

HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE at  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
LONDON CANADA  
Department of Psychology  
Intersession 2023

Psychology 2330A  
Intro to Health Psychology

**Important Note: it is each student's responsibility to be familiar with the guidelines outlined in this syllabus. Failure to do so could result in a significant reduction in your grade.**

## 1.0 COURSE INFORMATION

**Course:** Psych 2330A (550) – Introduction to Health Psychology

**Instructor:** Glen Gorman, Ph.D.

**Office:** V105

**Office hours:** TBD

**Email:** [ggorman3@uwo.ca](mailto:ggorman3@uwo.ca)

**Lecture Time and Location:** Synchronous Online via Zoom, Thursday 1:30 – 4:30 pm

**Course Webpage:** Access via <http://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

**Contacting the Course Instructor:** The best way to contact me is through email. Please email me from your UWO account, otherwise a response is not guaranteed (as your email may go into my spam box). Your email must also include **Psych 2330** in the subject line in order for me to determine the class to which you are referring. I will try my best to respond to emails within two working days. Please check this syllabus or the course webpage before writing to see if the information you require is already posted.

**Course Webpage and UWO Email:** OWL will be a key communication tool for this course. OWL will be used to distribute the syllabus, class announcements, instructions for the group project, grades and other important course material. It also provides a place for you to ask questions and discuss issues related to the course. As well, I will email if I need to get in touch with you. As such, you should use OWL and your UWO email regularly (at least once a day) to check for course updates and messages. It is your responsibility to check OWL and your UWO email so that you do not miss any messages or announcements that may be posted.

*Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-433-3491 ext 4321 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.*

## 2.0 CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course will provide students with a broad overview of the relatively new and exciting field of Health Psychology. We will examine research and theory that explores the bi-directional relationships of cognition and behaviour with physical health and illness. Topics include but are not limited to: the effects of stress on health, psychological predictors of health-related behavior (e.g., substance use, exercise), and coping with serious illness. We will also explore how research in this field is applied to support both prevention and intervention programming.

**Antirequisite:** Psychology 2036A/B and 3330F/G

**Prerequisite(s):** At least 60% in 1000-level Psychology course.

**Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in the course, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the**

event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

### 3.0 COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students should:

- Possess a detailed understanding of the current literature in Health Psychology;
- Be able to apply and think critically about relevant research and theory;
- Understand the role of health psychologists in research and practice.

### 4.0 TEXTBOOK AND COURSE MATERIALS

Poole, G., Matheson, D. H., & Cox, D. N. (2015). *The Psychology of Health and Health Care: A Canadian Perspective*, Fifth Edition: Pearson.

### 5.0 METHODS OF EVALUATION

<b>Participation</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Weekly Quizzes</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Presentation</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Each method of evaluation will have a more detailed description and grading rubric posted on OWL.

#### 1. Quizzes x 4 (20%)

- Quizzes will consist of 20 multiple choice questions taken from the content from that week. They will be due by 6 pm each Friday. Students will have 20 minutes to complete each. These will be completed asynchronously through OWL's Test and Quizzes.

#### 2. Final (30%)

- The final exam will be essay based and will occur during the week of Jun 2. More details about the final exam will be discussed in our synchronous session.

#### 3. Presentations (25%)

- Starting Thursday June 1, in the online synchronous session, students will present research on a topic related to health psychology in groups of three. More information will be posted on OWL.

#### 4. Participation (25%)

- Students are expected to attend the weekly Thursday synchronous sessions.
- During the synchronous sessions, students will be asked to submit an evaluation of their peer's presentations for all of the presentations that week
- You may then choose one (1) of the presentation and write a 1 paragraph thought statement about that presentation.
- Finally, students will be asked to post 1 thought provoking question about each presentation in OWL Forums following the presentation.
- Each submission will count towards the participation grade and all three components will combine to form the final participation grade.

## 5.1 Submission of Work

Unless otherwise specified, upon completion, all assigned project components are to be submitted electronically *prior to 11:55 pm* on their due dates (see Tentative Lecture and Group Project Schedule). Project components submitted after 11:55 pm will be considered late. Because technical issues may occur, it is strongly recommended that you submit your work well in advance of the deadline to avoid any possible issues. **Technical difficulties will not be an acceptable excuse for late submissions.** If issues are encountered, it is student's responsibility to notify Huron ITS help desk (<https://huronatwestern.ca/information-technology/>) for assistance well before the deadline. Also, notify the instructor outlining the issue and the steps being taken to resolve it. All written work must be submitted via the course webpage for a plagiarism check. **All students are responsible for double checking that assignment submissions went through on Owl. Any late, incorrect or incomplete submissions will be susceptible to penalties.**

## 5.2 Policies for Late Submissions

Because of the nature of the assignment of this course, no late submissions will be accepted.

Questions about grades can be submitted to Dr. Gorman **in writing** anytime between 24 hours and 1 week after the assignment or exam grade is returned.

## 6.0 TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Please note that changes to the lecture schedule will be announced in class and on the course website.

