

PSYC*3110, Course Outline: Winter 2017

General Information

Course Title: Topics in Health Psychology

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide you with an overview of the field of health psychology. The content matter of the course is intentionally broad and will cover such topics as social and behavioural dimensions of illness; social inequalities in health; psychosocial dimensions of smoking, alcohol, and obesity; methodology in health psychology; experience of health and illness; and several others. At the end of the course you should be able to distinguish between the different major approaches to health psychology, have knowledge of some of the main debates and areas of practice in the field, and be able to formulate an argument in at least one of the topic areas covered.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department (or campus): Psychology

Semester Offering: Winter 2017

Class Schedule and Location: Tuesday, Thursday, 8:30-9:50, ROZH 102

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Kieran O'Doherty

Instructor Email: Kieran.odoherty@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: MACK 3014, Tuesday & Thursday, 1-2pm

GTA Information

GTA Name: Amanda Jenkins

GTA Email: ajenki02@uoguelph.ca

GTA office location and office hours: by appointment

GTA Name: Kristie Serota

GTA Email: kserota@mail.uoguelph.ca

GTA office location and office hours: by appointment

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course successful students will:

- 1) Be familiar with key debates in the field of health psychology
- 2) Be able to formulate an argument in at least one of the topic areas covered.
- 3) Be able to critically engage with academic literature in the field of health psychology
- 4) Be able to distinguish between the different major approaches to health psychology
- 5) Be able to link academic knowledge in health psychology with practice for improved health

Lecture Content:

- What is health psychology?
- Social inequality and health
- Culture and health belief systems
- Qualitative methods in health psychology
- Sexual health
- Food and eating
- Alcohol and drinking
- Lay representations of illness
- Health communication
- Screening and immunization
- Genetic risk
- Risk communication
- Medicine taking
- Community approaches to health
- Introduction to bioethics
- Health research participation
- Public deliberation in health policy
- Advances in biotechnology

Labs: N/A

Seminars: N/A

Course Assignments and Tests:

[Course Outline Guidelines: Checklist](#)

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Discussion notes on journal articles	See details below	10%	3
Class participation activities	See details below	10%	1,3,5
mid-term exam	14 Feb., 2017	20%	1,4,5
Final exam	19 Apr., 2017	30%	1,4,5
Essay	21 Mar., 2017	30%	2,3

Additional Notes (if required):

For each journal article for which you submit discussion notes you earn 1%, up to a cumulative maximum of 10% (for discussion notes on 10 articles). There will be at least 12 required journal articles, so you can afford to miss two discussion notes and still get the full 10% for this grade component. Discussion notes need to be submitted electronically via CourseLink before the lecture in which the article is discussed.

There will be in-class activities throughout the course, such as group discussions, partner work, or working out problems presented in class. You will be required to submit work on these activities at the end of each class in which the activity took place. For each activity in which you participate successfully, you receive 2%, up to a maximum of 10%. There will be at least 7 in-class activities throughout the course, so that you can afford to miss two class activities and still get the full 10% for this grade component.

Final examination date and time:

19 April, 7pm

Final exam weighting: 30%

[Examination Regulations](#)

Course Resources

Required Texts:

David F. Marks, Michael Murray, Brian Evans & Emea Vida Estacio (2015) *Health Psychology. Theory, Research and Practice* (4th Ed.) Sage Publications. (available on library reserve)

Recommended Texts: N/A

Lab Manual: N/A

Other Resources:

Links to journal articles will be provided via CourseLink.

Course Policies

Grading Policies

Essay needs to be submitted by 4:30pm on March 21. Both hard copy and electronic copies need to be submitted. Electronic submission is via CourseLink. The hard copy may be dropped off during class or at Dr. O'Doherty's office.

Penalties:

- o Marks will be subtracted for essays significantly outside of the word length margins (2500-3000 words)
- o Marks will be subtracted for late essays at a rate of 10% per day to a maximum of 30%. Any essay that is more than 3 days late automatically receives 0%.

[Undergraduate Grading Procedures](#)
[Graduate Grade interpretation](#)

Course Policy on Group Work: N/A

Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

University Policies

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration:

[Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

[Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email csdexams@uoguelph.ca or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#) .

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is March 10. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#).
[Current Undergraduate Calendar](#)

Additional Course Information

Course instructors are allowed to use software to help in detecting plagiarism or unauthorized copying of student assignments. Plagiarism is one of the most common types of academic

misconduct on our campus. Plagiarism involves students using the work, ideas and/or the exact wording of other people or sources without giving proper credit to others for the work, ideas and/or words in their papers. Students can unintentionally commit misconduct because they do not know how to reference outside sources properly or because they don't check their work carefully enough before handing it in. As the 2014/15 Undergraduate Calendar states: "Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it" (p. 31).