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PSYX 383.01: Health Psychology

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Psychology 383 – Health Psychology

Spring 2018, Section 1

Course Location and Time

NS 307

Tuesday & Thursday 11:00-12:20 PM

Instructor Information

Instructor: Duncan G. Campbell, Ph.D.

Email: duncan.campbell@umontana.edu

Office: Skaggs Bldg., Room 312

Office hours:

Phone: 406.243.4731

Required Text

Straub, R.O. (2017). *Health Psychology, 5th Edition*. New York, NY: Worth Publishers.

Additional required readings will be posted to Moodle.

Course Objectives

This course provides an introduction to health psychology, a rapidly expanding subfield of psychology. Over the course of the semester, we will engage a variety of topics. First, you will gain an appreciation of the field's biopsychosocial focus in general, as we will begin with an overview and discussion of health psychology's range of settings and applications. Next, you will gain knowledge about human physiology, basic bodily systems, and contemporary theories that account for the complex relationships between human behavior, health, and illness. Toward the middle of the semester, we will employ a biopsychosocial perspective to examine specific health demoting and promoting behaviors, including diet, exercise, sleep, smoking and substance abuse. In doing so, you will learn about modifiable and non-modifiable factors that confer risk for health problems and about the correlates/predictors of health-related behavior. Finally, you will gain knowledge of some of the most promising and commonly-used interventions employed by health psychologists, and you will learn about the contributions of psychological principles and psychological care for cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS, and chronic pain. Ultimately, this course aims to pique your interest in further study in the field of health psychology.

Learning Outcomes

Over the course of the semester, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of commonly used research methodologies in health psychology and epidemiology.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the biopsychosocial view of health and will competently apply this conception to common chronic illness conditions.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the roles of psychological factors in health/illness promotion and will understand the roles of psychologists in the promotion of health.

Course Requirements and Policies

1. Exams

Four exams will assess your understanding of the course material. The tentative dates of the first three exams are listed on the attached course schedule. Please note that the dates of the first three exams might change depending on the pace of the class. The date and time of the final examination is determined by the University Registrar's office. ***Neither the date nor the time (Friday, May 11, 8:00-10:00AM) of the final examination will change.*** Arrange your schedules accordingly.

Each exam is worth 50 points and includes short answer and multiple choice questions. Exams will assess your understanding of the material presented in the lectures and the assigned readings. Please note that the exams **will** assess knowledge of material from the assigned readings that is **not** discussed in class and material from lecture that **will not** find in the text. The final exam is cumulative and covers the material discussed over the entire semester.

Make-up exams

Without exception, make-up exams will be granted only if an absence is excused. There are three situations for which I will consider a make-up exam: 1) participation in a university-sanctioned athletic event; 2) a prolonged or severe illness; and 3) a death or serious illness in the family that requires the student to miss class. In fairness to all students, excuses must be documented by an appropriate person or agency. Make-up exams will be administered *after* the regularly scheduled exam and are likely to be a different format (e.g., essay questions). Make-up exams must be completed as soon as possible following your return. It is likely that I will not be available for questions before, during, or after the make-up exam. If you are aware of a scheduling problem that conflicts with the exam schedule, bring it to my attention immediately.

2. Review paper:

You will complete and submit a review paper, which is due on or before Thursday, April 19th (11:00a). This assignment will demonstrate the contributions of research to our understanding of Health Psychology and will give you an opportunity to engage in analytical thinking. Full details of this assignment will be communicated to you shortly after the start of the semester.

Briefly, I will place four relevant and contemporary journal articles from the health psychology scientific literature on electronic reserve. Each article will present results of original research in a different area of Health Psychology. You will choose one of the articles to summarize and critique. You will include a brief summary of the authors' research question and a description of their methodology, results and conclusions. In addition, you will write provide your personal critique of the article, including your thoughts about the work's contributions, strengths, and weaknesses. The review paper will be limited to five double-spaced, typed pages of written text (excluding a title page, references, or any supplemental material). The work must conform to APA formatting standards. The paper is 'worth' 40 points. I will accept late submissions only in one of the three situations applicable to missed exams.

3. Expectations

You are expected to read assignments prior to class meetings. Your classmates and I will appreciate your discretion with respect to cell phone conversations, text messaging, and personal conversations. Grade sheets, interesting supplemental articles, and other course

materials will be posted to Moodle. Finally, I'm happy to correspond with students via email. Please note, however, that university policy prohibits correspondence using a non-university email account. *Please send all email correspondence from your University of Montana email account.*

Academic integrity

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. Specifically, cheating will result in a "0" for the assignment in question and may result in a failing course grade and dismissal from the university. Please enlist my help if you are having difficulty with course content. Plagiarism is an example of academic dishonesty and will be handled accordingly. If you have questions about what might constitute plagiarism, please let me know. Finally, all students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).

