PSY4090-1 FA24 - Special Studies In Psychology - Academic Writing for Psychology

Psychology Department

PSY 4090-1 Special Studies In Psychology

Academic Writing for Psychology (4 units)

Fall 2024

Instructors:	Alexandra N. Bitter, Ph.D. Max E. Butterfield, Ph.D.
Email:	**abitter@pointloma.edu (mailto:abitter@pointloma.edu)** **mbutter@pointloma.edu** **(mailto:mbutter@pointloma.edu)**
Office Phone:	(619) 849-3054 (Dr. Bitter) (619) 849-2405 (Dr. Butterfield)
Office:	Culbertson Hall 104 (Dr. Bitter) Culbertson Hall 105 (Dr. Butterfield)
Office hours:	Please email Dr. Bitter and Dr. Butterfield to schedule an appointment
Teaching Assistants:	Lyndsay Martins Fiona Lawlor

Email:	**lmartins0021@pointloma.edu** **(mailto:lmartins0021@pointloma.edu)** **flawlor0021@pointloma.edu** **(mailto:flawlor0021@pointloma.edu)**
Class Time and Location:	Day and Time: Mondays: 2:45 - 5:15 PM Location: RLC 106
Department:	Psychology
Units:	4
Final exam:	December 16, 2024 1:30 - 4:00 PM
Required Text:	Miller, S. A. (2022). *Writing in Psychology* (2nd edition). Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003246435

PLNU MISSION

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Academic Writing for Psychology is designed to equip you with the skills necessary to produce high-quality academic writing to be published in a psychology journal. We will focus on improving your ability to write an APA-style empirical paper comprised of a literature review, methods, results, and a discussion section. You will also learn about open science, the significance of replication, and the practical aspects of selecting the right journal, writing cover letters, and navigating the submission process. These skills will not only strengthen your academic scholarship but also provide you with valuable tools that can be applied in various professional contexts. Through a combination of readings, lectures, discussions, and hands-on practice, you will be evaluated on your understanding, professionalism, and ability to apply and communicate course material. By the end of the course, I hope you find these skills to be not only useful and engaging but also essential for your growth as a

writer and scholar in psychology.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will learn to:

- Write a comprehensive APA-style empirical paper, including a literature review, methods, results, and discussion sections
- Critically analyze and synthesize psychological research by reading and interpreting scientific articles.
- Enhance your writing skills through exercises in both creative and technical writing • Apply principles of open science
- Select an appropriate journal for your research and understand the practical steps involved in the submission process, including writing effective cover letters.
- Understand the peer review process, including responding to revision requests and preparing your manuscript for resubmission.
- Communicate research findings clearly and effectively to both academic and general audiences.

Objectives will be achieved through your engagement with readings, lectures, discussions, and hands-on practice. Your progress will be evaluated based on your understanding, professionalism, and ability to apply and communicate the course material through written assignments, participation, science communication, and a final manuscript submission.

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a four unit class delivered over 15 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided by the university or our accrediting bodies.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Course Breakdown

Reading Quizzes 10%

Manuscript 30%

Professionalism 25%

Writing Exercises 15%

Peer Review 10%

Final Exam 10%

Total: 100%

Professionalism
Our hope is that the skills you learn in this class will translate to your aspirations, whatever they may be.
This class is a low stakes environment for you to learn, practice, and hone your skills. One necessary skill is

professionalism. Professionalism encompasses a host of components. In this class you will be expected to:

- Participate
- Be prepared
- Be familiar with course policies
- Be kind, respectful, and helpful
- Be on task
- Do your fair share when working with others

Feedback will help you to understand your own strengths and growth areas related to professionalism. Feedback will be received twice: in the middle of the semester and at the end of the semester. Midterm feedback will act as a mid-semester check in, and will hopefully stimulate constructive conversation among group members. Everyone will provide feedback one more time at the end of the semester. This feedback will result in your final grades. These grades will be determined by both your classmates' observations as well as our own. Professionalism is numerically and objectively calculated based on survey responses. Our own observations are considered equivalent to other students you have worked with, and survey responses are averaged across to produce a final grade. These averages are then transferred to the professionalism rubric. The most effective way to display commensurate (A+) professionalism is to communicate, delegate, listen, and be a nice human.

You are evaluating: **Ross Oakes Mueller**

Across the semester, they...

	Never	Sometimes	About half the time	Most of the time	Always
Participated in class	○	○	○	○	○
Have been prepared for class	○	○	○	○	○
Have been familiar with course policies	○	○	○	○	○
Have been kind	○	○	○	○	○
Have been respectful	○	○	○	○	○
Have been helpful	○	○	○	○	○
Have been on task	○	○	○	○	○
Have paid attention	○	○	○	○	○
Have done their fair share	○	○	○	○	○

Grade Scale

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89.99	C+ 77-79.99	D+ 67-69.99	F Less than 59

A- 90-92.99	B 83-86.99 B- 80-82.99	C 73-76.99 C- 70-72.99	D 63-66.99 D- 60-62.99	

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an "F" grade.

LATE POLICY

No late work will be accepted. This policy will mainly impact manuscript submissions. Timely submission of these assignments is crucial because each part of the manuscript builds on a previous submission, and delays can hinder your progress and the feedback process. Given that the final goal of the course is to submit a polished manuscript, adhering to deadlines ensures that you stay on track to meet this objective.

