

COURSE SYLLABUS

EPSY 4063, Section 501 (Online)
Exploring the Creative Experience
Spring 2007

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Prerequisites and Support Courses

There are no prerequisites for this course. Some basic familiarity with computers is assumed. You should be able to use a browser and to access this syllabus electronically.

Course Texts

Goff, K. (2005). *Everyday Creativity*, 3rd Ed. Stillwater, OK: Little Ox Books.

Adams, J. A. (1999). *The Principles of Excellence*. Electronic book available on *Desire 2 Learn*.

Additional readings are available online and are linked to the course documents in *Desire 2 Learn*.

Catalogue Description

“The creative experience in art (visual to performing), articulation (oratory to literature), thought (philosophy to psychology), business (practices to products), leisure (procreation to recreation), Western and Eastern viewpoints. Personal creative development fostered by modeling and investigation of proven techniques. This course offers a wide range of creative endeavors with an experiential approach with future-oriented applications.”

OSU Professional Education Council Mission and Conceptual Framework

The Professional Education Unit (PEU) prepares and develops professional educators who facilitate life long learning and enrich quality of life for people in public schools and other educational settings. OSU’s Professional Education programs are based upon the L.E.A.D.S. conceptual framework: **L**eadership; **E**thics and Professionalism; **A**cademics and Professional Roles, including Content Knowledge, Integration, Human Growth and Development, Learning Environment, Technology, Teaching/Professional Practice and Assessment; **D**iversity; and **S**ervice Orientation/Community Outreach. These core values are an expansion of the earlier conceptual framework based upon Professionalism, Integration and Diversity.

Program Philosophy Statement

School Mission

The mission of the School of Applied Health and Educational Psychology is to foster the development, integration, and application of empirical knowledge, theory, skills and experiences to promote social, physical, psychological, educational, and environmental health. Consistent with the stated goals and core

concepts of the Professional Educational Council of Oklahoma State University, the faculty strives to demonstrate and perpetuate teaching based on theory and research-driven educational practices.

Educational Psychology Program Mission

The Educational Psychology area emphasizes the application of psychological theory and research to the provision of educational and psychological services to children, youth, and adults. Principles of psychology and education are integrated to enhance learning, development, adjustment, and to facilitate success for diverse learners of all ages.

Information About This Course

In this class, you will be asked to think, to reflect, and to respond on the meaning of the content you are learning. Together we will explore aspects of creativity to help you feel that it is safe to be creative, to take risks, and to be independent. This course is about choices, your choices. Few things will be required without giving you a choice. This will allow you to follow your own muse (we will look at the muses later). As a group, we will share some tips and insights that will allow you to be more creative. Be aware that one of the online readings is Biblical in nature, *King Solomon's Master Class in Creativity*. This book is written around the Song of Songs in the Bible. It is designed to help us express our feminine side but it is sometimes explicit. Please do not be offended by this explicitness, but rather follow its creative ideas and you will expand your horizons.

Course Structure

You will be expected to log on each week to participate. Discussion questions or reflective activities are provided for each week. Responses to your postings and entire discussion threads may point out alternative interpretations or other ways in which to view the material. Discussion Board and email are provided to foster asynchronous (not at the same time) discussion. Once you complete the weekly expectations, you may add as much to the discussion board as you wish. Your individual passion about a topic or your experience in a particular area may inspire you share greater insight, and would be appreciated by the class.

Policy on Attendance

Because this class is delivered entirely on-line, classroom based attendance is not required. However, it is expected that you keep up with assignments by pacing yourself through this course in a manner that allows timely completion of work. (This typically means that you will access the course on Blackboard at least two times per week.) The understanding in undergraduate university courses is that you will do two hours out of class for each hour that you spend in class. Because this is an online class, we add the regular class time to the out of class time to compute the workload.

Your productivity and timeliness of completion of assignments will be monitored. If you begin to fall behind you may be prompted regarding the completion of assignments. ***All work corresponding to a particular week of the semester must be completed by the end of that week to receive full credit. This means that all weekly assignments are due no later than Friday at 5:00 p.m. the week that they are assigned.***

Closed Discussion Sessions

The weekly discussion sessions may be closed two weeks after the due date at the instructor's discretion in order to maintain the integrity and learning objectives of the weekly discussion assignment. Once a session is closed, *you will not be able to participate in that session*. Should this occur, please contact the instructor *immediately* to arrange for an alternative assignment for ½ credit. Alternative assignments will be arranged *only* if a student has displayed on-going academic progress in the class (i.e. you must have been consistently participating in the course) and the absence from participation is considered excused. Late answers and

responses to the discussion board *will not* be accepted without instructor approval, and only under extenuating circumstances. Each set of weekly discussion requirements is worth 10 points, and three points will be deducted if it is not completed by the due date.

