

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
Bachelor of Sciences in Rehabilitation Sciences
SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

DRSC: 3302 **Health & Wellness in Rehabilitation Sciences**

CRN: 23347

Term: Spring 2025

Delivery method: Hybrid

- Mondays. Online at 10:30 – 11:50 am (links on Blackboard “Zoom Lectures”).
- Wednesdays. In-person at 10:30 – 11:50 am

Location: College of Health Sciences 206

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Dr. Georgina Sanchez-Garcia

Email: gsanchezgarci@utep.edu

Office Hours: Wednesdays 12:00 – 2:00. Room 482. Also available by appointment

TA INFORMATION

Edward Cordova

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

DRSC 3302 is a required 3-credit core course for the Rehabilitation Sciences major. The primary goal of DRSC 3302 is to develop students’ working knowledge of achieving wellness to overcome biological, psychosocial, and environmental obstacles in both personal and professional contexts and facilitate effective rehabilitation. Wellness is based on awareness and appreciation of healthy lifestyles, relationships, and understanding and preventing diseases across the lifespan.





This class introduces biopsychosocial models of health, wellness, and prevention in both physical and mental health contexts, as well as models of health-related behavior change. Students explore how language, culture, and environmental context influence health and rehabilitation with applications to workplace and community wellness. This course facilitates students’ participation in experiential learning in the community as well as promotes student self-evaluation and self-management skills.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND UNIVERSITY LEARNING OUTCOMES:

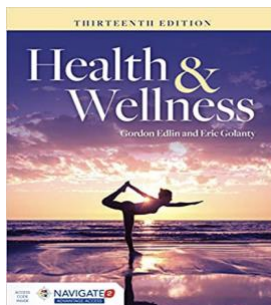
By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe medical and wellness models of health, the World Health Organization’s
2. Definition of health and models of health behavior change.
3. Discuss the importance of mental factors (brain, mind, and psychological hygiene; relationships) and related physical and psychological risks for well-being.
4. Identify physical factors (diet, weight, and physical activity) affecting well-being.
5. Describe the immunological, cardiovascular, genetic, and environmental underpinnings of diseases and how biological diseases affect well-being.
6. Discuss modern approaches to making decisions about health care, including alternative medicine, working toward a healthy environment, empowering communities, and reducing inequities.

Thus, by the end of the semester, students should make improvements in the following skill areas related to the UTEP Edge initiative:

Student Learning Objective	Outcome
Demonstrate the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose	 Teamwork skills
Engage as a community of writers who dialogue across texts	 Communication skills
Draw on existing knowledge bases to “transform” knowledge	 Critical thinking skills
Increase awareness of community challenges and, through the acquired knowledge, contribute to solving an identified problem	 Social responsibility

REQUIRED MATERIAL:



Edlin, G. & Golanty, E. (2019). Health & Wellness, Thirteenth Edition. Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning.

ISBN-13: 978-1284144130 ISBN-10: 1284144135

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

This course follows a modular format where all materials for the week are grouped by module in one segment.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

1000-900=**A** 899-800=**B** 799-700=**C** 699-600=**D** 599 and Below=**F**

Activity	Points	Total Max Points
Attendance & Participation (14 in-person classes)	5	70
Outline (6)	10	60
Discussion Post (2)	15	30
Quiz (2)	50	100
Pop up quiz (2)	30	60
Exams (2)	200	400
Podcast (1)	200	200
Self-reflection Mental Model (1)	80	80
TOTAL		1000

SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS

Important: Check Blackboard for further guidelines on assignments.

Participation & Attendance (5 points per class)



Engagement is crucial in this course. You start with a maximum of 70 points. Each unexcused absence or lack of participation will result in a 5-point weekly deduction. Missing five classes will result in an "F," as it prevents you from demonstrating your understanding of the material.



Outline (10 points each)



An outline is a useful tool for organizing the topics you plan to study and is usually divided into paragraphs along with supporting keywords or relevant information. In preparation for each class, students should submit a one to two-page outline of the topic to be covered, as per the syllabus, on Blackboard before class.

Pop-up quiz (30 points each)



A short, unannounced quiz may be given at the start of class. If you arrive late, you will miss the quiz. These quizzes are designed to keep you engaged with the material and encourage regular studying.

