

**Rutgers University
Department of Psychology
Summer 2014**

Course Syllabus: PSY 377:B2, Health Psychology

Instructor Contact:

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Office	Tillett 409
Class Location	LCB 110, M-Tr 10:10am - 12:00pm

Office Hours: M & Tr 1 – 3pm or by appointment

Number of Credits: 3

Required Texts and Supplementary Material (see note below):

Brannon, L., Feist, J., & Updegraff, J. A. (2013). Health Psychology: An Introduction to Behavior and Health. 8th Edition. Cengage.

NOTE:

Using an older edition of the text is permissible. If you do not have the 8th edition, check the chapter topics against the topics covered in each unit to make sure you are reading equivalent material. For example, if I am eating & exercise you want to ensure you are reading the chapter on personality disorders in an earlier edition.

Not all of my material comes from our textbook. I will often cover topics not included in the text. You are responsible for both what is written in the text, outside assigned reading, what is covered in the slideset and lecture.

COURSE WEBSITE Available on Sakai. If you are properly registered you should have access.

READINGS Readings are listed on the last page of the syllabus. Outside readings will be posted on the course website.

GRADING POLICY

1. Participation / Attendance	10%
2. Exams (3), drop lowest	65%
3. Paper	25%

A = 90-100%	C = 70-76%
B+ = 87-89%	D+ = 67-69%
B = 80-86%	D = 60-66%
C+ = 77-79%	F = Below 60

PARTICIPATION/ ATTENDANCE 10% of your final grade

You are expected to be in class; missing classes will negatively affect this portion of your grade. You will also lose points for sleeping, texting, obviously not paying attention or being rude to fellow classmates.

UNIT TESTS 65% of your final grade (average of your two best scores (i.e., drop lowest)

I will give three unit tests. The purpose of these tests is to assess your learning and understanding of the course material. The tests are based on the reading and material covered for each unit.

PAPER 25% of your final grade

A course paper, worth 25% of your grade, is required. Papers will be held in strictest confidence. Topics must be approved by June 9th and papers are due on sakai by 10:10 am on June 30th. Print a paper copy and bring it to class. **Early papers are welcome! Late papers will get a zero.** The policy is rigid and there are no exceptions. If you think you might have difficulty submitting it by this date, please start the paper early and submit it early.

LATE POLICY & MAKE UP POLICY

Late work will not be accepted. I do not allow make-up exams unless an extreme circumstance occurs **and** the student is able to get an excused absence from the Dean of Students office. No exceptions.

CHEATING & PLAGIARISM:

I will not tolerate plagiarism or cheating without exception. **A first offense will be reported on your college record and will result in the failure of the class. Consider this your warning.**

I cannot help you if you make the conscious decision to cheat or plagiarize.

Actual student excuse for plagiarism:

“But the question asked for a definition and an example. I just used the definition or example given in the slideset or textbook. I don’t understand how this is considered plagiarism.”

It is plagiarism when you copy something word for word or if you copy something and only change a few words or take someone else’s idea and act as though it is your own. When I ask you for examples or definitions, they should always be **IN YOUR OWN WORDS**. I’m looking to see if you understand a concept, so I want you to explain it to me. When you simply regurgitate what is written in the text or the slideset or on a website, I have no way to gauge whether or not you understand what we just covered. I periodically check answers of ALL students for plagiarism.

Example:

1. What is the definition of toplofty?
Plagiarized answer from online dictionary: very superior in air or attitude

Answer in your own words for full credit: Someone who is toplofty acts as though they are better than everyone else.

Class Schedule: Subject to change

Date	Topic
Tuesday, May 27	Introduction & Methods
Wednesday May 28	Biopsychosocial Model & Stress History
Thursday May 29	Stress and Health
Monday, June 2	Psychoneuroimmunology
Tuesday, June 3	Close Relationships & Health
Wednesday June 4	Coping, Social Support, & Bereavement
Thursday June 5	In-Class Exam Review (Bring Questions)
Monday, June 9	EXAM 1
Tuesday, June 10	Adjustment to Illness
Wednesday, June 11	Placebos
Thursday, June 12	Health Communications
Monday, June 16	Health Behavior Change: History & Models
Tuesday, June 17	Health Interventions
Wednesday, June 18	In-Class Exam Review (Bring Questions)
Thursday, June 19	EXAM 2
Monday, June 23	Age, Gender, & Health
Thursday, June 24	Culture, Personality, & Health
Wednesday, June 25	Eating & Exercise
Thursday, June 26	Pain
Monday June 30	Doctor-Patient Communication
Tuesday July 1	Happiness
Wednesday July 2	In-Class Exam Review (Bring Questions)
Thursday July 3	Exam 3