

**Faculty of Health  
Department of Psychology  
PSYC 3170 3.0 Section A  
HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY  
S1 2017**

**Course Prerequisite(s):** Course prerequisites are strictly enforced.

- **HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology), with a minimum grade of C.**

**TIME/ROOM:** Mon. and Wed. 2:30-5:30 **ROOM:** TBA  
**COURSE DIRECTOR:** Gerry Goldberg, Ph.D., C. Psych. (email: [gegold@yorku.ca](mailto:gegold@yorku.ca))  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Before and after class as requested  
**Office: BSB 277**

**SECRETARY:** Zehra Bandhu office is 284 BSB, Email: [zehra@yorku.ca](mailto:zehra@yorku.ca)  
 Phone: 416 736 2100 Ext. 66232.

**TAs:**

**Stella Dentakos** ([dentakos@yorku.ca](mailto:dentakos@yorku.ca)) Room: **BSB 052** By appointment (**Monday 9:00-10:00am**).  
 Contact by email to secure appointment or to ask questions.

**Iana Ianakieva** ([Iana14@yorku.ca](mailto:Iana14@yorku.ca)) Room: **BSB 312**. By appointment (**Wednesday 1:30pm-2:30**).  
 Contact by email to secure appointment or to ask questions.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** Health Psychology (McGraw Hill, 2014, Canadian 3rd. ed.) by Shelley E. Taylor and Fushia M. Sirois ISBN-13: 978-1-25-910323-0 (*NOTE: Previous editions will fail to provide you with all information offered and will likely result in a reduced grade.*)

**Course website:** [Moodle](#). *It your responsibility to check Moodle regularly for updates. There you will find updated course outlines, PowerPoint presentations, grades, and much more.*

<b>EVALUATION:</b>	See course website for sample questions and composition of the tests.
May 10 Optional Project Proposal <b>(by the beginning of class)</b>	Not graded but required to do the project (last day to hand in). Must be a hard copy. <b><u>NO EXTENSIONS</u></b>
May 15, Quiz 1= 25%	<b>Ch.1-5 inclusive, all lecture and class materials</b>
May 31, Quiz 2= 25%	<b>Ch.6-11 inclusive, all lectures and class materials following 1<sup>st</sup> Quiz to present.</b>
Jun 12 Optional Final Project <b>(by the beginning of class)</b> <b>Both a hard copy and submission to Turnitin.</b>	Bonus marks will be <b>added</b> to your final course grade. Number of bonus marks depends on quality of paper. If poor quality it will neither add nor detract marks from you total, if it has merit, it will be used to see if you can be move up to the next grade, if exceptional it can further increase your grade.
Exam period (Jun 14-16) Final exam= 50%	<b>All lectures and class materials, Ch. 3-15 inclusive, (Note: The final will give weight to the chapters and lectures not yet tested. See course website for specifics)</b>

## **Course Description: PLEASE READ THIS PARAGRAPH**

This course is intended to demonstrate how theories and research in Health Psychology are applied to real life issues. The optional term project is designed to give you the fundamental skills to deal with Health Psychology issues. The text covers a wide range of general topics in Health Psychology. The lectures reflect the academic and applied interests of the course director. Lecture materials are not intended to follow the text but there is overlap.

Reading the chapters in order will assist in following lectures. *See what is expected for each test and final to determine the pace at which you should read.*

### **Learning Outcomes**

1. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:
2. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge in health psychology.
3. Articulate trends in health psychology.
4. Express knowledge of health psychology in written form.
5. Describe and explain limits to generalizability of research findings in health psychology.
6. Demonstrate ability to relate information in health psychology to own and others' life experiences.