Quiz (50 points each)



There will be four online quizzes with designated dates and times that require using Respondus Lockdown. Students must have a computer with Respondus Lockdown, a reliable internet connection, and time management skills.

Exams (200 points each)



Midterm: It will consist of multiple-choice questions and cover material from the course readings, class lectures, and/or class discussions up to the midterm exam date.

Final Exam: It will consist of multiple-choice questions and cover material from the course readings, class lectures, and class discussions after the midterm exam.

Discussion Board Post (15 points each)



Discussion posts will be based on writing self-reflections regarding learning material. For each discussion post, you must write a post and provide feedback to another fellow student to receive full credit.

Health & Lifestyle Video Podcast (200 points)



Groups of four students will research and create a 10-minute podcast on an assigned Health topic. Consider inviting a guest speaker to discuss the condition at hand. Ensure each member participates equally.



The podcast will be uploaded to a social media platform, and each team member must submit the link to the corresponding *assignment* tab in Blackboard (Week 10). All students must sign the photo/media release format provided on the website and return it to Technology Support.



<https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/learning-environments/learningstudio.html>

or at the following link:

https://my.visme.co/utis/goto/1471925821?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.utep.edu%2Fvpba%2F_Files%2Fdocs%2Fuseful-forms%2FGeneralPhotoRelease-Bilingual.doc

You can reserve the room at the UGLC by using the following link:

<https://my.visme.co/utis/goto/1471925821?url=https%3A%2F%2Fairtable.com%2FshrRNHTPXhZbFv6wB>

Self-reflection Mental Model (80 points)



Self-reflection is a way of learning that allows you to analyze your personal and academic trajectory, make necessary adjustments, and confidently focus on your goals. You will create a mental model regarding your values, abilities, academic preferences, and aspirations—the preceding to support why you can be a competent professional in the health sciences.

Group Contract



We have one group project that requires full participation. To ensure professionalism and fairness, all teams must sign and submit a group contract via Blackboard, similar to an informed consent form with clients, so that all the parties agree with the treatment plans and follow the treatment regimen. This will be discussed more in the class.

Schedule of Classes (Subject to Change)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

	Date	Topic	Assignments / Activities	Assignments & Exams Due
Week 1	1/20	Dr. Martin Luther King Observance	No Class	
	1/22	Class Introduction	Syllabus Review	
Week 2	1/27	Models of Health (Zoom meeting)	Read: Edlin & Golanty Chapter 1	
	1/29	Topics for podcast production	Group forming Learning Studio Tour UGLC 110	Learning Studio reservation link https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/Resources/RoomReservations.html
Week 3	2/3	Mind-Body Communication (Zoom meeting)	Read: Edlin & Golanty Chapter 2	Outline. Chapters 2 & 3 (one page for each chapter and due by 2/2)

	2/5	Mental Health (Guest Speaker)	Read: Edlin & Golanty Chapter 4	
Week 4	2/10	Anxiety & Depression	Read Article	<i>Discussion Post # 1 by 2/9 before 11:59pm</i>
	2/12	Managing Stress	Edlin & Golanty, Ch. 3 https://youtu.be/bPhY11fC7Uw	
Week 5	2/17	Healthy Diet & Managing weight (study the content)	Edlin & Golanty, Chapters 5 & 6	
	2/19	Movement & Physical Activity	Edlin & Golanty, Ch. 7	Outline. Ch. 7 (due 2/16 before 11:30 pm)
Week 6	2/24	QUIZ 1	Study chapters: 1 - 7 and Anxiety & Depression	QUIZ I (Online through BB)
	2/26	Relationships & Fertility Control	Edlin & Golanty, Chapters 8, 9 & 10	
Week 7	3/3	MID TERM REVIEW (Zoom meeting)	Study for Midterm Exam Chapters 1-8 and Anxiety & Depression	