Assignments and Exams

1. **Personal Introduction:** During the first week of the course, you are expected to post an introduction on the Discussion Board. You should include your name, pertinent academic information (major, year, prior psychology and/or human development course work, etc.), as well as personal information about yourself that you would like others to know. Also indicate whether you have taken online courses before.
2. **Discussion Questions:** Each week you will answer two (2) of the discussion questions or reflections, supporting your arguments with references from the text. Please try to do this toward the beginning of the week, as others will need to respond to you. *Make sure to reference the text or other appropriate sources in your responses.* Each answer must demonstrate understanding of the course material, reflection of the question, and application according to the posed question. You may take any position on a particular topic as long as you are able to support your response or contribution. In other words, you must explain your answer in order to receive full credit. **Most answers should be at least two thoughtful paragraphs, with each paragraph having at least 3-4 sentences.**

Please note that you are also expected to read the responses of your peers. They will provide diverse insight into the questions and may help you understand your learning alternatives more clearly. Post responses to discussion questions to the Discussion Board.

3. **Peer Responses:** Each week you will respond to the responses of your peers for at least two of the discussion questions or reflections. These responses need to be posted by the end of the week. Again, a demonstration of understanding the material and reflection will be needed for credit. You must be able to support your opinion, position, or comments. Note that the reason for peer responses is to get you talking to each other; social interaction is a large component in the learning process. You will learn a lot if you share and read each other's responses. **Most responses should be at least two thoughtful paragraphs, with each paragraph having at least 3-4 sentences.**

Note: Comments and discussion that demonstrates reflective, unique thought, while maintaining the respect of other perspectives, will be expected. Insights must be tied to the text or weekly reading.

4. **Short Assignments:** There will be 4 short assignments during this course. Each short assignment is worth 50 points. More details about the assignment and grading expectations will be posted on the Desire 2 Learn.
 - **Short Assignment #1:** Definition of "Creativity" (1-2 pages)
 - **Short Assignment #2:** Website Resources (1-2 pages)
 - **Short Assignment #3:** Creativity Activity and Summary Paper (1-2 pages)
 - **Short Assignment #4:** Submit a 10-Day Reflective Journal (10 1-page entries)

Note: To receive full credit, each assignment must be turned on the due date. Late submissions will result in a 5-point reduction for each week they are late.

5. **Mid-Term Exam - Creativity Paper:** For the mid-term exam, you are expected to write a research paper following APA (5th Ed., including Times New Roman, 12-point font, using double spacing with 1" margins) guidelines on any of the following topics:
 - Current research in creativity
 - Comparison paper between different creativity researchers or theories

- The development & nurturing of creativity in childhood
- The development & nurturing of creativity in adulthood
- The role of creativity in your particular field of study
- A paper that you design of equivalent content and length. You must negotiate this with the instructor before you begin.

All topics must be approved before you begin to receive credit. The paper should be at least five pages and include a minimum of three scholarly/academic resources. Popular literature may be used, but only in addition to the three academic sources. Additional details on grading criteria, including a grading rubric, will be posted on *Desire 2 Learn*. Papers submitted late will receive a 10-point deduction per week late.

- Final Exam – Personal Creativity Plan:** Draft a personal plan on how you intend to develop your creative talents. Describe the ways you intend to explore your personal creativity during your lifetime. More details on grading expectations will be provided on *Desire 2 Learn*. *This plan will be due by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of finals week* and will be considered your Final Exam.
- Course Evaluation:** Near the end of the semester, you should receive an email asking you to evaluate the course. This email will come from the OSU Outreach Office. They will collect your responses when you respond to the evaluations. Your name will be reported to me to verify the evaluation has been completed, but I will not see your completed evaluations. ***Failure to complete the course evaluation will result in a grade of incomplete until the evaluation is completed.***
- Assignment Table:** At the end of the semester, you are expected to submit a table showing your completed assignments once you have finished your work in this course. This will help me track your work and assign grades for the class. (I will also do a search by each student's name to verify accuracy and ensure agreement before grades are posted.) A template for the assignment table is posted on *Desire 2 Learn* under Course Documents. *Your Assignment Table will be due by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of finals week.*

Note: Your grade will be recorded as “I” until both the Assignment Table and the Course Evaluation are submitted.

