Course and Contact Information
Instructor: Ky Russell
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Office Hours: T: 1:30 – 2:30 pm by appointment
Class Days/Time: T/TH: 10:30am – 11:45am
Classroom: YUH 236
GE Category: Area E, Human Understanding and Development
Peer Mentor: Alana Madamba
Peer Mentor email: alana.madamba@sjsu.edu

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses
This class utilizes technology in the classroom. It is recommended but not required that students bring a smartphone, tablet, or laptop to class that can access the internet. All assignments will be submitted online through Canvas.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website at http://sjsu.instructure.com. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through Canvas and MySJSU at http://my.sjsu.edu to learn of any updates.

Course Description
The stress process and its relation to health, disease, lifestyle, and the sociocultural environment. Physiological, psychological, sociological, and environmental parameters of stress across the lifespan, emphasizing university resources and stress management strategies to enhance academic, personal, and social development.
Course Goal
The primary goal of this course is to enhance the student's ability to understand and effectively manage stress through:

- an understanding of the psychological, physiological, and social/cultural aspects of stress.
- the incorporation of stress management techniques into one's lifestyle, with particular emphasis on identifying and utilizing available university resources to support academic, personal, and social development, and reduce stress associated with the transition to a university environment.
- an understanding of the stress process and its relation to health and disease.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELOs)
Upon successful completion of this GE course, students will be able to:

GELO 1. recognize the physiological, social/cultural, and psychological influences on their well-being (demonstrated by the Stress Log assignment and participation assignments);

GELO 2. recognize the interrelation of the physiological, social/cultural, and psychological factors on their development across the lifespan (demonstrated by Stress Log assignment and participation assignments);

GELO 3. use appropriate social skills to enhance learning and develop positive interpersonal relationships with diverse groups and individuals (demonstrated by the University Resources assignment and participation assignments); and

GELO 4. recognize themselves as individuals undergoing a particular stage of human development, how their well-being is affected by the university’s academic and social systems, and how they can facilitate their development within the university environment (demonstrated by the University Resources assignment and participation assignments).

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO 1. identify stressors experienced throughout the life span, with particular emphasis on stressors experienced by college students.

CLO 2. analyze psychological, social/cultural, and environmental influences on one’s experience of stress, and their impact on health and well-being.

CLO 3. describe the physiological stress response and its relationship to health, disease, quality of life, and well-being.

CLO 4. analyze and understand the dynamics of stress and the ways in which stress management may enhance one’s options and potential throughout the life span.

CLO 5. develop competency in a variety of specific stress management techniques including behavioral and cognitive methodologies to reduce the negative impact of stress.

CLO 6. identify and utilize available university resources to enhance academic, personal, and social development, and reduce stress that may be associated with the transition to a university environment.

CLO 7. discuss stressors unique to diverse groups and gain personal understanding of behaviors and values of others by working throughout the semester with students from diverse backgrounds.
Required Textbook

Other Readings
Additional readings may be found in the modules section of the Canvas online system and syllabus as required.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material
Students may need access to a smartphone, tablet, or computer for occasional class sessions. Students may work in pairs or groups if necessary for these class sessions.

Library Liaison
The kinesiology library liaison is Adriana Poo (Adriana.Poo@sjsu.edu), 408-808-2019

Course Requirements and Assignments
University Policy S16-9, Course Syllabi (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) describes the expected time commitment for SJSJ courses: “Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

This course combines theory and experiential learning. Personal applications will be emphasized. Classes consist of lecture, large and small group discussions, multimedia presentations, and guided laboratory activities.

Evaluation, Grading, and Assessment Activities:

- Participation in Classroom & Laboratory Activities (GELO 2; CLO 5). 25%.
- Stress Log (GELO 1; CLO 1,2,3,4). 15%.
- University Resources (GELO 3,4; CLO 6,7). 15%.
- Occupational Stress Paper (GELO 2). 20%.
- Midterm 1. 10%.
- Final Examination or Evaluation. 15%.

Assignment of Grades:

- 100-98%. A plus; 97-93%. A; 92-90%. A minus;
- 89-87%. B plus; 86-83%. B; 82-80%. B minus;
- 79-77%. C plus; 76-73%. C; 72-70%. C minus;
- 69-67%. D plus; 66-63%. D; 62-60%. D minus;
- Below 60%. F;

Example.
### Participation in Classroom and Laboratory Activities:

Examples of classroom activities include small and large group discussions, written responses to videotapes, and other in-class writing. Examples of laboratory activities include participation in interventions such as meditation, autogenic training, progressive muscle relaxation, diaphragmatic breathing, visualization/guided imagery, cognitive reappraisal, social engineering, creative problem solving, time management, systematic desensitization, biofeedback and self-regulation activities.

Active participation in all lecture and laboratory sessions is expected. This requires that EACH class member makes an INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT to be an active participant in the teaching/learning process. Individual contributions and differing viewpoints will be appreciated and respected.

