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# ACADEMIC STRESS LEVEL AND COPING STRATEGIES AMONGST FRESHMAN AND SENIORS OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

A thesis Presented to The Institute Of Professional Psychology, Bahria University, Karachi Campus

> In Partial Fulfillment Of the Requirements for the Degree Bachelor of Science (BS) Psychology

### By

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### INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY BAHRIA UNIVERSITY, KARACHI CAMPUS

#### APPROVAL SHEET

### SUBMISSION FOR RESEARCH DEGREE THESIS

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**Discipline:** Psychology

Faculty/Department: Institute of Professional Psychology

I hereby certify that the above mentioned group member's work including the thesis has been completed to my satisfaction and that the thesis in a format of an editorial standard recognized by the faculty/department as appropriate for examination.

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#### ABSTRACT

The objective of the study is to find out difference between the academic stress levels and coping strategies amongst the freshman and senior students of university level. Academic stress amongst the students has been long researched upon, and researchers have found out numerous different stressors. The study further go in depth that which group i.e. the freshman or the seniors experience more of the stress and how they cope it up respectively. The sample of the research was comprised of 200 under graduate students, i.e. 100 freshman and 100 seniors from universities of Karachi. The data was collected through academic stress questionnaire (Dr. Gregory Frazer, Pittsburgh) and brief cope scale, Carver (1997) and was further on statistically tested by frequency descriptive through SPSS. The result showed that there was a highly significant correlation between academic stress and maladaptive coping strategies (r = .315,  $p \le .01$ ). The t-test statistics showed academic stress level (t = 3.90,  $p \le .001$ ) and use of maladaptive coping strategies (t = 2.43,  $p \le .05$ ) was higher in senior students as compared to junior student.

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