

**Bloomsburg University**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**Dr. Jeffrey D. Leitzel**

University Seminar: Career Paper Assignment

The purpose of this assignment is for you to learn more about the area of psychology that you believe you would like to pursue as a career. If you have not yet decided on a specific subfield of psychology that you are interested in pursuing, this assignment will provide you with an opportunity to explore an area of psychology that you think you may have an interest in pursuing as a career.

The final paper as the product of your project should be typed and double-spaced on white paper and a minimum of four full pages with a maximum of seven pages in length. You must use margins no larger than one inch (1") on all sides of the paper and a font size no larger than 12 (this is written in 10 font, this is 12 font). In terms of formatting your paper, APA style should be used. An overview can be found via links available on the library homepage, at the "citing sources" link. Spelling and grammatical errors will count against you so please take the extra minute to proof-read and spell-check your paper!

The top of the first page should include a title, your name, the university, and the course name (not counted in the four page minimum). A reference/works cited page (also not part of the four page minimum) should be the final page of the paper. Pages are to be stapled in the upper left corner only. No binders or paper-clipped pages will be accepted.

Papers are due, at the latest, **by 4:30 pm on October 28 at my office. Late papers will not be accepted, no exceptions!**

You must use at least three written references/sources related to your chosen area. You may use more than three written references, if desired.

Written references may be obtained from the library. In the library, access information about the subfield of psychology you have chosen on the internet (I provided a link to the APA career page on your syllabus) or through print sources (journals articles or books about careers in that area). You may also want to check relevant introductory text books for a chapter on the subfield you have chosen. Finally, you may want to search for books or articles on college majors or career planning in general. If you cannot find what you need, do not hesitate to ask one of the librarians for help. That's what they are there for! Sources used for written references must be scholarly. That is, do not rely on magazines or "pop" books. Properly cite each source you use and be very careful about plagiarism! In addition, the psychology department office has the latest edition of the APA guide to graduate study in psychology, which you can borrow to review by leaving your ID with Mrs. Wingate.

You also must interview three people who are knowledgeable about your field. Included in these interviews should be your advisor and at least one other professor in the psychology department. The third interview may be with someone you know who has graduated with a degree in psychology and is working in that field, a senior psychology student, career counselors, or even family members who are working in psychology or a closely related field. If you are unsure as to whether the third person you would like to interview is appropriate, please ask. Cite your interviews on your reference list by name and title and list the reference as a personal communication, giving the date and place of the interview.

Be sure to include in your paper a description of all of the steps that you must take to ultimately obtain the sort of position you are hoping to prepare for, including, but not limited to: educational requirements, licensure, job outlook in the area, and likely starting salary range. If you have any questions about any aspect of this assignment, do not hesitate to ask.