	3/5	MIDTERM EXAM (In person)		MIDTERM EXAM (In person)
SPRING BREAK March 10-14				
Week 8	3/17	Sexually Transmitted Diseases (Zoom meeting)	Edlin & Golanty, Ch. 11	Outline. Ch 11 (due 3/16 before 11:30 pm)
	3/19	Self-reflection	Read the article	
Week 9	3/24	Contagious conversations" (listen to podcast)	CDC Podcast https://www.cdcfoundation.org/conversations	Outline Ch. 12 (due 3/23 before 11:30 pm)
	3/26	Immunity	Edlin & Golanty, Ch. 12	
Week 10	3/31	Podcast project questions Zoom meeting		<i>Discussion Post # 2 By 3/30 before 11:59pm</i>
	4/2	Cancer	Edlin & Golanty, Ch. 13	
Week 11	4/7	Cardiovascular condition	Edlin & Golanty, Ch 14	Outline. Ch. 14 (due 4/6 before 11:30 pm)
				Group Project:

	4/9	Hereditary & disease	Edlin & Golanty, Ch. 15	<i>Video Podcast by 4/13</i>
Week 12	4/14	Quiz 2	Study chapters: 11 - 15 & Self-reflection	QUIZ 2 (Online through BB)
	4/16	Drugs & opioids	Edlin & Golanty. Ch. 16	
Week 13	4/21	Tobacco (study the content)	Edlin & Golanty. Ch. 17	Outline Chapters 17 & 18 (due before 11:30 pm)
	4/23	Alcohol	Edlin & Golanty. Ch. 18	
Week 14	4/28	Self-reflection Mental Model clarifications		
	4/30	Last Lecture: Environment	Edlin & Golanty. Ch. 24	
Week 15	5/5	Exam review (zoom meeting)		<i>Self-reflection Mental Model DUE 5/4</i>
	5/7	Online Q & A session	Study for Final Exam	

Week 16	TBA	Final Exam		FINAL EXAM

Course Instruction Format and Design

This course is in a hybrid format, which includes live class sessions, pre-recorded lectures, Zoom lectures, and online discussion boards. The live sessions will occur on the day and time indicated at the top of the syllabus and will be conducted in person. Please note that the course format is subject to change based on UTEP policies and/or changes in health circumstances.

This course uses Blackboard, so all course materials—syllabus—will be posted on Blackboard.

Note: Course announcements will be communicated in class, via Blackboard, and/or by email. Students are required to check Blackboard and their email regularly.

Technology Requirements

Course content is delivered in person and via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP email account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a laptop computer with a working microphone and webcam. If you need a laptop this semester, you may apply to check one out via UTEP.

Technology Support Equipment Checkout

(https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/TSCenter/tsc_eqcheckout.html). You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office and Adobe Acrobat Reader. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you do not have word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and more) for free via UTEP’s Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about [Microsoft Office 365](#) and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT: If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP [Help Desk](#), as they are trained specifically in assisting with the technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

Course Communication: How we will stay in contact with each other:

- **Office Hours:** Students will have the option to attend office hours face-to-face (in person) or online (technology permitting). The times for my office hours are listed at the beginning of this syllabus.
- **Email:** UTEP email is the best way to contact me. When emailing me, please put the course title in the subject line. In the body of your email, clearly state your question. At the end of your email, be sure to put your first and last name.
- **Announcements:** Check the Blackboard announcements and your email for important messages.

Netiquette

As we know, sometimes communication online can be challenging. It is possible to miscommunicate what we mean or to misunderstand what our classmates mean, given the lack of body language and immediate feedback. Therefore, please keep these netiquette (network etiquette) guidelines in mind. Failure to observe them may result in disciplinary action.

- Always consider the audience. This is a college-level course; therefore, all communication should reflect polite consideration of other's ideas.
- Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to the instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation.
- Blackboard is not a public Internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professors only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space.

Attendance Policy and Course Drop Policy

Attendance will be taken. Students are strongly encouraged to attend all live class sessions (in person). Students also are expected to listen to any pre-recorded lectures each week. Also, please note the following:

- The instructor reserves the right to accept or not, excuses related to medical issues. Students with severe medical problems that result in missing a majority of the semester may want to consider a complete withdrawal from the university for medical purposes.
- Excuses for missed exams and other course assessments may not be accepted by the instructor as valid excuses. For example, missing any exams or other course assessments due to vacations and pre-booked travel arrangements is not a valid excuse.

