

Advanced Topics Description:

830:451 Advanced Topics in Clinical and Abnormal Psychology Psychology and Health

Professor Richard Contrada

IFH 120, TH4,5 (1:10-4:40pm)

Prerequisite: This course is open to Psychology majors who have earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher, have completed 830:340 or 830:393 (Abnormal Psychology or Systems of Psychotherapy), 830:321 or 830:377 (Social Psychology or Health Psychology), and completed the psychology major core requirement.

This course will examine theory and research concerned with psychology and problems of physical health/disease. Although listed under "Abnormal/Clinical" it is highly relevant for students interested in careers in Social, Clinical, and/or Health Psychology. Topics include: Health-promoting and health damaging behaviors; how people perceive and think about health and illness; deciding to use health care and interacting with the health care system; stress, coping, emotion, and emotion regulation; pain; psychosocial risk and vulnerability factors such as personality, social networks/support, sex/gender, socio-economic status, and social group membership; psychological adjustment to chronic disease and chronic disease management.

Grades for students enrolled in the regular version of the seminar will be based on class participation, written assignments, and essay exams.

Students interested in taking the course on a writing intensive basis should contact the instructor. If given permission to do so, they will be required to write an additional, 15 page paper with feedback and rewrites.