

Fall 2018 Advanced Topics/400 Level Courses

**830:452:01 Adv Topics in Clinical & Abnormal
Novel Research in Clinical and Health Psychology
Professor Samantha Farris
SEC 211, MW5 (3:20 - 4:40pm)**

Prerequisites: Abnormal Psychology (Sr Psych Major)

Course Synopsis: This is an advanced seminar course intended for senior students majoring in psychology. Students who have an interest in clinical and health research, and plan to pursue graduate-level education in psychology or a related field are encouraged to enroll. Basic knowledge of abnormal psychology, research methods, and scientific writing is assumed. The course is structured with two key learning objectives in mind. The first objective is to learn how to critically review and interpret clinical/health research, and increase awareness and knowledge of diverse research methodologies. The second objective is to develop proficiency with scientific and professional writing and verbal communication skills. Throughout the semester, we will read and discuss recent empirical research in clinical/health psychology, including research focused on: anxiety disorders, posttraumatic stress disorder, obsessive- compulsive disorder, mood disorders, suicide, alcohol and substance use, smoking, sleep, physical activity/exercise, women's health, and chronic disease. Through our review of the literature, we will learn about a range of cutting-edge research methodologies including the human laboratory, ecological momentary assessment, use of wearable technology, computerized interventions, and novel therapeutic approaches. Students will also have to opportunity to develop professional communication skills through discussions with psychologists working in the field who will present to the class as part of our "invited researcher" series. Additionally, the course will include a "writing workshop" series that will focus on professional and scientific writing. Students will develop an academic resume (curriculum vitae) and personal statement and will complete a semester-long research project that will include a review of the scientific literature in an identified area and oral research presentation.

Students are encouraged to contact Dr. Farris if they have questions about whether they should enroll in the course (samantha.farris@rutgers.edu)