**Department of Psychology Guidelines for**

**PSY 399 Supervised Research and PSY 499 Individualized Instruction:**

Research Experience:

PSY 399 Supervised Research and PSY 499 Individualized Instruction experience allow students to work with the faculty to contribute to the Department’s research and provides them with a unique educational benefit commensurate with receiving upper division course credit. We hope that these experiences will help students learn more about Psychology as a scientific discipline, to make a decision about whether to pursue a graduate degree in psychology, and to develop a personal philosophy of learning and research interests.

Course Credit:

Students should be expected to spend approximately three hours per week working on the research project and related activities for each course credit. For example, students taking 3 credits of PSY 399 or PSY 499 should plan to allocate an average of 9 hours per week (or a total of 120 hours over the semester) to the research project. This time can be divided between lab duties, weekly lab meetings, and individual study.

Course Expectations:

Each PSY 399 experience should have an explicit academic component beyond various helping activities.  This academic component should provide the student with a greater understanding of the research question in the project and its context in the larger psychological literature.  In addition, each PSY 499 experience should culminate with a research paper.

Best Practices:

It is highly recommended that PSY 399 and PSY 499 include regular lab meetings with research assistants, and faculty meetings with the students to discuss how their individual work affects the overall research outcomes, and the experience relates to the student's future goals.

PSY 399: Supervised Research:

**Course Description:** Experience within the context of current faculty research projects. Student is assigned responsibility depending on qualifications.

**Grading Option:** Pass (Y) or Fail (E).

**Repeat:** *May be repeated for a total of 6 hours.*

**Pre- or co-requisites:** approval of faculty member or designee.

PSY 499: Individualized Instruction:

**Course Description:** Provides an opportunity for original study or investigation in the major or field of specialization on an individual and more autonomous basis. Neither a substitute for a catalog course nor a means of taking a catalog course on an individual basis. Requires application well in advance of regular registration with the student's advisor, and approval by both the instructor with whom the student will work and the department offering the course.

**Grading Option:** A-E with Z option. (Note: this course requires completion of a research paper.)

**Repeat:** *May be repeated. No limit on hours.*

**Pre- or co-requisites:** approval of faculty member or designee