Week	Lecture topic	Presentation	Readings
1. May 16, 18	Course Introduction Introduction, History & Theory	Group Work	Syllabus Ch. 1
2. May 23, 25	Stress & Coping	Group Work	Ch. 2
3. May 30, Jun 1	Psychological States and Immune System Functioning Health and Physical Activity	Jun 1 – Group 1, 2 & 3	Ch. 3, 5
4. Jun 6, 8	Substance Use & Other Health Compromising Behaviours Pain	Jun 15 – Group 4, 5, 6	Ch.6, 8
5. Jun 13, 15	Health Communication Health Promotion	Jun 22 – Group 7 & 8, 9	Ch. 4, 11
6. Jun 20, 22	<b>Final Exam</b>		

## 7.0 EXPECTATIONS

Each week, students are expected to:

- Complete the assigned weekly readings.
- Attend scheduled Thursday synchronous online zoom sessions
- View all weekly lecture content.
- Actively participate in all activities and assignments, particularly group work.
- Join meetings on time to minimize distractions for others.
- Follow team member expectations.
- Complete the Midterm and Final Exam.

## 8.0 POLICY ON ATTENDANCE

Attendance is critical to your success in this course.

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class periods in any course will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.

## 9.0 POLICY REGARDING MAKE-UP TESTS\*

No make-up tests will be offered unless, on medical, religious, or compassionate grounds, you are unable to write a test by the scheduled due date, in which case accommodations may be offered. Please follow the instructions presented here. You should understand that academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. You must demonstrate to the instructor and/or the academic counselor that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds that can be documented before academic accommodation will be considered. Students who require accommodation for a missed Midterm Test should follow the Senate guidelines for accommodation for a missed test [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic\\_Consideration\\_for\\_absences.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf). If accommodation is recommended, the accommodation will be at the discretion of the course coordinator in consultation with the other course instructors.

## 10.0 POLICY ON GRADING STANDARDS

Students at Huron University College should consider a C grade (60%-69%) to be evidence of satisfactory performance in Introductory Psychology. Grades in the B (70-79%) range will only be awarded for performance that is demonstrably superior to this standard. Grades in the A (80%-90%) or A+ (90-100%) range will be rare and reserved for academic performance that is truly exceptional. Students should anticipate that the level of performance that resulted in A or A+ grades in high school will not achieve similar grades at the university level.

### Course Grade Expectations

Please note the Psychology Department policy on Grading Standards:

1000-level course: C grade (60%-69%) as evidence of satisfactory performance in Introductory Psychology.

2100-level course: B– grade (70%-74%) to be evidence of satisfactory performance in a 2100-level Psychology course.

3000-level course: B grade (75%-79%) to be evidence of satisfactory performance in 3000-level Psychology course.

4000-level course: A– grade (80-85%) to be evidence of satisfactory performance in 4000-level Psychology course.

## 11.0 MAINTAINING COURSE INTEGRITY

The instructor takes academic integrity very seriously. As such, during the course several strategies will be employed to limit academic dishonesty, such as using Turnitin for submitted assignments. Other techniques may also be employed as they become available and/or necessary. For example, no assignments will be accepted if submitted via methods known to assist in cheating (e.g., WeChat). Please note, that any acts of academic dishonesty will be taken very seriously. As a student, if you become aware of any instances of academic dishonesty, you are strongly encouraged to discuss these with the instructor.

### OTHER ISSUES

#### SHORT ABSENCES

If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, please check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure that you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate; professors can't give personalized lectures for students who miss class. (If you miss class for a legitimate reason – e.g., a death in the family, illness – Dr. Gorman would of course be pleased to answer questions during office hours after you have borrowed and reviewed lecture notes from a classmate.) Connect with your group members as soon as you can to explain what happened and find out what you missed and what your responsibilities are.

#### EXTENDED ABSENCES

If you are absent for more than approximately two weeks, or if you get too far behind to catch up, you may need to consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. The Academic Counsellors can help you to consider the alternatives. At your request, they can also keep your instructors informed of your difficulties.

#### DOCUMENTATION

**In case of personal illness:** As indicated in the university's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness, if documentation is required for either medical or non-medical academic accommodation, then your documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's Office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean's Office that will determine if academic accommodation is warranted.

The Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and Student Medical Certificate form are available online at <<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>>.

**In case of serious illness of a family member:** Obtain a medical certificate from the family member's physician.

**In case of a death:** Obtain a copy of the newspaper notice, death certificate or documentation provided by the funeral director.

**For other extenuating circumstances:** If you are not sure what documentation to provide, please ask your instructor or an Academic Counsellor.

**Note.** Forged notes and certificates will be dealt with as a scholastic offense (see below) and you will be subject to academic sanctions.

#### PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS\*

The grounds for an appeal may be one or more of: medical or compassionate circumstances, extenuating circumstances beyond the appellant's control, bias, inaccuracy, or unfairness. All grounds must be

supported by a clear and detailed explanation of the reasons for the appeal together with all supporting documentation.

In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor as soon as possible after a mark is issued (informal consultation). In the event that the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, or if the instructor is unavailable to the student or fails to act, a written appeal must be made to the Department Chair. The deadlines for appeals to the Department Chair are January 31 for Fall Semester marks and June 30 for Winter Semester marks. If the response of the Department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, he/she may then appeal to the Dean of the Faculty in which the course or program was taken (with submission of written request). Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

\* Portions of these sections were taken from the following sources: Academic Calendar; Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations; UWO Department of Psychology Procedures for Appealing Academic Evaluations; UWO Department of History Document of Plagiarism.

Note: The policy of the University is that, when a course instructor wishes to change the evaluation procedure, as outlined in the syllabus at the beginning of the semester, prior approval must be obtained from the Dean of the faculty concerned.