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires participating in the final examination on its scheduled day. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

STATE AUTHORIZATION
State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on State Authorization to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY
Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU RECORDING NOTIFICATION

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel. Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to

the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or

examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See Academic Policies for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) POLICY

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc.) in this course. Any work that utilizes AI-based tools must be clearly identified as such, including the specific tool(s) used. This means you must cite when using AI, following APA style for your citations. If you do not cite your sources, this is considered plagiarism. Additionally, solely copying AI produced text without significant modification is also considered plagiarism. AI-generated text must be altered to incorporate your own voice, insights, and understanding. The first time a violation occurs, you will receive a warning; subsequent violations will result in a zero on the assignment. Importantly, all group members must be in unanimous agreement over the use of AI tools.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. The EAC makes accommodations available to professors at the student's request. PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes. Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any special accommodations.

LANGUAGE AND BELONGING

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA,

APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality. If you (or someone you know) have experienced a bias incident regarding language, you can find more information on reporting and resources at **www.pointloma.edu/bias (http://www.pointloma.edu/bias)** .

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND DISCRIMINATION

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office. If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors at pointloma.edu/title-ix.

CHANGE IN SYLLABUS OR SCHEDULE

It is possible that we will make modifications to the syllabus or schedule during the semester. If this occurs, we will make an announcement by email, in class, or both.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Mon Sep 9, 2024	**Week 1 Reading Quiz** **(https:// canvas.pointloma.edu/ courses/74964/assignments/1079909)**	due by 2:45pm due by 2:45pm
	Week 1 Writing Exercise **(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/ courses/74964/assignments/1080013)**	
	Week 2 Reading Quiz **(https:// canvas.pointloma.edu/ courses/74964/assignments/1079911)**	due by 2:45pm

Mon Sep 16, 2024

Week 2 Writing Exercise

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1080014) due by 2:45pm

Week 3 Reading Quiz **(https://**

canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1079910) due by 2:45pm

Mon Sep 23, 2024

Week 3 Writing Exercise

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1080016) due by 2:45pm

Literature Review **(https://**

Sun Sep 29, 2024
canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1079966) due by 11:59pm

Mon Sep 30, 2024 **Week 4 Reading Quiz** **(https://**

canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1079912) due by 2:45pm

Week 4 Writing Exercise

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1080017) due by 2:45pm

Date Details Due

Week 5 Reading Quiz **(https://**

canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1079913) due by 2:45pm

Mon Oct 7, 2024

Week 5 Writing Exercise

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1080018) due by 2:45pm

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Literature Review Peer

Review **(https://**

Sun Oct 13, 2024

canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1079975)

canvas.pointloma.edu/
due by 11:59pm

Week 6 Reading Quiz **(https://**

courses/74964/assignments/1079914) due by 2:45pm ☐

Week 6 Writing Exercise

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1080019) due by 2:45pm ☐

Mon Oct 14, 2024 Sun Oct 20, 2024

Methods **(https://**

canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1079967) due by 11:59pm

Mon Oct 21, 2024 **Week 7 Reading Quiz** **(https://**

canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1079915) due by 2:45pm

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Week 7 Writing Exercise

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1080020) due by 2:45pm

Date Details Due

Midterm Professionalism

Assessment **(https://**
courses/74964/assignments/1079972) ☐

Sun Oct 27, 2024

canvas.pointloma.edu/

Week 8 Reading Quiz (https:// canvas.pointloma.edu/ due by 11:59pm

Week 8 Writing Exercise (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/ courses/74964/assignments/1080021) due by 2:45pm ☐

Mon Oct 28, 2024 Sun Nov 3, 2024 Mon Nov 4, 2024

Methods Peer Review (https:// canvas.pointloma.edu/ courses/74964/assignments/1079976)** due by 11:59pm

Week 9 Reading Quiz (https:// canvas.pointloma.edu/ courses/74964/assignments/1079917)** due by 2:45pm ☐

Sun Nov 10, 2024

Week 9 Writing Exercise (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/ courses/74964/assignments/1080022) due by 2:45pm ☐

Results (https:// canvas.pointloma.edu/ courses/74964/assignments/1079968)** due by 11:59pm

courses/74964/assignments/1079916) due by 2:45pm ☐

Mon Nov 11, 2024   **Week 10 Reading Quiz** (https:// canvas.pointloma.edu/ **courses/74964/assignments/1079918)** due by 2:45pm

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Date Details Due

Week 10 Writing Exercise (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/ courses/74964/assignments/1080023) due by 2:45pm

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Week 11 Reading Quiz (https:// canvas.pointloma.edu/ **courses/74964/assignments/1079919)** due by 2:45pm

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Mon Nov 18, 2024

Week 11 Writing Exercise
(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1080026) due by 2:45pm

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Week 12 Reading Quiz **(https://**
canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1079920) due by 2:45pm

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Week 12 Writing Exercise

Mon Nov 25, 2024 Sun Dec 1, 2024

Results Peer Review **(https://**
canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1079977) due by 11:59pm

Discussion **(https://**
canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1079969) due by 11:59pm

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1080028) due by 2:45pm ☐

Mon Dec 2, 2024   **Week 13 Reading Quiz** **(https://**
canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1079921) due by 2:45pm

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(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/
due by 2:45pm

Week 13 Writing Exercise

Date Details Due **courses/74964/assignments/1080029)**

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Week 14 Reading Quiz **(https://**
canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1079922) due by 2:45pm

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Mon Dec 9, 2024

Week 14 Writing Exercise

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1080030) due by 2:45pm

Sun Dec 15, 2024 Mon Dec 16, 2024

Discussion Peer Review

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1079971) due by 2:45pm

Science Communication

Presentation **(https://**

(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/

courses/74964/assignments/1079978) due by 11:59pm

Final Manuscript Submission

due by 2:45pm due by 11:59pm

Sun Dec 22, 2024
canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1079970)

Final Professionalism **Assessment**

(https://
canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1079974)

Roll Call Attendance **(https://**

canvas.pointloma.edu/
courses/74964/assignments/1092072)