4. Disability modifications

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Disability Services for Students](#). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or call 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

5. Drop dates

You may drop the course (without a 'W' on your transcript) or change your grading option via CyberBear through the 15th instructional day (Feb 9, 2018 @ 5pm). You may drop the course or change grading options via Drop form through April 2nd, the 45th instructional day (Fee applies; instructor & advisor signatures required; a "W" will appear on transcript for drops). Beyond the 45th day of instruction, dropping courses and/or changing grading options require a Petition to Change Registration form (Fee applies; instructor, advisor and Dean of College signatures required; a "WP" or "WF" will appear on transcript for drops). ***After April 2nd, I will not sign a Petition to Change Registration unless the student provides suitable documentation of justification (e.g., prolonged illness, family emergencies, etc.).*** Additionally, 'incompletes' will be assigned only in the event of documented urgent circumstances, and only if students have completed at least 75% of the course requirements. It is your responsibility to contact the [Registrar's Office](#) to confirm details and these dates.

6. Grading: Course grading is based on a total of 200 points. Points are awarded as follows:

Exam 1	40 points
Exam 2	40 points
Exam 3	40 points
Exam 4	40 points
Review paper	40 points
TOTAL	200 points

There will be no grade curves in this course. Final grades will be based on the following scale:

187-200 Points = A
180-186 Points = A-
173-179 Points = B+
167-172 Points = B
160-166 Points = B-
153-159 Points = C+
140-152 Points = C
120-139 Points = D
<120 Points = F

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Topics	Required Reading
Tuesday, January 23	Course overview and introduction	Syllabus
Thursday, January 25	Foundations of Health Psychology	Chapter 1 Engel, 1977
Tuesday, January 30	Research Methodology	Chapter 2
Thursday, February 1	Biological Foundations and Physiological Systems	Chapter 3
Tuesday, February 6	Biological Foundations and Physiological Systems	Chapter 3
Thursday, February 8	Stress	Chapter 4
Tuesday, February 13	Stress	Chapter 4
Thursday, February 15	Coping	Chapter 5
Tuesday, February 20	<i>Interventions: Stress Management (CBT and Relaxation)</i>	Chapter 5 TBA
Thursday, February 22	Exam 1	Chapters 1-5
Tuesday, February 27	Theories of Health Behavior Change	Chapter 6 Baban & Craciun, 2007
Thursday, March 1	Primary Prevention, Positive Psychology and Health	Chapter 6
Tuesday, March 6	Health maintenance: Exercise; injury prevention	Chapter 7
Thursday, March 8	Sleep	Chapter 7
Tuesday, March 13	Nutrition, Diet and Health	Chapter 8
Thursday, March 15	Substance Abuse	Chapter 9
Tuesday, March 20	Exam 2	Chapters 6-9
Thursday, March 22	<i>Interventions: Motivational Interviewing</i>	Resnicow et al., 2004
Tuesday, March 27	<i>Motivational Interviewing</i>	Resnicow et al., 2004
Thursday, March 29	Chronic illness: Heart disease and hypertension	Chapter 10
Tuesday, April 3	Chronic illness: Diabetes	Chapter 10
Thursday, April 5	Cancer & Psycho-oncology	Chapter 11
Tuesday, April 10	Cancer & Psycho-oncology	Chapter 11 Speigel et al., 2007
Thursday, April 12	Exam 3	Chapters 10-11
Tuesday, April 17	Treatment seeking, treatment engagement, stigma	Chapter 13 TBA
Thursday, April 19*** REVIEW PAPER DUE	Health care as a human encounter	Chapter 13 TBA
Tuesday, April 24	Health Psychology and models of integrated health care	Chapter 13 TBA
Thursday, April 26	Pain	Chapter 14
Tuesday, May 1	Pain	Chapter 14
Thursday, May 3	Summation/Evaluation	
Friday, May 11	FINAL EXAM: 8:00-10:00	Chapters 1-14

Supplemental Readings:

Baban, A. & Craciun, C. (2007). Changing health-risk behaviors: A review of theory and evidence-based interventions in health psychology. *Journal of Cognitive and Behavioral Psychotherapies*, 7, 45-67.

Engel, G.L. (1977). The need for a new medical model: A challenge for biomedicine. *Science*, 196, 129-136.

Resnicow, K., Baskin, M.L., Rahoep, S.S., Periasamy, S., & Rollnick, S. (2004). Motivational interviewing in health promotion and behavioral medicine. In W.M. Cox & E. Klinger (Eds). *Handbook of Motivational Counseling: Concepts, Approaches and Assessment*. (pp. 457-476). New York: John Wiley & Sons.

Spiegel, D. et al. (2007). Effects of supportive-expressive group therapy on survival of patients with metastatic breast cancer. *Cancer*, 110, 1130-1138.

TBA