	<b>DATE</b>	<b><i>What to read and when.</i></b> See what is expected for each test and final to determine the pace at which you should read. See box above.
1	May 1	Introduction
2	May 3	Health, sickness and the attribution process
3	May 8	Health promotion: influence, attitudes and beliefs
4	May 10	Attitudes towards sickness and disability. Programs to change health and safety behaviours (modern strategies, community-based programs, behaviour modification.) <b>Last day to hand in proposal for Optional Project. <i>Must be submitted by the beginning of class.</i> NO EXTENSIONS.</b>
5	May 15	<b>Quiz 1=25%. A LECTURE WILL FOLLOW:</b> The Placebo Effect.
6	May 17	Placebo, Depression, Stress (its impact on health and performance, sources of stress.)
7	May 22	<b>Victoria Day—No classes</b>
	May 24	Stress Management and Coping
8	May 29	Stress related topics: ergonomics, environmental stressors, noise, mass psychogenic illness, pain
9	May 31	<b>Quiz 2=25%. A LECTURE WILL FOLLOW:</b> Doctor-patient communications/ “Breaking bad News”
10	Jun 5	Breaking bad News” continued and Developing Compassion in Medicine
11	Jun 7	Risk Perception and Risk Communication
12	Jun 12	Dealing with the impact of traumatic events in medicine <b>Optional project due at beginning of class.</b>

## ***Missed Tests or Exams/late work***

Contact me within 48 hours of missing the quiz or test. **Documentation** is required to be permitted to take a make-up quiz. Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (**Attending Physician Statement which can be found at: <http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf>**) will be considered for accommodation. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

**For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Important Dates](#)**

<b>Important dates</b>	S1
Last date to add a course <b>without</b> permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	May 5
Last date to add a course <b>with permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	May 12
<i>Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)</i>	Jun 2
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a “W” on the transcript – see note below)	Jun 3-12

**\*Note:** *You may withdraw from a course using the registration and enrolment system after the drop deadline until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as "W". The withdrawal will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.*

## ***Academic Integrity for Students***

York University takes academic integrity very seriously, please familiarize yourself with [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#)

It is recommended that you review Academic Integrity by completing the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and [Academic Honesty Quiz](#)

## ***Test Banks:***

The offering for sale of, buying of, and attempting to sell or buy test banks (banks of test questions and/or answers), or any course specific test questions/answers is not permitted in the Faculty of Health. Any student found to be doing this may be considered to have breached the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. In particular, buying and attempting to sell banks of test questions and/or answers may be considered as “Cheating in an attempt to gain an improper advantage in an academic evaluation” (article 2.1.1 from the Senate Policy) and/or “encouraging, enabling or causing others” (article 2.1.10 from the Senate Policy) to cheat.

## ***Electronic Devices During a Test/Examination:***

Electronic mobile devices of any kind are not allowed during a test or examination. Students are required to turn off and secure any electronic mobile device in their bag that is to be placed under the chair while a test/exam is in progress. Any student observed with an electronic device during a test/exam may be reported to the Undergraduate Office for a potential breach of Academic Honesty.

## ***Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:***

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to do so at a level of excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to do so. The [York University Accessibility Hub](#) is your online stop for accessibility on campus. The [Accessibility Hub](#) provides tools, assistance and resources. **Policy Statement**

**Policy:** York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations and adaptations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs. The nature and extent of accommodations shall be consistent with and supportive of the integrity of the curriculum and of the academic standards of programs or courses.

Provided that students have given sufficient notice about their accommodation needs, instructors shall take reasonable steps to accommodate these needs in a manner consistent with the guidelines established hereunder.

For Further Information please refer to: [York university academic accommodation for students with disabilities policy](#)

## OPTIONAL PROJECT: THE PROBLEM SOLVING PROJECT APA STYLE

### OVERVIEW: (The project consists of a proposal and a final paper.)

Select health psychology related problem and using up-to-date scientific literature and guidance from experts in the field develop a comprehensive plan to reduce or eliminate the problem. This is a chance for independent research on a course-related area of interest. It is an opportunity for you to familiarize yourself with an issue in a career field you are considering and offers a chance to meet individuals in that field. The *earlier* you contact agencies/experts the more time they have to send information to you and arrange interview times. (*Examples of health related problem: getting children diagnosed with diabetes to follow the regime required of diabetics; preventing specific addictions such as alcoholism.*)

Find the *most recent* scholarly work (from refereed journals) *specific* to the problem you have selected. This requires using library tools such as databases like Medline, the Web of Science (formerly the Social Sciences Citation Index), PSYCINFO/PSYCHLIT. Look for information in health psychology textbooks on your topic. Then look at the bibliographies for the key names and journals that deal with the problem you selected. You may also start by using popular sources of information (e.g. The Globe and Mail, Worldwide Web etc.) but remember such popular publications will not earn you credit. Once you have demonstrated your ability to find very current peer reviewed materials, you may use other materials.