- **Excellent participation**: Always reads assigned material before class. All self-assessments are completed before class and demonstrate the ability to apply course content to one’s life. Student actively and appropriately contributes to, and participates in, class activities, including discussions and labs. Written work and class contributions demonstrate excellent thought and insight.

- **Above average participation**: Assigned material is usually read before class. Self-assessments are completed with some application to one’s life. Student usually contributes to class discussions. Written work and class contributions demonstrate thought and insight.

- **Average participation**: Assigned material is sometimes read before class. Most self-assessments are completed with some application to one’s life. Student occasionally contributes to class discussions. Written work and class contributions demonstrate some thought and insight.

- **Below average participation**: Student attends class but is frequently unprepared (has not completed assigned readings or self-assessments). Rarely contributions to class discussions; demonstrates minimal thought and insight.

### Out-of-Class Assignments:

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**Component.** | % Earned. | % | X. | Points possible | Points Earned.  
---|---|---|---|---|---  
Stress Log. | 91%. | .91 | X. | 15. | = 13.65  
University Resources. | 93%. | .93 | X. | 15. | = 13.95  
Occupational Stress Paper. | 88%. | .88 | X. | 20. | = 17.6  
Participation. | 90%. | .90 | X. | 25. | = 22.5  
Midterm 1. | 76%. | .76 | X. | 10. | = 7.6  
Final Exam. | 84%. | .84 | X. | 15. | = 12.6  
Total Grade | | | X. | 15. | = 87.9  

Grade: B plus.
All general education courses are required to assess students’ written work including grammar, clarity, conciseness, and coherence. Out-of-class assignments are to be well written with correct grammar and spelling. Grades may be lowered on assignments that fail to meet these criteria.

All out-of-class assignments are due on the dates indicated, and should be typed, double-spaced, using normal typeface and margins (e.g., 12 point font, 1 inch margins). Assignments will be evaluated on the following criteria: (a) content, (b) organization, (c) analysis and critical thinking, (d) citing and use of appropriate references, when required, (e) syntax, grammar, and spelling. All assignments must be original work for this course. Assignments should reflect your best work, and must be uploaded to Canvas by the date and time posted.

There are NO late assignments except under serious and compelling emergency situations. To allow late work is unfair to those students who followed the guidelines and due dates.

**Stress Log:**

Students will record routine and unique stressors encountered during 2 weeks (14 days). For example, driving to school/work each morning through heavy rush hour traffic is routine, but getting a flat tire is (one hopes) unique. Next, record your psychological and emotional reactions to these stressors, how you responded physically to the stressors (physiological stress response), and how you coped with each stressor (use of interventions). After recording entries for 7 days, analyze your entries, identifying patterns of stressors, responses, and coping methods. Discuss the patterns you observe, and include methods that could have been employed to cope more effectively with the identified stressors, including use of appropriate university and community resources. A 3 page reflective summary of your log will be submitted.

**University Resources:**

Working in groups, students will explore a campus resources that may reduce personal, academic, environmental, or social stressors, and facilitate academic life and student learning. (Resources will be assigned in class.) Groups will present the resource to the class and each student will turn in a description of the assigned resources, including how these resources can help students effectively manage stress and enhance academic life. The written paper (2 to 3 pages) should reflect on how the group worked together, each group member’s contribution to the project, and how conflicts, if any, were resolved.

**Occupational Stress Paper:**

For the occupational stress paper, students will investigate potential stressors likely to be encountered in their chosen careers by reviewing the literature and interviewing at least one person working in that career. A minimum of three professional journal articles that relate directly to the career and stress must be used. If students are unable to locate articles directly relating to their careers, they may use, with instructor permission, professional journal articles that discuss occupational stress of a more general nature. Write a concise summary of the research, integrating information from the journal articles and the interview, including methods used by your interviewee to cope with stressors.

Professional journal articles, or scholarly articles, have undergone a review process before publication. This means that the article has been reviewed by experts and typically revised prior to publication. The peer-review process helps to ensure that high quality articles are published. For this assignment, it is recommended that you begin searching for articles using Academic Search Premier (one of the library’s databases) and on the search menu, check the box to limit your search to peer-reviewed articles.

All references must be appropriately cited in the text, and a reference list must be included. **For this assignment, a maximum of only 1 sentence may be direct quotations.** Papers will be 5 pages, not including reference list.
Examinations:

Make-up exams are permitted only for illness and emergency (truly extraordinary circumstances). The student is responsible for notifying the instructor and making arrangements at the earliest possible time. In most cases, the exam must be completed prior to the next class meeting. All requests for make-up exams will be evaluated on an individual basis. The final exam will NOT be given early.

The final examination will occur on the scheduled date and time for the course. The final exam for Section 3 will be on Wed. May 15th from 9:45am – 12:00pm.

