Western University  
Faculty of Health Sciences – Rehabilitation Sciences  
RS4605A Rehabilitation Psychology – Fall Term 2018

Instructor: Dr. Natascha Wesch, Assistant Professor  
Email: nwesch@uwo.ca  
Office Hours: By appointment only (email professor to set up an appointment)  
Lecture Hours: Wednesdays @ 6:30-9:30 PM (0.5 credits)

**DESCRIPTION**

**Course Description:** The course will cover a range of applications of psychology in rehabilitation. Since the physical consequences of illness or injury are stabilized after acute medical treatment, psychology plays a unique role in the rehabilitation phase, where further progress may be determined by motivation and general psychological adjustments to recovery. These include the rehabilitation of traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, and sport injury. Also, topics such as pain management, cognitive retraining, and psychological adjustment to disability will be explored.

**Learning Objectives:** Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. To introduce students to the field of rehabilitation psychology and the mind-body connection in the context of health rehabilitation.
2. To explore the rehabilitation psychology framework that includes cognitive and behavioural components, application, and research.
3. To develop a strong platform for understanding the application of theory to practice.

**Course Format:** 3 lecture hours; 0.5 credit course

**Prerequisite Checking:** Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**Required Course Material:** Various research articles, readings, and online texts are used for this course. All readings are available online through the University of Western Ontario library system. Readings not available online will be made available from the instructor.

**Course Evaluation Summary** (subject to revision; details provided in the first week of lecture):

- Opinion-Reflection Assignment (20%) – Part 1 due Sep 26, 2018; Part 2 due Oct 24, 2018
- Group Presentation (20%) – Presentation dates: Nov 14, Nov 21, and Nov 28, 2018
- Case Study Comparison Assignment (20%) – Due date Dec 5, 2018
- Final Exam (40%) – Scheduled by the university during final exam period
1. **Attendance and Classroom Behaviour**: Students are expected to attend all lectures, read the assigned materials prior to class, participate in class discussions based on the assigned readings, and complete the assigned papers and presentations. Attendance is mandatory for all student presentations (unless otherwise noted by instructor). Class will begin promptly at the time specified as per this syllabus. Please arrive prior to the class start time. If you must arrive late, please enter the classroom with a minimal disturbance to the class. I reserve the right to lock the classroom door and deny entrance if lateness becomes a common occurrence. Excessive talking during class time is disruptive, disrespectful, and will not be tolerated. Students engaging in such behaviour may be asked to leave the room. Cellular phones, pagers, and text-messaging devices are disruptive when they ring in class. If you must bring these with you, please place them on silent mode or turn them off during class. Failure to do so may result in your being asked to leave.

2. **Assignment Due Dates**: Assignments are due as per the instructor-set dates and will not be accepted late, except under medical or other compassionate circumstances. Submitting a late assignment without appropriate documentation will result in a zero (0) grade. Appropriate documentation for assignments worth less than 10% should be submitted to the instructor. A missed mid-term examination without appropriate documentation will result in a zero (0) grade. The course policy is to not allow make-ups for scheduled midterms, presentations or final exams, nor to assign a grade of ‘Incomplete’ without acceptable and verifiable medical (or equivalent compassionate) reasons. Acceptable reasons might include hospital stays, serious illness, family emergencies (like serious accidents or illness, death) or similar circumstances.

3. According to the **Examination Conflict Policy**, “A student who is scheduled to write more than two examinations in any 24-hour period may request alternative arrangements through the office of their Academic Counsellor.” This policy does NOT apply to mid-term examinations. There will be no make-up for the mid-term exam. Students who miss this exam with a valid reason will have the final re-weighted accordingly.

4. **Grades**: Where possible assignment objectives and rubrics will be posted on OWL. Should you have a concern regarding the grade you received for an assignment or feel that it is unfair in any way, you must wait 24 hours from the receipt of the assignment to approach the instructor or TA. In doing so, please make an appointment and prepare in writing, with evidence, why you feel your grade is inappropriate. Please be aware that in requesting a grade reassessment, your grade could go up/down/or stay the same. Note that calculations errors (which do occur!) should be brought to my attention immediately.

5. **Formatting**: APA style is the approved style of writing for all assignments produced for this course (unless otherwise stated). Please refer to Western University Library webpage for information on citation style and format or consult the APA publication manual: Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). (2009). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
6. **Student Code of Conduct:** The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at Western University, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For more information, visit [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf)


8. **Use of Plagiarism Checking Software:** All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ([http://www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com))

9. **Multiple Choice Exams:** Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

10. **Use of Electronic Devices:**

    **During Exams** – Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any of the following electronic devices during ANY of the tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations: cellphones, smart phones, smart watches, smart glasses, audio players or recorders of any sort, video cameras, video games, DVD players, televisions, laptop/notebook/netbook computers, flashlights or laser pointers.

    **During Lectures and Tutorials** – Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class. **Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures** – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.

11. **Academic Offences:** Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)
12. **Accommodation for Illness:**

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf). The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

Documentation is required for non-medical absences where the course work missed is more than 10% of the overall grade. Students may contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office for what documentation is needed.

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Documentation for any request for accommodation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Academic Counselling Office of the student’s Faculty of registration. For BHSc students, you may go to the School of Health Studies Office in HSB room 222.

13. **Support Services:** There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Student Development Centre -- [http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/)

14. **Health and Wellness:** As part of a successful undergraduate experience at Western, we encourage you to make your health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western’s Campus Recreation Centre as part of their registration fees. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. Please check out the Faculty of Music web page ([http://www.music.uwo.ca/](http://www.music.uwo.ca/)), or the McIntosh Gallery
Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at http://www.health.uwo.ca/.

If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. To help you learn more about mental health, Western has developed an interactive mental health learning module, found here: https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/education/module.html

15. **SHS Grade Policy:** The university-wide descriptor of the meaning of letter grades, as approved by Senate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>Superior work that is clearly above average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>Good work, meeting all requirements and eminently satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>Competent work, meeting requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>Fair work, minimally acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 50</td>
<td>Fail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is expected that the grades for this course will fall between 74% and 80%. In the event that the course average falls outside this range, a constant may be added (or subtracted) from each student’s grade, by the instructor, to bring the class average in line with school policy.