of the semesters for which you are registered for thesis hours. A grade of U means dismissal from the program and the Graduate School.

Honesty

Refer to Code of Student Life Handbook. If the professor considers you to be cheating (e.g., plagiarizing) then you will be assigned a grade of zero on that activity. You are welcome to appeal through the channels provided by the university and if you choose to do so, the agreement of a zero is then withdrawn and a dismissal will be requested instead. After completion of tests the opportunity will be available to review the key. However, once the key is reviewed the test cannot be altered. In essence, 1) turn in the test 2) review the key.

Religious Observance Policy:

In accordance with NC SL 2010-211, you are entitled to two excused absences for religious observances per academic year. You must inform the professor in writing the first week of class if you will be missing any classes due to religious observance and using one of the two permissible absences for the academic year. In addition, please inform the Registrar the first week of class who will then confirm your intentions to miss class with the impacted course instructors. Any absence for religious purposes will be considered unexcused unless you submit the request in writing the first week.

Diversity:

As an institution of higher learning, the University of North Carolina Wilmington represents a rich diversity of human beings among its faculty, staff, and students and is committed to maintaining a campus environment that values that diversity. Accordingly, the university supports policies, curricula, and co-curricular activities that encourage understanding of and appreciation for all members of its community and will not tolerate any harassment or disrespect for persons because of race, gender, age, color, national origin, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status, or relationship to other university constituents. Students with Disabilities information and resources available at <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/disability/> Zero Tolerance Policy UNCW practices a zero tolerance policy for violence and harassment of any kind. For emergencies contact UNCW CARE at 962-2273; Campus Police at 962-3184; or Wilmington Police at 911. For University or community resources visit: <http://www.uncw.edu/safe-relate/campusResources.htm>.

Cell Phones, Guns, PDAs, & Laptops:

Please silence your cell phone and do not make calls, access applications or text during class. If you have a personal, urgent matter for which you need to be on call, please let your professor know in advance. In addition, there will be no active PDAs or laptops/netbooks/iPads open and active unless the activity (e.g., taking notes but not during tests) warrants. No supporting information is to be used during evaluations. We may use these devices in selected activities and they are permissible then. No guns or weapons of any sort allowed in the classroom.