Classroom Protocol

All students should demonstrate respect for themselves, each other, and the instructor at all times. Intense discussions are encouraged, but never at the expense of respect and understanding. We may not agree with one another, but we do need to hear and respect one another.

A few words on cell phones, headphones, and laptops: Cell phones should be turned off during class. A vibrating cell phone is still an activated cell phone. Please remove all headphones or earpiece devices during class. Texting, e-mailing, or surfing on your cell phone or laptop are not appropriate classroom activities. They distract your attention, as well as the attention of those around you. Students who engage in these activities will be asked to leave the classroom.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/” Make sure to review these university policies and resources.

Aug. 31 is the last day to drop this class without a “W” being assigned. According to university policy, dropping the class after the drop deadline is permissible only for serious and compelling reasons, and requires written documentation. Unsatisfactory performance in course work is not a serious and compelling reason. The last day to add the class is Sept. 10. However, students who receive add codes should use them as soon as possible.

Peer Connections

Peer Connections is your campus-wide resource for mentoring (time management, note taking, study skills, getting involved, etc.), tutoring (undergraduate writing, lower division Math, Science, History, Humanities, etc.), and supplemental instruction (review and study sessions for select courses). Peer Connections also has a study space, desktop computers, and success workshops on a wide variety of topics. For more information on services, hours, locations, or a list of current workshops, please visit the website at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.
# Proposed Schedule

Subject to change with fair notice. Changes will be announced in class and/or posted on Canvas.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/ Date.</th>
<th>Content.</th>
<th>Reading Assignments.</th>
<th>Written Assignments.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.) 1/24</td>
<td>Course overview, logistics, introductions, community guidelines, labs,</td>
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<td></td>
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| 2.) 1/29-1/31 | What is Stress & Wellness Lab: *Diaphragmatic breathing*  
1/31: Assign University resources group project  
*Time Management Peer Mentor Workshop* | Ch. 01 & pg. 281 | |
| 3.) 2/5 – 2/7 | Stress Psychophysiology  
*Lab: Body Scan*  
Watch: Stress Portrait of a Killer documentary | 2/5: Ch. 02  
pg. 282 | |
| 4.) 2/12 – 2/14 | Stress and Disease  
*Lab: Progressive Muscle Relaxation* | Ch. 03;  
pg. 257 - 266 | |
| 5.) 2/19 – 2/21 | Interventions  
*Budget-Setting Peer Mentor Workshop*  
Assign Mini-Review/Occ. Stress Paper | Ch. 05 | |
| 6.) 2/26 – 2/28 | 2/26: U.R. Groups 1-5 Presentations  
2/28: U.R. Groups 6-10 Presentations | | 2/26: U.R. paper & slides due on Canvas (all groups) at 11:59PM |
| 7.) 3/5 – 3/7 | Mental Wellness Interventions  
*Growth Mindset Peer Mentor Workshop* | Ch. 08  
Ch. 10 | |
| 8.) 3/12 – 3/14 | 3/12: Midterm Exam 1. (all material through 3/7).  
3/14: Meditation | 3/14: pg. 284 – 286  
& Ch. 10 | |
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| 9.) 3/19 – 3/21 | Physical Wellness Interventions (nutrition, exercise)  
  Sleep Hygiene Peer Mentor Workshop | Pg. 123- 136 (ch. 06); Ch. 13 |  |
| 10.) 3/26 – 3/28 | 3/26: Yoga based movement class  
  Lab: Mindfulness  
  Stress Log & Paper Assigned | Wear comfortable clothes  
  pg. 288 - 290 | 3/26: Occ. stress or mini-review paper due on Canvas at 11:59pm |
| 11.) 4/2 – 4/4 | SPRING BREAK | |  |
| 12.) 4/9 – 4/11 | Emotional Wellness Interventions  
  Lab: Visualization | Ch. 07;  
  pg. 255 – 257 | 4/9: “10 days of Meditation” response due on Canvas |
| 13.) 4/16 – 4/18 | Spiritual Wellness Interventions  
  Lab or workshop TBD | Ch. 09; pg. 138 - 142 |  |
| 14.) 4/23 – 4/25 | Environmental and Social Determinants of Stress  
  Watch: Killing Us Softly 4  
  Gender Roles in Society Peer Mentor Workshop | Ch. 15; pg. 137  
  Ch. 16 |  |
| 15.) 4/30 – 5/2 | Behavior Change Strategies  
  Goal Setting Peer Mentor Workshop  
  Gratitude and Stress Relief | Ch. 14 | 5/2: Stress log & Paper due at 11:59 pm on Canvas |
| 16.) 5/7 – 5/9 | Stress Management through lifespan  
  Class Review and wrap-up  
  Lab: Stress Relief through art | |  |
| 5/15 | Final Exam. (Wednesday) | 9:45am-12:00pm |  |