

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2014
Syllabus

PSYC 2580D-090 3hr			
Department of:	Psychology	Division of:	Liberal Arts and Life Science
Instructors Name:	Patrick A. Ramirez PhD		
Office Location:	Adjunct Psychology Room 302 Building 2		
Office Phone:	469-278-6726		
Email Address:	patrick.ramirez@untdallas.edu		
Office Hours:	Wednesday 5:50pm -6:50pm <i>or by appointment</i>		
Classroom Location:	Building 2 Room 303		
Course Catalog Description:	Examines psychological, physiological, social and behavioral factors as they influence and are influenced by physical health. Health psychology is concerned with the acquisition and maintenance of health through behavior change strategies, the prevention and/or treatment of illnesses, the role of psychosocial and stress factors in the development of physical illness, and the formulation of health care policy. Satisfies the Wellness requirement of the University Core Curriculum.		
Prerequisites:	N/A		
Co-requisites:	N/A		
Required Text:			
Recommended Text and references:	Taylor, S. E. (2011). <i>Health Psychology</i> 8 th edition, McGraw-Hill, New York ISBN: 0078035198		
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: Phone: (972) 780-3625 Web: http://www.untdallas.edu/our-campus/library UNT Dallas Bookstore: Phone: (972) 780-3652 e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com		
Course Goals or Overview:			
	The goal of this course is to introduce major themes that characterize developmental research. From course lecture material as well as the textbook we will have a review of the lifespan research.		

Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course the student will:	
1	Be able to understand and apply each component of health psychology.
2	Demonstrate the ability to apply major developmental theories related to health psychology.
3	Define major concepts and theories of health psychology.
4	Identify how the theories and research learned pertain to real world applications in health care.
Course Outline:	
8/25-8/27	Course Overview & Chapter 1: What Is Health Psychology?
9/1	Chapter 2: Systems of the Body
9/8-9/10	Chapter 2: Systems of the Body and Chapter 3: Health Behaviors
	Test 1 (Chapters 1-3)
9/15-9/17	Chapter 4: Specific Health-Related Behaviors
9/22-9/24	Chapter 5: Health-Compromising Behaviors: Alcoholism and Smoking
9/29-10/1	Chapter 6: Stress
10/6-10/8	Chapter 7: Moderators of the Stress Experience
	Test 2 (Chapters 4-7)
10/13-10/15	Chapter 8: Using Health Services
10/20-10/22	Chapter 9: Patient-Provider Relations
10/27-10/29	Chapter 10: The Management of Pain and Discomfort
11/3-11/5	Chapter 11: Management of Chronic Illness
	Test 3 (Chapters 8-11)
11/10-11/12	Chapter 12: Psychological Issues in Advancing and Terminal Illness
11/17-11/19	Chapter 13: Heart Disease, Hypertension, Stroke, and Type II Diabetes
11/24-11/26	Chapter 14: Psychoneuroimmunology and Immune-Related Disorders and Chapter 15: Health Psychology: Challenges for the Future
12/1-12/3	DEAD WEEK (cover any remaining material needed)
	Final Exam

Course Evaluation Methods:

Evaluation of the student will be based on performance on examinations and other work specified by the instructor.

Major Test #1	100 points	358 - 400+	A
Major Test #2	100 points	318 – 357	B
Major Test #3	100 points	278– 317	C
Participation	50 points	238 – 277	D
Final Exam	100 points	276 and below	F
Class Presentations	50 points		

TOTAL POSSIBLE 500 POINTS - GRADES COMPUTED ON 400 TOTAL POINTS

To determine final grade **drop the lowest major test grade** and add all the other points earned in the course. Final total points will be determined for the course according to the grade scale above.

The final exam schedule is set by Administration. The final exam is comprehensive.

Assignment Policy:

Any writing assignment must be typed in size 12 font.

Exam Policy: There are 4 exams equally weighted consisting of multiple choice, free recall, and short answer essays. The lowest test grade will be automatically dropped. If you have an unexcused absence on a test day that test will be recorded as a 0 and dropped. No make-up exams will be offered expect for extenuating circumstances as stated in the student handbook.

NOTE: Students who have absences during exams authorized by the University must contact the instructor one week after the missed test with documentation (i.e., doctors note, note from military office, memorial of deceased) and arrange to take the missed exam. Failure to do so will result in the exam being recorded as a 0. If the student is aware that they will be missing the exam in advance should contact Dr. Ramirez to setup an alternative testing time.

Presentation Assignment:

Students will be broken into Teams and are to give a presentation on an article as it is assigned in class that is to be 15 minutes in length for the entire group with an additional 5 minutes for classroom discussion. Students will select the topic matter that is to be covered and will be responsible for reading and presenting the subject matter at the best of their abilities.

Criteria for grading: Each student is expected to present a portion of the material individually and will be assessed on 1) Use of PowerPoint slides, 2) Did the student adequately summarize the material 3.) Ability to communicate the main ideas and relate to class lecture 4) appropriate use of examples related to subject matter.

University Policies and Procedures:

The University of North Texas Dallas is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 – The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call 972-780-3632.

The Department of Teacher Education is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the department will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course.

If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Student Life and to inform me of your need for an accommodation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNTD Policy 7.004, Disability Accommodations for Students, and by visiting Student Life, building 2, Suite 200. 972-780-3632, studentlife@unt.edu.

For more information visit: <http://www.untdallas.edu/student-life/dia>

Student evaluation of teaching effectiveness policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of conduct and Academic Dishonesty policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html for complete provisions of this code.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities as the instructor deems appropriate.