

WALDEN UNIVERSITY

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BS Psychology Newsletter

Spring 2018



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➤ Psychology News

Psychology news:

Join the Psychology Undergrad Student/Faculty Community:

Go to Explore Academics > Undergraduate Studies > "Psychology" under "Topics of Interest". You can post information to current discussions and start discussions with other students in our programs.

Participate in psychology research - check out Walden's [Participant Pool](#). You must first create an account.

Contact your Academic Program Leader

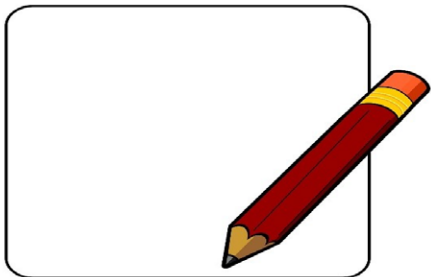
Questions? Concerns? Praises? Contact your Academic Program leader.



Patricia Costello, PhD
Program Director
[E-mail Me](#)

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Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is an important component of your work at Walden University. It is of paramount importance that you understand how to properly cite and paraphrase your work. Most instances of academic integrity violations are unintentional, but if there is an issue, you may receive

an *academic integrity inquiry* letter from your instructor. This is simply a form letter (i.e., all instructors must use the exact same language when they send the letter) that asks you to explain how you did your particular assignment. One of the main issues is not fully putting into your own words information that you've taken from your book or other resources. While not a serious violation of academic integrity, it is important that you always put what you are learning into your own words. If it is determined that you need further assistance with learning the ins and outs of academic integrity, oftentimes you will be assigned a 30-minute academic integrity tutorial to view and summarize. Please do not be offended or worried if this happens to you - we understand that you are still learning the basics of academic integrity as an undergraduate. We want you to be successful at Walden and beyond!

Please review these resources for more information:

- The university policy on academic integrity contained in the Student Conduct and Responsibilities section of the Walden University catalog is online at: <http://catalog.waldenu.edu>
- Visit the Walden University Writing Center Academic Integrity page, located at: <http://academicguides.waldenu.edu/ASCsuccess/integrity>. This site provides useful information defining what plagiarism is and providing strategies to avoid it, as well as helpful examples.
- When you have completed written assignments, first submit them to the "Draft" areas in Safe Assign and revise, if necessary, according to the results of the report.

Online and interactive resources are available here:

<http://academicguides.waldenu.edu/writingcenter/modules/plagiarism#s-lg-box-12217773>.

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Featured BS Psychology Student: Brenda Paradise

Where were you born and raised? Have you lived



anywhere interesting or exciting?

I was born in Pennsylvania but soon moved to a small town near Houston, Texas where I grew up. I began working as a private investigator and specialize in finding missing people and I've always been trained about "getting lost" in the woods but somehow it was always more of "finding myself." I recently moved to Alaska and can say that I love the outdoor experiences available here.

Do you have any hobbies? What do you like to do in your free time?

With both full-time work and school, I must prioritize time for myself. I travel with a fishing rod just in case I run across a good fishing hole and the fish are running. I also love hiking the trails, spending a week at the dry cabin, snow machining, and hunting.

Why did you return to school for your psychology degree? What was your career before returning to school?

I lost interest in my business degree and was laid off twice in a 3-month period. I knew I had to find a way to have financial stability and that I needed to secure a degree in order to be more desirable to potential employers. I was very interested in the courses that the Forensic Psychology degree offered at Walden University and I was in hopes they would hold my interest.

What has been your favorite class at Walden and why?

I have enjoyed most of my WU courses, especially the psychology classes, but my favorite class is Intercultural Communications. I have always known the importance in cultural diversity, but this course brought to light some new ideas that stressed how culture affects communication. Moving from a large metropolous city in Texas to a smaller, urban town in Alaska, I can see a benefit for this course.

What are your future plans, both for your degree and in general?

Just being enrolled as a student in the Forensic Psychology degree program at Walden University has assisted me in landing a position as a Juvenile Justice Officer with the State of Alaska. Being a corrections officer as well as the residents' treatment team and counselor has piqued my interest in becoming a licensed mental health clinician. My intent is to proceed with a master's degree in social services once my bachelor's degree is complete.

What advice would you give to other B.S. Psychology students?

To anyone already in the degree program or just considering enrollment I'd say: Just start and begin steady with courses that will keep your interest. Manage your time wisely and plan ahead. WU has a plethora of resources so know where to find them and bookmark them for efficient locating later. Locate a tutor and use them to help with any classes you may struggle with. **Network, network, network!** Meet other students who are taking the same courses and brainstorm their thoughts, ideas, and resources. The most important advice I can give is to maintain your own wellbeing. Find a hobby, learn yoga or meditation, take a long bath, go to the

spa, hunt, fish; maintaining your wellbeing is fundamental to your overall success!

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Tonya Inman

Faculty Feature: Dr. Tonya Inman

Background: Dr. Tonya Inman began working for Walden in 2008 as a contributing faculty member in the undergraduate psychology program. Since that time, she served as a Subject Matter Expert, creating PSYC 4112, Forensic Assessment and redesigning PSYC 4111 and 4112 into a new course on Forensic Interviewing and Evaluation. Dr. Inman was previously research faculty and the Assistant Director for the Center for Forensic Psychology at the University of Houston as well as a forensic evaluator in private

practice. Dr. Inman earned her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology with a focus on the application of psychology to the legal system. She has taught at the undergraduate and doctoral level for over 18 years and has been teaching online classes since 2005.