- I will not drop you from the course. However, if you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know and then contact the Registrar's Office to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course.

Illness Precautions

Please stay home if you have symptoms of a communicable illness. If you are feeling unwell, please let me and the teaching assistant know via email as soon as possible so that we can work on appropriate accommodations (documentation may be required). Our email addresses are available at the top of the syllabus. Please see below for specific policies on missed exams.

Final Exam Policy

The Final Exam will be in-person and available through Blackboard during the Final Exam testing period (listed in the Schedule of Classes). Students are required to bring a laptop computer to class on the date of the exam. It will consist of multiple-choice questions and cover material from the course readings, class lectures, and/or class discussions after the midterm exam. The exam must be taken on the indicated day unless you have a valid university-accepted excuse. If it is allowable to take the final exam on a different day/time, then the exam may be of a different format than the original exam.

Midterm Exam Policy

The Midterm Exam will be in-person during the class session. Students are required to bring a laptop computer (with a working microphone and webcam) to class on the date of the exam, as it will be submitted on Blackboard. The midterm exam will consist of multiple-choice questions, and it will cover material from the course readings, class lectures, and/or class discussions up to the date of the midterm exam. The midterm exam is considered over when the instructor is no longer in the room. Please do not be late.

No make-up midterm exam will occur without a student having provided to the instructor valid documentation explaining or excusing the absence. The instructor has the discretion to decide if make-up is allowable outside the university's excused absences. If you miss an exam due to an emergency or illness, you must email me (and confirm with me that I have received your notification attempt) as soon as possible to arrange a make-up exam. A make-up exam may be of a different format than the original exam.

Other Course Communication

In addition to standard in-class announcements during live class sessions, other course announcements will be communicated via Blackboard and/or email. Students are required to regularly check Blackboard and their UTEP-recognized preferred email address (i.e., the email address that they indicated to UTEP as their preferred email address).

Other Course Policies and Expectations

- Debate and discussion are important in the critical evaluation of health ethics. It is expected that students will treat the instructor and other students with respect, including refraining from

disparaging remarks, personal insults, derogatory comments, and other unprofessional behavior in person or electronically. Any problem related to disruptive or threatening behavior may result in immediate and follow-up responses by the instructor and/or relevant UTEP offices, including (but not limited to) the student being asked to leave the class and the student being dropped from the course.

Email Protocol

When emailing me, please put the course title in the subject line. In the body of your email, clearly state your question, concern, or comment. At the end of your email, be sure to put your first and last name. Please do not email me about information you can obtain from the syllabus. I generally do not answer substantive material from lectures or readings via email, as it is not an effective means of communicating. If there is class material you are confused about, please come see me during my office hours.

Academic Integrity and Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion.

- Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports.

- Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as one's own.

- Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The use of artificial intelligence tools (such as Chat GPT) is NOT permitted in this course to complete any course activity. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

Plagiarism Detecting Software

Some of your coursework and assessments may be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism-detecting software.

Accommodations Policy

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students who become pregnant may also request reasonable accommodations, following state and federal laws and regulations and University policy. Accommodations that constitute undue hardship are not reasonable. To make a request, please register with the UTEP Center for

Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact CASS at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

Students with accommodations approved by CASS are encouraged to set up a meeting with the instructor within the first two weeks of the semester (or within the first two weeks after receiving the accommodations if the accommodations are approved after the start of the semester). It is the student's responsibility to contact me and arrange a meeting date/time that is mutually convenient.

Resources for Students

Many UTEP students are experiencing very difficult situations. Please remember that UTEP offers many assistance resources for students! Please see the information below for available services and support. This assistance is available and created for you!

UTEP Student Success Resource Hub

- This hub is a single website that lists all available services and support for UTEP students. You can visit the website through the QR code or the URL below.
https://www.utep.edu/advising/student_resources/student-success-resource-hub.html



If you can't find the needed resources or would like additional assistance, you can contact the UTEP Student Success Help Desk at studentsuccess@utep.edu or (915) 747-8887. They are ready to help you.

If you have any challenges with the UTEP Student Success Help Desk (or with finding assistance more generally), please contact me and I am happy to help!