CPSY 4996 Field Study in Child Psychology
SAMPLE SYLLABUS

Course title: Field Study in Child Psychology
Course designator and Course number: CPSY 4996
Number of credits: 1-4 (Maximum credits = 4)
Day, time, and place of class meetings: No class meetings, on-site field study, course facilitated through Moodle
   Instructor: Sample Instructor
   Office location: XXX ChDev
   Office hours: By Appointment

DESCRIPTION AND GOALS OF THE COURSE

A brief description of the course: Varies depending on student's specific area of interest. Students receive credit while interning in metropolitan area. Sign up for appropriate credits, for example 1 credit = 3 hours per week (45 hours per semester). 2 credits = 6 hours per week (90 hours per semester).

Course prerequisites: Completion of 4 credits in Child Psychology

Course goals, objectives, and expectations: The Field Study in Child Psychology is an opportunity for you to gain valuable experiences working with children and adolescents. You should select a placement that allows you to gain knowledge in an area of Child Psychology that is of interest to you. To maximize the benefits of the field study, you should select a placement that lends itself to a potential employment opportunity upon graduation or research interest for graduate work. You are expected to represent the University of Minnesota and the Institute of Child Development in a professional manner and adhere to your site’s policies and procedures.

TEXTS AND MATERIALS
Required Reading: You will be required to read articles or books on topics related to your field study placement. Selection of reading material should be consulted with your supervisor at the field study placement.

GRADING
Criteria for grading and grading standards: This course is graded as S-N which stands for Satisfactory / Not satisfactory, and is equivalent to a pass/fail grade basis. In order to receive a Satisfactory (S) grade, you must complete the minimum number of field study hours on-site, satisfactorily complete assignment and submit on time, and satisfactorily complete journal postings.

ASSIGNMENTS
Assignments consist of an observational journal and a field study paper:

Observational Journal
You are required to keep a typed journal of your observations and experiences at your field study
placement. In total, you are required to write 10 journal postings (length guidelines provided below, based on number of credits). Journal postings should be completed throughout the semester and will be uploaded into Moodle AT TWO POINTS IN TIME; halfway through the semester, and at the end of the semester (see Moodle for specific due dates). Each document must be in 12 pt, New Times Roman font and can be double spaced.

Each journal entry should be as follows:

1 credit = 0.5 page per journal entry (~2.5 pages uploaded upon each due date)
2 credits = 1 page per journal entry (~5 pages uploaded upon each due date)
3 or 4 credits = 1.5 pages (~7.5 pages uploaded upon each due date)

To help you journal, you may use the following prompts, or choose your own journaling method. These questions are a guide and are not required:

- Describe the expectations you had of this field study placement when you chose it. Describe how the expectations have been or have not been met. Where your perceptions different than reality, why do think this happened?
- What are your duties and responsibilities? What is the expected dress, work ethic and general behavior for professionals in your workplace?
- Describe in detail your field study site. Where is it located, what are the demographics of the area it serves, how many people work there, how many people are served, etc.
- Discuss how the content from your Child Psychology courses have been useful to you in your field study experience.
- Write about a conflict, success or disappointment you experienced at your placement (this may be the bulk of your journal).
- Is this a potential career opportunity for you or not, explain why. Where you able to network with individuals for future employment opportunities?

Field Study Paper

For your field study paper, you will be required to read current journal articles, or books, on a topic related to your field study placement. The paper should integrate the readings with your experiences, making connections between the two. Your journal articles should be sited according to APA style and you must include a reference page. Because you will be writing about your personal experiences, it is acceptable to use first person (“I”) in your paper. Papers must be typed in Times New Roman 12 pt font, double-spaced, with 1” margins.

Example 1: If you are working with autistic children you would read articles or books about childhood autism and methods used in treating autistic children. You would describe what an autistic child from your field study was like and the way in which this child did or did not conform to the descriptions of autistic children you read about.

Example 2: If you are working in an early childhood center you would read articles or books about best practices in early childhood education. You would describe what observations you made during your field study that supported or didn’t support your readings. Or, if a specific
child catches your attention, you may focus your paper on a specific topic of child psychology in relationship to this child; such as, cognitive development, social development or attachment issues. Your journal articles would be related to this selected topic.

Example 3: If you are working in a homeless shelter you may want to do research on what types of homeless shelters are available in the United States. What types of services are available at these shelters? How similar or different is the shelter you are at to others in the Twin Cities or greater Minnesota? What is the typical demographic of people staying at homeless shelters…how does your site compare? How can someone with a degree in Child Psychology assist in a homeless shelter?

Paper Requirements:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number Credits:</th>
<th>Number Journal Articles/Books:</th>
<th>Length of Paper:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>2-4 Articles or 1 Book</td>
<td>3-5 pages</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>4-6 Articles or 2 Books</td>
<td>6-8 pages</td>
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STATEMENTS

Statement on academic integrity: Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own, can result in disciplinary action.

Statement on accommodations for students with disabilities: It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations.

University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows: SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY: Submission of false records of academic achievement; cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to an including an "N" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask instructor.

Statement regarding student conduct and sexual harassment: STUDENT CONDUCT: Instructors are responsible for maintaining order and a positive learning environment in the classroom. Students whose behavior is disruptive either to the instructor or to other students will be asked to leave. Students whose behavior suggests the need for counseling or other assistance may be referred to their college office or University Counseling Services.
Students whose behavior may violate the University Student Conduct Code may be referred to the UMC Student Conduct Committee.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: Please note that sexual harassment by any member of the University community, student, faculty, staff, administration, is prohibited. To review the complete policy on this issue, view the following webpage:

http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/humanresources/SexHarassment.pdf

**Student Mental Health and Stress Management:** As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available