Grading Structure*

Chapter Discussion Questions / Peer Responses (15 weeks @ 20 pts each as follows: 10 pts for DQ responses and 10 pts for peer responses)	300 pts.
Short Assignments (4 @ 50 pts. each)	200 pts.
Mid-Term Exam: Creativity Paper	100 pts.
Final Exam: Personal Creativity Plan	100 pts.
Personal Introduction	20 pts.
Assignment Table	20 pts.
Course Evaluation	10 pts.
Total:	750 pts.

Grades will be assigned based on the points earned with a traditional grading scale of 90% and above (675-750 pts) earning an A; 80-89% (600-674 pts) = B; 70-79% (525-599 pts) = C; 60-69% (450-524 pts) = D and 59% (449 pts) or less of the points will earn an F. No curving or rounding of grades will occur. University policy will apply regarding incomplete grades. Be aware that an “I” may result in lowering the final grade by one grade level, and the instructor will specify the length of time for completion of all negotiated assignments.

During the semester, there will be opportunities to earn “extra credit” at the instructor’s discretion. One such opportunity is research participation through Experimentrix as described at the end of this syllabus. Other opportunities will be announced on the Announcements page, and you will be able to earn a maximum of 40 points, or approximately 5% of the total course points.

Alternative Assignments

Activities other than those described above may be negotiated with the instructor. Please contact the instructor should you desire to do a different activity or set of activities in lieu of another assignment, with the exception of the 10-Day Reflective Journal, which is required of all students. This level of unique work is encouraged and will happily be negotiated on an individual basis. However, before beginning your alternative project, make sure you have written approval via e-mail or signed letter.

** As this course is available for graduate credit, Graduate Students should contact the instructor immediately to negotiate specific requirements in addition to those listed above.*

Students Rights and Responsibilities

<http://www.okstate.edu/ucs/srr.html>

Drop and Add Policy

The standard drop/add policy for fall classes will be followed as described in the Syllabus attachment.

Students with Disabilities

If any member of this class feels that he or she has a disability and needs special accommodations of any nature, the instructor will work with you and the Office of Student Disability Services (Student Union Room 326) to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that you have a fair opportunity to perform in this class. Please advise the instructor of such disability and the desired accommodations no later than the end of the first week of classes.

Policy on Incomplete Grades

University policy will be followed. Incomplete grades can only be given if 70% of the course products have been completed prior to the end of the grading period. No exceptions to this policy will be allowed.

Academic Integrity

Consistent with Oklahoma State University policy, academic dishonesty and/or misconduct will not be tolerated. It is important that you are aware of university policy and procedures in the event that violations of academic dishonesty or misconduct do occur (please see www.okstate.edu/ucs/srr.html). Should a violation of this policy occur (and following a meeting between the instructor and the accused student), disciplinary actions consistent with university policy would be initiated. A description of behaviors that constitute academic dishonesty and/or misconduct can be found online at <http://osu.okstate.edu/acadaffr/aa/ai-violations.htm>

Sexual Harassment

Please see the link below to review university policy and procedures regarding sexual harassment and gender discrimination.

<http://home.okstate.edu/policy.nsf/0/1fed349052d11b0a862562d8007c090f?OpenDocument>

Possible Changes in the Syllabus

This syllabus is your contract for production in the course. If changes are made to it they will be announced in writing on Blackboard as soon as possible. No changes increasing requirements will be made as these might adversely affect your grade.

Technological Support

OSU Help Desk: Computer Information Services (CIS) provides a help desk at helpdesk@okstate.edu. They may also be reached by telephone at 405-744-7836 from 7a.m. - 10 p.m. Monday to Friday. CIS will provide help with equipment problems and software problems. If you need face-to-face contact, the helpdesk is now located in 403 Classroom Building and is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. If you have content or format problems ask your peers first (post your problem in the Water Cooler) and then, if you get no useable response email chris.ray@okstate.edu. The CIS Help Desk is also available to answer Blackboard questions. If you have questions that the Help Desk cannot answer, please call or email Bill Elliot (744-6757, bill.elliott@okstate.edu).

