

**Syllabus
Parapsychology
The Psychology of Paranormal Beliefs**

Course Overview (QM Standard 1.2) By combining ideas from the social and natural sciences, as well as religion and philosophy, this course focuses on the importance of skepticism, scientific analysis, and valid logic when evaluating fringe science/paranormal claims concerning topics such as ESP, telepathy, clairvoyance, precognition, psychokinesis, PSI dreaming, afterlife channeling, near-death experiences, ghosts, UFOs, alien abductions, astrology, parapsysics, healing art sources and other paranormal topics. Topics will be discussed within the framework of several general goals relevant to the course, which include (a) reviewing a variety of events that are considered to be paranormal, (b) addressing the public’s interest in paranormal phenomena, (c) evaluating and dispelling the myths surrounding paranormal events, (d) encouraging scientific rigor when examining paranormal events, (e) reviewing contemporary research designs and methodology, and (f) reviewing the consequences of erroneous belief systems. The course will be delivered entirely online, including exams, assignments and communication.

Pre-requisites (QM Standard 1.6)

There are no prerequisites for this class.

Minimal Technical Requirements and Skills (QM Standards 1.5 and 1.7)

Access to the internet, Acrobat Reader, Word Processor compatible with Microsoft Word

Instructor Information (QM Standards 1.8 and 5.3)

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Define & evaluate criteria for paranormal phenomena,
2. Recognize and categorize common paranormal phenomena
3. Describe common explanations for the etiology of paranormal phenomena,
4. Outline effective research methods to investigate specific paranormal phenomena, and
5. Integrate material from a variety of scholarly sources, citing according to APA format, and presenting this material in a professional forum.

Alignment Map

Course Objective	Student Learning Objective	Course Materials	Method(s) of Assessment
Define and evaluate criteria for paranormal phenomena.	Identify and give examples of eight phenomena regarded as		[W1A3: Module 1 Check for Understanding and W8A4: Paranormal

	paranormal by the general public		Journal Final Project]
	List and critique the various facets of the conceptual relationship between parapsychology and science		[W1A1: Discussion and Module 1 Check for Understanding]
	Delineate between extra sensory perception and psychokinesis		[W1A3: Module 1 Check for Understanding, W8A4: Paranormal Journal Final Project]
	Identify and define the 3 major theories of parapsychology		[W1A3: Module 1 Check for Understanding]
	Discuss your own preconceptions and prejudices about parapsychological phenomena		[W1A1 Discussion and W1A2 Weekly Journal]
Recognize and categorize common paranormal phenomena	TBA		TBA
Describe common explanations for the etiology of paranormal phenomena,	TBA		TBA
Outline effective research methods to investigate specific paranormal phenomena	TBA		TBA

Integrate material from variety of scholarly sources, citing according to APA format, and presenting this material in a professional forum	TBA		TBA
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Grading Policy

There are eight modules consisting of a series of discussion assignments, application exercises, journal/critical thinking assignments and module checks for understanding with assigned points. For each assignment you will be given the rubric or grading criteria from which you will be evaluated. The grading scale follows:

A = 90 – 100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = below 60%

List of Course Assignments

Assignment/ Assessment	Points
W1A1 Discussion	
W1A2 Journal/Critical Thinking	
W1A3 Application Exercise	
W1A4 Module Check for Understanding	
W2A1 Discussion	
W2A2 Journal/Critical Thinking	
W2A3 Application Exercise	
W2A4 Module Check for Understanding	
W3A1 Discussion	
W3A2 Journal/Critical Thinking	
W3A3 Application Exercise	
W3A4 Module Check for Understanding	
W4A1 Discussion	
W4A2 Journal/Critical Thinking	
W4A3 Application Exercise	
W4A4 Module Check for Understanding	
W5A1 Discussion	
W5A2 Journal/Critical Thinking	
W5A3 Application Exercise	
W5A4 Module Check for Understanding	
W6A1 Discussion	
W6A2 Journal/Critical Thinking	
W6A3 Application Exercise	
W6A4 Module Check for Understanding	

W7A1 Discussion	
W7A2 Journal/Critical Thinking	
W7A3 Application Exercise	
W7A4 Module Check for Understanding	
W8A1 Discussion	
W8A2 Journal/Critical Thinking	
W8A3 Application Exercise /Final Writing project	
W8A4 Final Project	
Total	

Schedule

Week	Topic
1	Origins/ Research Mythologies
2	ESP: telepathy/clairvoyance/remote viewing/precognition/retro cognition
3	Psychokinesis
4	Psi Dreaming
5	Poltergeist Experiences
6	Near Death Experiences (NDE), Out of Body Experiences (OBE). Reincarnation
7	UFO's, Alien Abduction
8	Paraphysics, Healing Art Sciences

Virtual Office Hours

I am available by appointment only in my virtual office. Send an email to set up an appointment.

Personal Commitments

I will reply to phone messages and course mail messages within 24 hours;

I will read all discussion postings and will reply where appropriate within 3 days;

I will acknowledge my receipt of every course mail message immediately upon reading it. If I am unable to respond to the request or concern at the time of initial reply, I will give you an estimated time for my next reply;

If I am going to be away from the course space for more than a day or two, I will send a message to you indicating the length of my absence; and

I will regularly update information regarding due dates in the course announcements.