You will also need to obtain applied work. Contact relevant experts or practitioners. **By experts I do not mean people who have experienced the problem** but people who have **specialized training** in dealing with the problem or have a program to deal with the problem. You will need to use tact and interviewing skills, over the telephone or in person, to get individuals to give you their valuable time. Asking these people for opinions, suggestions, leads and information will make your task easier and add to the quality of the paper. They may also save you time and energy by directing your literature search. ***The final paper must be submitted to Turnitin.***

### PROPOSAL

#### Specifications for the Proposal

***Proposals will be used to provide feedback but will not be graded.*** The proposal must:

1. be one page, double spaced. The bibliography can be on a second page. STAPLE PAGES.
2. clearly and briefly identify and explain the specific problem, its causes and consequences and indicate specific approaches to dealing with the problem.
3. integrate the main ideas of at least five current scientific journal articles from **peer reviewed** journals into about one to three paragraphs. **Do not do an annotated bibliography or summarize each article.** Select out only information relevant to your topic and relate this information to the other articles in a concise manner.
4. list relevant resource agencies/individuals you will/ have contacted. Give name, position, agency, contact info (phone number, e-mail address). You need not make contact before writing the proposal.
5. provide a bibliography (use APA style). This includes proper within text referencing (e.g. Smith (1999) argues. ... or It has been found that fear of job loss causes anxiety (Green and Brown, 1998). Do not use footnotes or endnotes. There are many student guides to APA style including several websites. The following websites are some such guides: (seen next page)

[www.apastyle.org/styletips.html](http://www.apastyle.org/styletips.html)

<http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/DocAPA.html>

<http://apastyle.org/>,

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>,

<http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citation.htm>

NOTE: Of particular interest to the reader is that APA style requires **concise** writing in the **third person**

6. **This original proposal (with marker's comments) must be resubmitted with the final paper.**

(Continued on next page.)

**Feedback will be based on:** clear identification of a problem, quality of bibliography, integration of literature to into paragraph(s) which suggest the dimensions and/or how to deal with the problem, identify agencies and spelling, grammar, clear communication.

### **OPTIONAL PROJECT FINAL PAPER**

The completed assignment should be **approximately 6 PAGES** (not including the bibliography). They *must be typed, double spaced and in 12 pitch type*. Make a second copy of your paper for your files before submitting. Properly reference others work. Do not include quotations.

#### **Specifications:**

1. Identify a specific **problem** (not just a topic area). It must be a problem that can be mitigated by the application of theories and research in health psychology. Define your terms and the parameters or limits to which your paper will cover (e.g. if wish to examine the impact of social support on persons with an illness, be clear about what social support means and what specific benefits and/or harms you will explore. *If you are unable to find relevant research articles you must modify or change your topic.*
2. Find current research and theories to explain the problem, its causes and consequences in a brief and concise manner. Also state the emerging issues or new dimensions related to the problem. Explain and focus on specific approaches and give details on how to DEAL with the problem.
3. Find agencies, organizations, individuals who have specialized training or expertise dealing with the problem (**not just persons who have experienced the problem and tried things out**). While interviews with the experts are best, other information from such persons or agencies is acceptable (e.g. brochures, Internet sites, e-mails, etc.). *If you use an Internet site, you must reference it and provide an explanation within the bibliography as to why this is an authoritative source.* Make sure you can describe the specific approaches used and/or how these approaches are applied. Information from these organizations/individuals will enable you to evaluate their efforts in terms of the literature. It is expected that you will interview three such experts.
4. Describe how scientific literature and research might be of assistance to these specialists. Specifically, **(a)** how would the literature be of use to them? **(b)** what kinds of research do you suggest health psychology researchers should do to help these specialists toward their/your goals? **(c)** from your research can you provide a new or modified solution?
5. Indicate what specialists you contacted at the bottom of the bibliography. Stipulate name, position, agency, and contact information.
6. Use APA style.
7. ***Prior to submission of the hard copy in class, the paper must be submitted to Turnitin.***
8. The original proposal (with marker's comments) must be resubmitted with the final paper.
9. Submit the paper with only a staple--NO binders or attachments.

**If you wish to have your project back, attach a self-addressed stamped envelope otherwise they may be picked up from the secretary.**