

Psychology

Contract	Term	Contract Title	Course	Description
354096	Fall 2017	Causes and Perspective on Borderline Personality Disorder	PSYC 3125	For this project, my professor and I will be reading: Borderline personality disorder: new perspectives on a stigmatizing and overused diagnosis. Mental disorders around the world have a negative stigma associated with them. Borderline personality disorder (BPD) is overly simplified and applied to "normal" individuals for regular changes in behavior. In order to combat this, the public needs accurate information and solutions to better understand individuals with this disorder. My professor and I will read the book and discuss it biweekly. His insight as a practicing psychologist will allow me to better understand the disorder, hear about real cases, and allow me to ask questions that arise.
354097	Fall 2017	Is Altruism Attractive?	PSYC 3265	Altruism is seen as an evolutionary advantage in natural selection. Researchers have hypothesized that helping others is a direct function of the recipient's ability to enhance the inclusive fitness of the helper. Many studies have shown that altruism gives a person an increased chance of gaining a mate; this fitness is therefore, related to attractiveness and mate preference. Helping also varies when several factors come into play such as age, genetic relatedness, and the presence of others. Studies have shown that people are more likely to participate in altruistic behavior when in a group versus by themselves. I have decided to test these two factors of altruism against each other. I am conducting a research experiment to see if there is a difference in mate preference when individuals view an array of people participating in altruistic behaviors by themselves versus in a group. Participants may rate the person on attractiveness, generosity, or even intelligence
351098	Fall 2017	Publication of Meta Analysis Paper	PSYC 3565	In my Meta-Analysis class, our final project that is already underway will be to turn in a completed meta-analysis of the papers in the specific topic our groups have chosen. My group has chosen to complete a meta-analysis of the effects of cognitive behavioral therapy on anxiety disorders (we will most likely specify which disorders at a later date). My proposal for this contract is to take this completed meta-analysis and submit it for publication to a psychological journal determined by what kind of quality the final paper is. The submission of the paper will happen between the due date of the paper for the class (December 4th) and the final days of the semester. This submission necessitates that during the process of creating the paper, I will have to ensure it is at a high enough standard to be reasonably submitted for publication. This extra step will require me working closely with my professor, Dr. Smith, over the semester to check on the quality of the paper as it is being created.