PSYCH 37 VALUES & DECISION MAKING  Fall 2015–Cabrillo College

Tuesdays #90249

Cabrillo website: http://www.cabrillo.edu/~ldespelder/

2:10 – 5:15 pm, Room 426

3 units

Purpose of the Course

This course examines the theory of decision making, analyzing the ways in which people and groups make decisions. Students will also study the influences an individual's values have upon the ability to apply the techniques of critical thinking to the decision process. Emphasis is placed upon applications for maximizing personal alternatives and increasing the chances of positive outcomes.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Apply critical thinking and values theory to the decision-making process. 2. Evaluate the process of critical thinking.

Course Outline

During the semester, you will learn how to make decisions that are right for you and how to guide others, leading to personal and professional success. Some of the areas to be explored include how to:

- Identify values and priorities involved in a decision.
- Develop skills in applying the theories of decision making to individual and group situations.
- Increase understanding of the role of values in institutional settings.
- Gain an overview of the process of decision making and the structure of values and beliefs.
- Evaluate a situation or issue using the skills and process of critical thinking.
- Set priorities for your criteria and values.
- Make decisions that manifest your intentions and satisfy your needs.
- Organize your perceptions and internal representations such that your opinions and actions will lead you to your own most desirable future.
- Make decisions that include the well-being of others.
- Recognize the problems of control, resistance to change, conformity, face-saving, stereotyping, oversimplification, hasty conclusions, unwarranted assumptions, logical fallacies, and problems in communication.
- Clarify issues and create worthwhile choices.
- Evaluate the role of critical thinking in making sound decisions and evaluating the decision process of others.
- Identify and develop critical thinking skills.
- Understand the context in which critical thinking takes place.
• Apply principles to overcome attitudes and ideas undermining development of critical thinking skills.

Notice that in each of the areas you will gain theoretical, practical, and research orientations that allow you to apply your learning in a variety of situations and with a variety of people. Focus is on both personal and professional applications.

There is a Blackboard site for this course. In order to access the information that will be posted during the semester on Blackboard, go to http://www.cabrillo.edu/ and at the right of the home page, you will find a pull down menu of the “most sought” pages on the sites. Go to Blackboard and follow the login information. You must log in to Blackboard at the beginning of each new semester. If you have trouble logging in check http://www.cabrillo.edu/services/disted/emailSupport.html or http://www.cabrillo.edu/services/disted/webct/. You may also call the Helpdesk at 831-477-3241. (Helpdesk hours are Mon-Thurs 8:30am-5pm, Fri 9am-1pm.)

Be prepared to login to BB at least twice a week for assignments and more frequently for discussions. Check email daily.

The decision interview process will be demonstrated in class. Students will practice the interview process. At the appropriate time, examples of papers will be posted on Blackboard. Look at the papers from previous students to get an idea of how you would like to organize your interview report.

READINGS AND WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Required texts:

• Know How: Guided Programs for Inventing Your Own Best Future, by Leslie Cameron-Bandler, David Gordon, and Michael Lebeau (San Rafael, Calif.: FuturePace, 1985).

These three texts will be assigned during the semester. You must obtain your own copies, read them, and bring the book(s) to class meetings with your text assignments completed. Readings and other assignments are listed on the date that they are due. Complete each reading and assignment before class. Activities and small-group discussions will be drawn from this material. Other handouts, not listed, will be distributed as well. Place the date for each week in the blank provided.

THE SCHEDULE OF REQUIRED READINGS, ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES AND EXAMS IS AS FOLLOWS:

Week #1____________________Introduction: What are values?
Week #2____________________Wishcraft: Preface – Intro Ch. 1-6.
Week #3____________________Wishcraft: Ch. 7-8.
Week #4____________________Wishcraft: Ch. 9-11;
Week #5____________________Know How: preface – Ch. 1-4
Week #6                     Know How: Applications after page 88 Quiz #1 - Take home: Interview with yourself due week #7

Week #7                     Quiz #1 due

Week #8                     Beyond Feelings: Preface, Introduction (Ch. 1-4)

Week #9                     Beyond Feelings: Ch. 5-8.

Week #10                    Beyond Feelings: Ch. 9-12.

Week #11                    Quiz #2 Beyond Feelings Chapters 1-12

Week #12                    DECISION INTERVIEWS DUE

Week #13                    Beyond Feelings: Ch. 13-16.