A Brief Statement On Academic Dishonesty Or Misconduct

The following are some examples of Academic Misconduct and Dishonesty

- Copying a few sentences from an Internet source without footnoting them in a paper.
- Copying a few sentences of material from a written source without footnoting them in a paper.
- Copying from another student during a test or exam without his or her knowing it.
- Copying from another student during a test with his or her knowledge.
- Copying material almost word for word from a written source and turning it in as your own work.
- Getting questions and answers from someone who has taken the test.
- Helping someone else cheat on a test.
- Inappropriately sharing work on online assignment or test.
- Inappropriately using technology (cell phone, Palm Pilot etc.) during a test.
- Receiving unpermitted help on an assignment
- Turning in a paper copied from another student
- Turning in a paper obtained in large part from a term paper "mill" or website
- Turning in work done by someone else
- Using unpermitted crib notes during a test.
- Working on an assignment with others when the instructor asked for individual work.

(For a complete list of academic dishonesty or misconduct violations see: Policies and Procedures Letter 2-0822 Allegations of Academic Dishonesty (1984): OSU Faculty Handbook (2001, pp 32-3); and Student Rights and Responsibilities Governing Student Behavior, Section IV.)

The possible penalties for cheating at OSU:

- Completing a substitute assignment, exam, paper or project.
- Receiving a reduced grade for the assignment, exam, paper or project.
- Receiving no credit for the assignment, examination, paper, or project.
- Failing the course.

Students who are caught cheating will be referred to the Student Conduct Office. Offenders may receive university sanctions such as conduct probation, suspension or expulsion.

You will be asked to sign the form below when taking tests and turning in assignments.

Academic Dishonesty Or Misconduct Form

I (print name) _____ have done all of the work on this test/project/assignment on my own and have not plagiarized/copied/borrowed/etc., anyone else's work.

Signed _____ Date _____

Extra Credit Opportunities for EPSY 4063

There will be opportunities to earn extra credit by participating as subjects in research, attending research colloquia, and/or writing a short paper. You may earn up to **40** extra-credit points using any combination of these opportunities or other opportunities announced on Desire 2 Learn.

Research Participation

You may volunteer as a participant in an on-going research project. Each hour (or part of an hour) of participation is worth **10** extra-credit points. These participation opportunities are posted on Experimentrix (see below). The research projects have been reviewed by an independent ethical committee (University Institutional Review Board) whose members are drawn from across the entire academic community, and they are supervised by a faculty member from the Department of Psychology. Instructions for signing up for an experiment are as follows:

Students must register at <http://experimentrix.com/okstate>

- Click on **New User Registration** link
- Enter your name, student ID number, email address and phone number.
- A log-in and password will be sent to the email address entered.
- After registration, you will have three days in which to log on to your account. **If you do not log on your membership will be deleted.** If this occurs, you can re-register. When you log into your account choose which class you would like to be affiliated with.
- Once you have your log-in and password, go to the same website and click on “Sign up for experiment.”
- You would also go to this site to cancel.
- An email confirmation will be sent to you whenever an appointment is established or cancelled.
- An email reminder will be sent to you in the early evening prior to each appointment.
- After you complete an experiment, you again need to log into your account and click on the apply credit button. There, you will be able to apply your credit to the class that you would like. **If you do not do this step and apply your credit that you have earned you will not receive credit.**

When you register for an experiment, the time and place for your appearance are designated. **Make sure you write down this information and then appear! It is your responsibility to appear at the designated time and place if you sign up as a participant.** Failure to appear creates substantial hardship for the researcher and denies a classmate an opportunity to sign up in the designated slot that you filled with your name.

- After you have completed an experiment, you need to log on once again and apply the credit that you have earned to the class that you would like the credit to go towards. **If you do not do this step you will not receive credit.**

Undergraduate Research Colloquia

A second means of earning Research Experience extra credit is to attend Undergraduate Research Colloquia. You are required to bring a SCANTRON SHEET, which will be the instrument by which attendance and participation are recorded. I will announce the time, place, and topics of discussion to be presented later in the semester as they become available. (10 points)

Research Papers

You may earn extra-credit points by reading scholarly articles that are pre-approved by the instructor. To earn 10 points, you will read the designated article and write a *letter* (1 page, single-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12-point font) to a friend or relative that describes that article. (10 points)