Other Related Work: Dr. Inman's research interests relate to juror decision-making, custody evaluations, high-conflict divorce, juvenile justice, forensic evaluation, and psychological autopsies. Her previous work in private practice primarily focused on forensic evaluations and consultation in civil litigation (e.g., sexual harassment, product liability, personal injury, wrongful death) and juvenile justice.

Dr. Inman has taught various courses for Walden in the Undergrad Psych program, but regularly teaches PSYC 2009 and PSYC 4112. Originally from San Francisco, California, she transplanted to Houston, Texas with her husband for 17 years, but recently moved back to California (Los Angeles area) with her husband and three children. Dr. Inman's hobbies include reading, beachcombing, hiking, and spending time with her family outdoors.

Advice: Dr. Inman encourages students to communicate with their instructors regularly. It is easy to get "disconnected" in online classes, but with good communication students can work with faculty to address any concerns or questions and manage any challenges that life invariably throws our way during a course. Dr. Inman also encourages students to ask questions early and often during the course. She recommends that students review all assignments and the rubrics early in the learning week to allow time for clarification and planning for completion of assignments. Lastly, Dr. Inman reminds students to take advantage of the many resources available to students at Walden including their instructors. Students often feel that they are bothering faculty members with questions, but Dr. Inman believes most faculty would agree that they love hearing from students who have questions about the course material and the field.

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A pep talk from your fellow student, Mr. N. Kurajmint

(Please note: He's a *fictional* worry wort!)

Hi there! N. Kurajmint here, writing to my fellow Walden classmates! I still can't believe I successfully enrolled, because this is pretty much the first thing in my life that has ever gone right. But there is still plenty of time an opportunity for things to go south on me! As soon as I officially became a Psychology major, the panic set in. I haven't been in school for years, and I don't have any idea how all this stuff is supposed to work. Which classes do I take? How do I enroll? What's going to happen when the power grid goes down or the world economy crashes? I started breathing easier when I found out that I had been assigned a personal advisor that can help me with all my questions. But I am sure you are thinking the same thing I'm thinking: what happens when my advisor is bitten by a rabid animal or gets an exotic disease from imported candies? Even the best advisor must sleep sometimes, and for some reason I never have problems during normal business hours. **But guess what?** Walden already thought of that. They have an entire Student Support department available 24/7 by live chat, telephone, or email. See? They know how likely it is that the grid will go down at some point. They know that craziness and chaos will find us. And they are ready to help! But it's not one person, or two, or ten. It's an army of people standing by when we need them. Tutors, counselors, writing specialists, research specialists, librarians, trouble-shooters, tech specialists, and even people who can help you figure out how Blackboard works. And when the chronic illness with my name on it finds me, there's even a Disability Services team that can help me navigate that.

I am pretty sure something will go wrong soon, but we should try to enjoy a few moments of success before disaster strikes, right? All this global warming stuff will probably cause my home to be underwater any day now, and there is no way that my Internet service will hold up under constant hacker attacks. Someone is probably watching me on my webcam right now, so they can be my witnesses when the kids set my house on fire. I have been preparing for my first class, because I am certain that it will be way too hard, and I will have no idea what to do, and I will probably get locked out of my account and get signed up to take the wrong class, which won't matter much once my computer is shut down by the hackers and my house fire gets quenched by a tidal wave.

But what I want to point out is that Walden is a school that gets me. See, most places act like everything is fine and don't think about all the things that could go wrong. Living in a dream world where everything works as it is supposed to and nothing goes wrong just doesn't work for me. Optimism is just setting yourself up for disappointment, right? I like to think about things that could go wrong so I can avoid bad surprises. I mean, going to Disneyland and expecting to have fun is a setup! But if you expect massive crowds, lost kids, terrible weather, cholera outbreaks, and a few rampaging animals, then you can wrap your kids in bubble wrap, hunker



down in the hotel room, and avoid bad experiences!

So anyway, I think we should all expect the worst during our time here at Walden. I have already identified every public library within 30 miles because if the hackers don't find me, one of the kids will spill honey on my keyboard or the dogs will chew through the cords. It's going to happen eventually, so why not be ready? My internet goes down all the time, so I have a list of places with free WIFI. You can't have too many backup plans! Speaking of which, have you noticed that there is Student Support information right there on your home page when you log in to your classes? There is that army of helpers again, right at our fingertips! No other organization I have ever seen has backup plans for their backup plans, but Walden has so many layers of safety nets that I am starting to think things might go well, at least until the zombie apocalypse breaks out. I will see you at graduation next year, assuming Florida is not underwater by that time, and that neither apes nor machines rise up to take over the country. Excuse me, I have some contingency plans to work on!

Yours,

Mr. N. Kurajmint

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Accelerate into Masters

AIM option for BS Psychology students

Do you plan to enroll in a master's program after you complete your Bachelor's degree? Then you may be interested in this fantastic program (AIM- Accelerate Into Masters) that will save you time and money. Eligible students may complete select Master-level courses while in the last year or so of their academic program. Courses count as electives in your BS program as well as toward your chosen graduate degree (if a grade of B or better is earned). Criteria for eligibility are outlined in Walden Student Catalog. AIM options for you include: MS Psychology, MS in Forensic Psychology, MS in IO Psychology, and the MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. There are also options outside of psychology and counseling - you do not have to take psychology or counseling courses only! More information about the various AIM options [can be found in the catalog](#) (search for "AIM").

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