

PSYC 4404: Directed Study Capstone Independent Research Project: Course Description

This directed study capstone experience serves as the culmination of students' undergraduate experience in psychology. Under the guidance of a faculty member, students integrate perspectives and topics explored throughout their studies to conduct an original research project that prepares students for their future academic, professional, or applied endeavors. Students will apply academic knowledge and skills to develop a literature review, formulate research questions and hypotheses, apply appropriate methodologies, collect and analyze data, and communicate findings in both written and oral formats.

Instructions:

Submit this application with the required attachments to the Department via DocuSign by the appropriate deadline. Review and processing of directed study research applications generally takes 5-10 business days. If approved, you will be notified via KSU email with registration instructions.

Deadlines			

PSYC 4404: Capstone Independent Research Project

Requirements:

- Minimum institutional GPA of 3.00
- Complete PSYC 4100 with "C" or better
- Complete PSYC 4410 or PSYC 4415 or 4345 or 4455 with "C" or better
- Instructor approval
- Department Chair approval

Notes about Directed Study Credit Hours:

- Maximum of 3 hours of directed study in a semester (includes PSYC 4400, 4401, 4402, 4403, 4404)
- Maximum of 6 hours of PSYC 4400, 4401, 4402, and 4403 used towards the upper division major elective requirements
- Maximum of 9 hours of Directed Study used towards degree requirements overall

Credit-to-Field Hour Equivalencies:

- 1 credit hour = 45 field hours
- 2 credit hours = 90 field hours
- 3 credit hours = 135 field hours

Attachments to Include:

- Directed study syllabus with all KSU required syllabus elements
- Confidentiality and responsibility agreement

Student & Course Information:

Name: _____

Date Submitted: _____

KSU ID#: _____

KSU NetID: _____

Institutional GPA: _____ PSYC GPA: _____

Major: _____

Term Requested: _____ Credit Hours Requested: _____

Prior Directed Study Hours Earned: _____

Faculty Supervisor for PSYC 4404: _____

Low Cost/No Cost: _____

Agreement/Approval Signatures:

Student: _____

Date: _____

Faculty Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Acknowledgment of Professional Confidentiality and Responsibility

This statement is to be signed by students serving as undergraduate research assistants in the Department of Psychological Science who may have access to student records.

Student records are maintained under the protection of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended affords students the right to have their personal information and educational records held in confidence with limited exceptions.

One exception involves directory information. Directory information may be released by the university without the student's written consent. Directory information consists of name, field of study (Major), participation in recognized activities and sports, weight and height of athletic participants, dates of attendance and degrees received. Students may deny the release of directory information by requesting in writing to the registrar that such information not be released each semester they are enrolled. When a student has filed a written request with the Registrar that his/her directory information be withheld and kept confidential, a flag will be set in Banner that causes a warning message to be displayed whenever someone accesses that student's records stating that information about this person is confidential. In that case, the student's directory information should not be released.

Although I, the undergraduate research assistant, will have limited access to student records, it is important to note that all student data is protected, in particular, students' grades, grade point averages, hours enrolled, schedule of classes, and social security number. This information should not be released to anyone, including the student's parents, without the express written permission of the student.

By my signature, I acknowledge that I am aware that the student records are confidential and that I must keep them confidential. This acknowledgement is not intended to interfere with the normal operation of my duties as an undergraduate research assistant at Kennesaw State University.

All students serving as undergraduate research assistants in the Department of Psychological Science are required to attend a virtual directed study bootcamp.

I understand that if my application is approved, I will need to meet this requirement.

Applicant Name

KSU ID#

Applicant Signature

Date

I understand that this student must be [CITI certified](#) and included on approved IRB applications before having any contact with participants or participant information, including access to SONA.

Faculty Supervisor Name

Faculty Supervisor Signature

Date

Department Chair/Designee Signature

Date

FOR DEPARTMENT OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ Reviewed By: _____

Department Signature: _____

Approved? _____ Yes _____ No

Last Modified: 01/07/2026