Advanced Seminar in Evaluation Theory, Practice, and Research
Claremont Graduate University
PSYCH 317A
Spring 2010

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Course overview

This seminar will provide students with an advanced understanding of the discipline and profession of evaluation. Students will engage in intensive study of “cutting edge” evaluation topics and core concepts in three areas: evaluation theory, practice, and research. There are several course objectives:

- Understand the history, influences, and evolution of evaluation across the globe
- Understand and identify the conceptual distinctions between contemporary theories of evaluation practice
- Become familiar with systems for categorizing evaluation theories
- Become familiar with classic, current, and new directions for research on evaluation

Upon completion of this seminar, students will be able to:
1. Examine and critique evaluation theories
2. Conduct evaluations that are theoretically grounded
3. Examine and critique research on evaluation
Session 1

Introductions and Course Overview
No Readings

Session 2

Module One: Overview

Required Reading


Session 3 Module 2: Part 1

Module Two: Looking Back

Required Reading


Module Two Discussion of Quiz and Reading


Session 4 Module 2: Part 2


Functional evaluation design for a world of political accommodation.  
*Foundations of Program Evaluation: Theories of Practice* (pp. 323-350).  

Chapter 9: Peter H. Rossi:  
Comprehensive, tailored, theory-driven evaluations – A smorgasbord of options.  
*Foundations of Program Evaluation: Theories of Practice* (pp. 377-411).  

**Session 5**

Module Three Discussion of Quiz and Readings

**Module Three – Looking Forward**

**Required Reading**


Guzman, B. L. (2003). Examining the role of cultural competency in program evaluation:


**Session 6**

**Module Four – Research, Practice & Professional Issues**

**Research**


**Practice**


(please pay careful attention to the *Evaluation Standards*)

**Professional Issues**


**Session 7 -- *Individual Meetings (1/2 hour in length)***

**Call information:**

To begin a conference call:
1. Participants dial:
   - toll free: 1-866-210-1669
   - international: 1-404-835-7069
2. When prompted, participants dial the access code followed by the # sign:
   - Participant: 8596772

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<th>Theory Session</th>
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