

INTEGRATING RESEARCH, FIELD EXPERIENCE AND A SENIOR THESIS FOR SENIOR PSYCHOLOGY MAJORS

Current Model in Progress: Psychology Senior Series at St. Edward’s University, Austin TX

- 5 Fulltime faculty members teaching Research and Field Experience in Psychology [4359]
 - RFE = Combination of Community Interns and Research Assistants this fall
 - Students identifying social issues within RFE to explore for Capstone in the spring
- Same 5 faculty teach Capstone to same RFE students [CAPS] when previously taught by gen ed faculty
 - Faculty have expertise in psychology to aid students
 - Students write about social issue they have experienced
 - Paper written in APA style
- ***Students end their college career with a 1 year in depth experience with a faculty member, topic and are more ready for employment and/or grad school***

POSITIVES OF THE MODEL	DRAWBACKS OF THE MODEL	RECOMMENDATIONS
1 less course to teach, schedule, register for, manage	*Advising confusion -- students on 'old plan' trying to get out of class *Faculty didn't explain the 'why' of the change which resulted in anxious students who were confused regarding the 'how'	Conscientious advising with 'older' plan students, being sure to explain how can reap benefits of both old and new plans
Increased interest in research by students	*Students are confused re lit review required in 4359 *Some students have never written in APA	Build in more preparatory steps in the curriculum and in 4359 to insure more prepared for Lit Review
*Collegiality and sharing amongst faculty even though sections are different *Faculty excited to teach CAPS after chair has done trial run	Faculty anxious re: teaching CAPS	RFE/CAPS instructor blog to share tips with each other re 4359 <u>and</u> CAPS
Students VERY involved in hands on research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ownership • Presentation proposals • 4 of 6 RAs want to publish 	Coordination of enough research activity with the number of students who are interested	Possible Advanced RFE to be offered during SP10 to be taken concurrently with CAPS
OTHER EXAMPLES	OTHER EXAMPLES	OTHER EXAMPLES
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