

PSY402 GRADUATION PROJECT AND SEMINAR

PROJECT ALTERNATIVES



**TEDU DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
2020 SPRING**

OVERVIEW

General Information

Five Options

Evaluation

Important Notes

General Information

Group work (*students will form their own groups*)

Topic – *you decide with your group on 3 choices*

Departmental committee *will evaluate your choices to assign each group to one choice.*

One semester («process»)

APA style

Five Options

1. Research
2. Grant Writing
3. Ready Dataset
4. Publically Available Data Sets
5. Project

Evaluation

General Outline (5%) *(third week)*

Progress Report (25%) *(seventh week)*

Final Report (40%) *(final weeks)*

Presentation (15%) *(final weeks)*

Peer Evaluation (10%)

General Requirements (5%)

Important Notes

1. Deadlines → **no extensions**; late submissions accepted with **2 points reduction / late day**
2. Specific dates for final report submissions and poster presentations
→ to be announced by the instructor towards the end of the semester.
3. Attendance to poster presentations → **compulsory for all students & groups**
(to be held on a single day for all project presentations)
4. Project timetable & statement regarding division of labor
(to be submitted with the extended abstract as a requirement of the progress report)
→ **tentative** (after instructor approval, depending on project demands)
5. Evaluation and grading of each group project will be based on the grading rubric specified for each graduation paper option. **The degree of compliance to grading rubric will be evaluated by the departmental committee for PSY402.**

CODE

OPTION

FIELD

SUBJECT

CODE: P01

OPTION 5 - PROJECT

FIELD: CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

**SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF THE PSYCHOSOCIAL NEEDS OF
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**

- **University based psychosocial project**
- **Conducting a survey on the psychosocial needs and problem areas of university students**
 - individual interviews, focus group interviews and so on.
- **Preparing psychoeducation brochures for students in identified areas based on the survey results.**

CODE: P02

OPTION 5 - PROJECT

FIELD: CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

**SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF THE PSYCHOSOCIAL NEEDS OF
THE PARENTS IN LOW SES FAMILIES**

- **Community based psychosocial project**
- **Conducting a survey to determine the problem areas parents are experiencing when raising children and their psychosocial needs in low socioeconomic families living in the neighborhoods around our university.**
 - Survey, individual interviews, family interviews, focus group interviews and so on.
- **Preparing psychoeducation brochures for the public in identified areas based on the survey results.**

CODE: P03

OPTION 5 - PROJECT

FIELD: CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

**SUBJECT: EVALUATING PSYCHO-SOCIAL IMPACTS OF
YOUNGSTERS' SUICIDE ON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN
ANKARA**

Conducting surveys, in-depth interviews and preparing a brochure targeting psychosocial needs of those students.

CODE: P04

OPTION 5 - PROJECT

FIELD: CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

**SUBJECT: MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT SUICIDE AMONG
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**

Conducting surveys, in-depth interviews and preparing brochures

CODE: P05

OPTION 1: RESEARCH

FIELD: CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

**SUBJECT: THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CHILDHOOD
EXPERIENCES AND ADULTHOOD PROBLEMS**

Students who would like to participate in this research project are expected to propose a study investigating the relationships between childhood experiences and adulthood problems (interpersonal issues, psychopathology symptoms, personality, etc.).

CODE: P06

OPTION 1: RESEARCH

FIELD: CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

**SUBJECT: THE ROLE OF STRESS, STRESSFUL AND/OR
TRAUMATIC LIFE EVENTS ON PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING**

Students who would like to participate in this research project are expected to propose a study investigating the role of stress, stressful and/or traumatic life events on psychological well-being (e.g., death of a loved one, separation, violence, poverty, discrimination).

CODE: P07

OPTION 1: RESEARCH

FIELD: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

**SUBJECT: UNDERSTANDING REMINISCENCE BUMP PHENOMENON
FOR WORD-CUED EVENTS AND IMPORTANT LIFE EVENTS**

- Reminiscence Bump phenomenon refers to the increased recall of memories coming from one's adolescence and young adulthood period.
- Recent studies have indicated that when memories are cued by neutral words distribution of recalled memories provide earlier reminiscence bump than when important events or emotional events are asked.
- However, no theories could be able to account for the observed difference.
- Students are expected to propose a research design which could shed light on this unexplained finding.

CODE: P08

OPTION 1: RESEARCH

FIELD: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

**SUBJECT: TRANSGENERATIONAL TRANSMISSION OF
IMPORTANT LIFE EVENTS**

- Some of the collective memories are formed via transmission of family memories.
- Transmission of family memory studies were primarily based on what is remembered by current generations.
- Transmission is also influenced by what will be shared by the person who has experienced the event.
- However, we don't know much about the selectivity in the transmission of important life experiences to the next generations.
- Students who would like to participate in this research project are expected to propose a study investigating the transgenerational transmission of important life events within the family.

