**Introduction to Psychology**

**Summer 2013**

**Assignment 2 (Due Thursday, June 13. 2013)**

**The question you should address is: “Can a man really become a woman, or a woman become a man?” In other words, can attempting to change your gender through dress, actions, hormones, or surgery make a truly meaningful change in your life? Obviously, this is an opinion question; please do not simply answer “yes” or “no”. The real question is for you to discuss what meaningful differences might be made in a person’s life as a result of changing genders and what price/s might have to be paid biologically or socially? How would living as the opposite gender be advantageous and allow a person to live a happier or more fulfilled life – or not? Obviously, you do not need to be correct, only to think about the question and express your thoughts. This is an essay assignment. No references are needed, and none should be used. See the general assignment instructions below.**

**Assignment 3 (Due Monday, June 17, 2013)**

**This assignment is to research and report on “What is the Forer Effect and how do psychics, fortunetellers, astrologers, etc. use it in their work?” You should also discuss how it might affect how we write personality tests and interpret their results. This paper should be typed, double-spaced and the text should be a minimum of two pages in length. There is no maximum length. You will also need a cover sheet and reference page. Be sure to read the “General Assignment Instructions” below.**

**Assignment 5 (Due Monday, June 24, 2013)**

**This assignment is to research and report on cognitive therapy. Questions you might address include: “What is cognitive therapy?”, “Why is it so popular?”, “Who started it?”, and “What types of mental illness is it used for or best for?” This paper should be typed, double-spaced and the text should be a minimum of two pages in length. There is no maximum length. You will also need a cover sheet and reference page. Be sure to read the “General Assignment Instructions” below.**

**General Assignment Instructions**

All assignments should be typed, double-spaced in a font no larger than 12 or smaller than 11. Papers should have a 1-inch margin on all sides. They should be 1&1/2 to two pages long. They should be turned in at the beginning of class on the given due date, but will be accepted late with a grade penalty depending upon how long past the due date they are submitted. **No assignments or extra credit will be accepted after the last day of class.**

Multiple pages should be fastened together with a staple. Report covers are acceptable instead of this, but are not required. Paper clips are not acceptable.

**Cover page**

Assignments should have a cover page which readily identifies the assignment (number) and the student. Your name should be in the **top right-hand corner** along with the date, course (PSYC 1101) or (Introduction to Psychology), and **your section (days and time that your class meets)**. In the center of the page, the assignment should be identified as Assignment 1, 2, or 3. (Extra-credit work should also be identified as being for extra-credit.) You may also include the title of your choice, pictures, clip art, or any other information you would like to convey. However, this is not required.

**Reference Page**

A separate page at the end of the report should list all references in alphabetical order. At the top of the page, the word “Reference/s” (**not** “Works Cited”) should be centered in normal font (nothing huge, bold, or all caps). Double space after this and between references. Do not indent the first line of a reference; do indent the second and all subsequent lines.

Care should be taken to use the correct reference (and in-text citation) format. Only references (not papers themselves) are required to be in APA format. Information on APA format is available in the library, at the Student Success Center, and at the following web addresses:

**www.crk.umn.edu/library/links/apa5th.htm**

**www.apastyle.org/elecmedia.html**

**www.apastyle.org/elecsource.html**

**www.apastyle.org/elecgeneral.html**

There are also internet sites that will do the formatting for you, for example:

**BibMe**: bibme.org

**Citation Machine**: citationmachine.net

**EasyBib**: easybib.com

**Noodle Tools**: noodletools.com

(Some of these charge, and some are free.)

**Remember, use of information from an unreferenced website constitutes plagiarism!**

**Grading**

Grading will be primarily based on content. The content should reveal that you read or studied the material assigned and that you thought about it and understood it. Important aspects of that are choosing the important points and presenting them in an understandable format, giving reasons for your conclusions, good organization of information, and personal commentary. In order to accomplish this, the writing should be original. A small number of points will be assigned to issues of following instructions and spelling/grammar (see below). Writing style will not be considered as long as the content is clear. If the report is shorter than the minimum requirement, points will be deducted based on an estimate of the percentage of the minimum actually submitted.

(Please note that I edit. It is an old habit I have from approving and forwarding reports. This does not affect your grade. Hence, you can have quite a bit of red ink on your paper and not lose any points for that.)

Internet sources are allowable. However, you should consider the quality of your resources and the websites that you visit. Poor quality sources lead to poor quality papers and sometimes questionable information.

**Point Losers**

At the college level, quality writing and presentation are expected, as is the ability to correctly follow instructions. The following practices are point losers which are deducted separately from your content grade.

- papers using the wrong size font,

wrong margin, or line spacing minus 5 points

- misspelled/misused words minus 1 point per 3 words (including

the same word misspelled repeatedly)

- grammatical errors minus 1-5 points total, depending upon

number and nature of errors

**paper shorter than requirement percentage of minimum requirement missing**

- failure to follow instructions points deducted depending upon the extent and result of the error

**- putting “Works Cited” instead of 5 points**

**“References” at the head of the**

**reference page**

- wrong (non-APA) reference format minus 1-5 points per format error

- failure to include a reference page 10 points