STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY CANTON, NEW YORK



MASTER SYLLABUS

PSYC 320 – Health Psychology

Prepared by: Janet Parcell Mitchell, PT, DPT, ATC, CSCS

Updated by: Barat Wolfe, PhD

A. TITLE: Health Psychology

B. COURSE NUMBER: PSYC 320

C. CREDIT HOURS: 3 lecture hour(s) per week for 15 weeks

D. WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE: No

E. GER CATEGORY: None

F. SEMESTER(S) OFFERED: Fall

G. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students will examine the theories, research, and practice of health psychology. Students will explore the role of social determinants of health and wellness; the application of social and psychological factors to understand health promotion and prevention; and the interaction of psychological and biological factors through various topics including stress and coping, the placebo effect, chronic illness, and pain. Students will investigate how health-related theory and research can be applied for the benefit of both personal behavior change, and the health of communities.

H. PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES: None ☐ Yes ☒ If yes, list below: **Pre-requisite(s):** Introductory Psychology (PSYC 101) and 60 credits or permission of

instructor

I. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]	PSLO	ISLO
a. Describe key concepts, principles, theories, and methods in health psychology	1. Knowledge Base in Psychology	5
b. Interpret, analyze, synthesize health psychology research	2. Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking	2 [IA]
c. Evaluate health psychology issues of global concern with cultural competence	3. Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World	4 [ER, IK]
d. Demonstrate effective written and oral presentation skills to make evaluative and persuasive arguments	4. Communication	1 [O,W]
e. Apply health psychology content and skills to complete course tasks using APA guidelines	5. Professional Development	5

KEY	Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]	
ISLO#	ISLO & Subset	
1	Communication Skills	
	Oral [O], Written [W]	
2	Critical Thinking	
	Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]	
3	Foundational Skills	
	Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit,/Reasoning [QTR]	
4	Social Responsibility	
	Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL],	
	Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]	
5	Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills	

J. APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT: Yes \square No \boxtimes

K. TEXTS:

Suggested text:

Marks, D.F., Murray, M., & Estacio, E.V. (2018). Health Psychology: Theory, Research, & Practice (5th ed.). Sage: Thousand Oaks, CA.

- **L. REFERENCES:** To be determined by the instructor
- **M. EQUIPMENT:** None □ Needed: Technology enhanced classroom
- N. **GRADING METHOD**: A-F

O. SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

Exams, quizzes, essays, student presentations, writing assignments, and discussion

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

- I. Foundations of Health Psychology
 - A. Health and Wellness
 - B. History of the Field
 - C. The Biopsychosocial Perspective vs. The Biomedical Perspective
 - D. Careers

II. Research in Psychology of Health and Fitness

- A. Evidence-Based Practice
- B. Epidemiological Research
- C. Research Design

III. Biological Foundations

- A. Nervous System
- B. Endocrine System
- C. Immune System
- D. Homeostasis
- E. Psychoneuroimmunology

IV. Sociocultural Foundations

- A. Health inequalities and inequities
- B. Stigma and Social Justice
- C. Culture and Health
- D. Social Justice

- V. Stress and Health
 - A. The Nature of Stress: Physiology
 - B. Other Models of Stress and Illness
 - C. Psychosocial Sources of Stress
 - D. Personality Types and Stress
- VI. Coping with Stress
 - A. Psychological Skills Training
 - B. Self-Awareness
 - C. Imagery
 - D. Self-confidence
 - E. Goal Setting
 - F. Concentration
- VII. Theories, Models, and Interventions for Health Behavior Change
 - A. Social Cognition
 - B. Sexual Health
 - C. Food, Eating, and Obesity
 - D. Alcohol and Drinking
 - E. Smoking and Drug Use
 - F. Physical Activity and Exercise
- VIII. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
 - A. Health Information and Literacy
 - B. Lay Representations of Health and Illness
 - C. Health Promotion Theories and Practice
- IX. Illness and Experience and Health Care
 - A. Illness and Personality
 - B. Adherence and Resistance
 - C. Pain
 - D. Cancer and other Chronic Illnesses
 - E. End of Life Care, Dying, and Death
- Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: N/A