CODE: P09

OPTION 1: RESEARCH

FIELD: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

SUBJECT: DISASTERS

- **Qualitative exploration of fatalistic beliefs and disasters**
 - In-depth interviews

Developing an interview schedule focusing on

- Trajectory (time) after disaster experience
- Type of disaster
- Functionality of fatalistic beliefs
- Thematic Analysis

CODE: P10

OPTION 1: RESEARCH

FIELD: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

SUBJECT: DISASTERS

- **Quantitative exploration of fatalistic beliefs in the context of disasters**

Experimental study (online)

- Whether fatalistic beliefs differ in response to **different disasters (disaster type)** and **different phases of disaster risk management (trajectory)**

Developing manipulations for [...] and testing their effectiveness
and

Investigating their effects on the functionality of fatalistic beliefs

- Disaster fatalism and blame
- Damage blame and damage preventability
- Perceived responsibility for preparedness
- Self-efficacy and outcome expectancy
- Intention to prepare

CODE: P11

OPTION 1: RESEARCH

FIELD: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

**SUBJECT: TESTING SYSTEM JUSTIFICATION MANIPULATIONS
IN TURKEY**

- Experimental study
- Serial experimental studies will be conducted to explore effective system justification manipulations in Turkey. We will examine whether the following manipulations successfully increase an individual's tendencies to justify the socio-political arrangements in Turkey.
 - System threat manipulation
 - System dependency manipulation
 - Availability heuristics and system justification
 - System affirmation manipulation

CODE: P12

OPTION 1: RESEARCH

FIELD: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

SUBJECT: DEVELOPING COLLECTIVE EMOTIONS INDUCING MATERIALS IN TURKEY

- Correlational study
- The materials that can induce collective emotions (anger, pride, sadness, etc.) and prime social-economic injustice/justice (e.g., poverty) will be developed and tested. Their relationships with collective action intentions will be examined.

CODE: P13

OPTION 3: READY DATA SET

FIELD: NEUROSCIENCE

SUBJECT: MULTIPLE MEMORY SYSTEMS AND GLIAL DENSITIES IN THE HIPPOCAMPUS AND IN THE STRIATUM

- The striatum and the hippocampus are the two major brain structures underlying different forms of memory strategies.
- Their involvement can be behaviorally tested using mazes that can be solved via striatum- or hippocampus- based strategies.
- As glial cells comprise significant contributors to neural activity, this project involves comparison of distinct glial cell population densities in these regions in animals that underwent training in the dual solution maze tasks.

CODE: P14

OPTION 1: RESEARCH

FIELD: NEUROSCIENCE

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF MULTIPLE MEMORY SYSTEMS

FUNCTION IN HUMAN SUBJECTS

- Emerging evidence suggests that cognitive strategies might be the underlying factors in biasing normal human behavior towards subclinical psychological disorders.
- This project involves the investigation of individual differences in memory strategies in light of psychological traits such as perfectionism, depression, and autistic traits.

CODE: P15

OPTION 2: GRANT WRITING

FIELD: NEUROSCIENCE

**SUBJECT: DEPRESSIVE TRAITS AND MULTIPLE MEMORY
SYSTEMS IN ANIMAL MODELS**

- Depression entails alterations in brain regions that play pivotal roles in the determination of memory strategies.
- The project group is expected to formulate a novel research idea and construct a grant proposal on the basis of it in Tübitak 1002 format.

CODE: P16

OPTION 2: GRANT PROPOSAL

FIELD: NEUROSCIENCE

**SUBJECT: THE INVESTIGATION OF THE NEURAL SUBSTRATES
OF BLOCKING EFFECT IN HUMANS**

- When a conditioned stimulus strongly predicts an outcome, addition of a new neutral stimulus in the procedural setting does not lead to new learning.
- This is referred to as the blocking effect.
- The project group is expected to write a grant proposal that proposes the delineation of the neural substrates of this effect in humans using semi-invasive neuroactivity modulation (tDCS, TMS, etc.)

PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

GROUP (Student Names)

Choice 1

CODE:

FIELD:

SUBJECT:

MOTIVATION LETTER (1 page)

Choice 2

CODE:

FIELD:

SUBJECT:

MOTIVATION LETTER (1 page)

Choice 3

CODE:

FIELD:

SUBJECT:

MOTIVATION LETTER (1 page)