

**Proposal Title:** PSY 3570 - Practicum in Teaching Psychology

**Proposed Change:** New Course

**Proposed Catalog Description:** A practicum providing students the opportunity to gain teaching experience, enhance their knowledge of a particular area in psychology, and acquire professional skills that makes them more competitive for graduate school and in the job market. Prerequisites: PSY 2020 and permission of the instructor.

**Rationale:** The Psychology Department is adjusting their curriculum to be aligned with current guidelines of the American Psychological Association. One of these guidelines is to provide students with hands-on experiential learning. The teaching practicum will be one of the courses within the "Doing Psychology" component of the curriculum.

**Pedagogical Impact:** This course provides students with hands-on teaching experience, as well as experience with evaluating student's performance in the classroom. This course is expected to help build professional skills in students that will provide insight into their career goals and will make students more competitive for graduate school and in the job market.

**Economic Impact:** None

**Primary Instructor:** Dr. Jill Shelton and other faculty in the Psychology Department who are willing to supervise students in the teaching practicum.

**Sample PSY 3570 syllabus follows:**

15-083 (M)

**PSYCHOLOGY 3570 SYLLABUS  
PRACTICUM IN TEACHING PSYCHOLOGY**

**Course Information:**

**Credit Hours: 3**

**Room: Holt 124**

**Pre-requisites: Cognitive Science**

**Instructor information:**

**Instructor: Jill Shelton, Ph.D.**

**Phone: 425-5246**

**Office and office hours: Holt 350B, M&W 10-12**

**Email: [jill-shelton@utc.edu](mailto:jill-shelton@utc.edu)**

**Catalog Description**

A practicum providing students the opportunity to gain teaching experience, enhance their knowledge of a particular area in psychology, and acquire professional skills that makes them more competitive for graduate school and in the job market. PSY 2020 and permission of the instructor is required for enrollment.

**Teaching Assistant (TA) Responsibilities:**

1. Attend classes and assist instructor with class activities
2. Teach occasional lectures and develop the relevant materials
3. Assist with exam construction
4. Keep a record of class attendance
5. Participate in class discussions
6. Coordinate any out-of-class assignments and activities
7. Provide feedback on lectures to instructor
8. Be available and responsive to student's needs/concerns
9. Refer students who need specific intervention to instructor
10. Grade course assignments and exams
11. Coordinate Blackboard activities

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. TA's will gain a better understanding of the course material after sitting through the course a second time. The knowledge of the course will be demonstrated by assisting other students in the course with their understanding of the material.
2. TA's will gain experience developing class materials and providing lessons using these materials. The quality of these lessons will be determined by the instructor and by assessing student's comprehension of the material.
3. TA's will learn how to critically evaluate the scholarship of students by helping to develop assessment tools and evaluating student's performance on these assessments.

**Requirements for participation in practicum:**

1. Completed a minimum of 12 hours in psychology
2. Must have completed the specific course before serving as TA and an A or B must have been earned in this course.

**Evaluation:**

Students' grades will be based on the extent to which they carry out the responsibilities outlined above and their willingness to help students. Specifically, TA's will be evaluated on: 1) the quality and timeliness of their grading, 2) class attendance and participation, 3) quality of their lectures, and 4) professionalism and responsiveness provided to students in the class.

**APPLICATION FOR PRACTICUM IN TEACHING PSYCHOLOGY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School (Local) Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Course for which you are applying to be a teaching assistant: Course # \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Semester for which you are applying to be a teaching assistant: Fall \_\_\_\_\_ Spring \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of hours you would like the practicum to count for (circle one): 1 hour 2 hours 3 hours

Total # of hours you are taking during that semester (not counting the TA course): \_\_\_\_\_

List all the Psychology courses you have completed and the grade you received in each course (excluding PSY200):

Course Name	Grade
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

List any other previous teaching/tutoring experience: