Advanced Teaching Practicum (PSYC 8887)  
Section 01; 3 credits  
MW: 11:00-12:15  
Melson 123-A  
Fall Semester 2019

Instructor: Jeffrey Reber, Ph.D.  
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Phone: 9-0612  
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Office Hours: by appointment

Required Texts:


Course Objectives

- to develop expertise as a teacher of introduction to psychology
- to practice the art of teaching and reflect upon that practice with feedback from students, faculty, and the course instructor.
- to identify and utilize resources that can improve teaching quality and student learning.

Course Description

A practicum of any type can be defined as supervised practice in an applied setting. In the case of this advanced practicum, students will practice the art of teaching in an introduction to psychology course under the supervision of the course instructor. Supervision entails several components, including but not limited to, observation of teaching, reviewing lesson plans, assignment rubrics, and grading, and discussing with the students in one-on-one and small group settings the process of teaching students the content of the course. Supervision is most effective when students receive clear and actionable feedback that leads to the improvement of their teaching and the development of expertise. Regular evaluation of the students’ teaching will help the course instructor and the students under supervision assess their progress in these areas.

Course Requirements

**Recordings of Teaching**

Students will record their teaching regularly and will listen to each recording to identify strengths and weaknesses. Students will mark segments of the
recording that they want to bring to class to share with the supervisor and the other students to receive constructive feedback and supportive assistance. The majority of our class time will be spent listening to and discussing these recorded segments.

**Observations of Teaching**  
Students will visit a minimum of three other students’ classes and observe their teaching at least once during the semester. Each student will also visit three sections of introduction to psychology taught by instructors who are not in the practicum course (at least one of these sections must be taught by a member of the faculty). Students will report on their observations to the class, focusing attention on insights gained from their observation that will help them improve their own teaching.

**Interviews**  
Students will prepare an interview script and will sit down with the director of the undergraduate program, the director of the PhD program, and the director of the Center for Teaching and Learning to discuss teaching and learning generally and to ask questions that will help the students improve their teaching of introduction to psychology. Interviews may be one-on-one meetings or conducted as a larger group.

**Student Evaluations**  
Practicum students will seek regular feedback from the students in the classes they teach to assess teaching and learning improvement over time. Each student will design an evaluation that can be administered repeatedly (at least three times over the course of the semester) so results across time can be compared.

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**Note:** Please review the Common Language for Course Syllabi at the following link:  
https://www.westga.edu/UWG/SyllabusPolicies/

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<tr>
<th>Course Grading</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tr>
<td>Recordings of Teaching</td>
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<td>Observations of Teaching</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100 points</strong></td>
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**Grade Scale**  
A  90% and above
B  80-89%
C  70-79%
D  60-69%
F  59% and below