Week #14                    Beyond Feelings: Ch. 17-19)

Week #15                    Course review, preliminary grading results, and evaluation

FINAL I LEARNED ESSAY DUE

Final Discussion of your learnings on Blackboard DUE______________________________

HOW GRADES ARE DETERMINED: EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Credit: You can take this course for credit on a pass/fail basis whereby upon completion of the course you will receive the appropriate number of credits with no grade attached. Requirements for passing the course include:

1. Attendance and written work during all regularly scheduled class meetings. Involves completion of 15 short assignments or group activities. (30 points total / 2 points each - only 1 point if leaving at the break. Absence will reduce your ability to pass this course. Participation in essay assignments, readings, and discussions. (Written work covers both in-class and homework assignments; approximately 2,000 words, not including the "Decision Interviews" assignment described under item #2 below.)

2. Assignment: Decision Interviews — Due: ________________________________
   You will interview five people about a decision from their lives after you have learned the process and how to interview to best obtain excellent results. Be sure to include people of various ages and try to have at least one child. Take notes about each of the aspects of the process. Be prepared to discuss each of the decisions reported by your interviewees. Work on identifying the aspects of the process comes during class sessions where you will learn to gather complete and detailed information concerning: 1) Statement of the situation, 2) alternatives considered, 3) consequences imagined, 4) resources used, 5) action taken, 6) values evident, and 7) internal and external resources and influences,8) including your learnings about the process from each of the interviews. (10 points for on time submission - 2 points deducted for each day late

3. Passing grade on quizzes and written assignments. You will be responsible for the material from your required readings. Written assignments may be in-class or homework. You will need two ABF-A200 (alpha) ACCU-SCAN ADVANTAGE two-sided blue answer sheets available at the bookstore and a #2 pencil . Keep these answer sheets flat. All tests are open notes and you may use your study guide.

4. Final I Learned paper — DUE: ________________________________
   (20 points for on time submission — 2 points deducted for each day late
All papers due in computer printed hard copy. No email submissions permitted except for extra credit. Use the grey metal drop box outside of the division office near the drinking fountain under the Where is My Professor sign. The box is emptied at 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and routed to my division mailbox box. Before you slide a late paper into the box, make sure that MY NAME, YOUR NAME, SECTION # OR DAY OF THE WEEK class meets, and THE NUMBER OF DAYS LATE.

Letter Grade: Requirements for letter grade include those for credit as listed above. Credit interviews are handwritten and either pass or fail.* For the letter grade, you must also submit a typed report (single-spaced) detailing the results of your decision interviews. Both forms of this paper must cover each of the five interviews and include your learning about your observational and information-gathering skills. (*Your final grade is based upon your grade on this paper along with your scores on the quizzes and written work, as well as the submission of your final I Learned paper and required participation in Final BB discussion.)

Summary for grade/credit:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In class activities / Attendance</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision Interviews (on time submission)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision Interviews for a letter grade</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final I learned paper (graded)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT NOTE: Depending on the class averages letter grades usually are translated from total POINTS as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>Credit (pass/fail)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = 95-100</td>
<td>&gt;75 points total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B = 94-89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C = 88-83</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D = 82-76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F = 75 and below</td>
<td>100 Maximum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extra Credit work is described in a handout posted on BB. It can only be submitted electronically to lydespel@cabrillo.edu. It must be in the body of an email. I DO NOT open attachments. Your work for extra credit will be accepted until final time at midnight on ____________________________.

No late extra credit will be counted toward final score. Keep track of your points to determine if you wish to turn in extra credit.

Continuing Education Credit: Students taking this course for continuing education credit (CE credit) must do all the work for credit and may complete the course for a letter grade. Official Cabrillo coursework reports are available in WebAdvisor at the end of the semester. In applying for license renewal, specify the course (PSYCH 37 Values & Decision Making), the number of hours (1 unit=17, 2 units=34, 3 units=51), the institution (Cabrillo College), and the provider number (00379). Keep your official Cabrillo record slips in case you are audited; thus, no official papers are sent with your license renewal coursework, only the information above.

Accommodations for disabilities: Student needing adjustments should inform me. Veterans may have injuries that entitle accommodations to ensure equal access for all students with verified disabilities. To determine if you qualify or to obtain assistance contact the Accessibility Support Center (Formerly DSPS - Disabled Student Services), Room 1073 479-6379.