Research Paper

PSY 450, Psych of Well-Being

Spring 2020

Goal: In this paper, I want you to read research on a topic of interest and integrate it into a paper. This will both let you get more familiar with work in an area you would like to know more about and let you practice reading and describing research reports

You should review some research on some well-being (broadly defined) topic of interest to you. In the review, you should think critically about the topic, being certain to present and discuss published theoretical and empirical research on the topic. Most of our readings will do this, so you can use them to get a sense of what I am looking for.

This should be on a topic different from your practice paper.

Topics: Try to examine something that is of interest to you that we have not covered in class. However, if you want to cover something we did talk about in class, do not simply reiterate what was said in class or written in the assigned readings. If you need ideas, you might explore topics presented in other professors’ positive psychology courses that we have not covered. Some syllabi are available at: http://www.positivepsychology.org/resources/course-syllabi-teachers. Internet searches will turn up other syllabi. Or you might look through *Journal of Happiness Studies* *or Journal of Positive Psychology*. Or consider the table of contents of books on happiness or positive psychology. I will post the table for the Oxford Handbook of Positive Psychology on Blackboard. Or we can find a time to talk and we can try to identify what you are most interested in.

I strongly suggest that you run your topic past me. It would be easy to choose a topic that’s either too broad or too narrow.

Due date: Monday, April 27, by 5 pm.

Submission process: Please submit via Blackboard. I prefer Word but will take PDF’s too.

References: Definitely cite your work. Try to do APA style, but I’m flexible on that.

Length: I’m flexible, but 7-10 pages double-spaced is probably a good approximation. I looked at a few from the last time I gave this exercise and they ran from 4-9 pages, with more over 5 than under 5. But really, I’m focused on the quality of what you do rather than the length.