1.0 BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

1.1 Course Number: Psychology 3350G
1.2 Course Name: Adolescent Risk Behaviours
1.3 Class Times: Thursdays 2:30pm-5:20pm, room W2
1.4 Instructor Information
   Instructor: Dr. Tara Dumas
   Office: V121
   E-mail: tdumas2@uwo.ca
   Office hours: Wednesdays 1pm-2pm and Thursdays 1:30pm-2:30pm
   Course website: http://owl.uwo.ca {UWO login ID & password}

2.0. CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
An in-depth analysis and critique of theory and research on risk behaviour in adolescence, including precursors, correlates and outcomes. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of: (1) adolescence and emerging adulthood as developmental periods, (2) the biological, cognitive and social factors that underlie youth risk behavior, and (3) current prevention and intervention efforts.

Prerequisite(s): Psychology 2830A/B (or Psych 2800E, 2820E, 2840F/G, 2855F/G or 2855F/G) and registration in the third or fourth year of Honors Specialization, Major in Psychology, or permission of the Department.
Antirequisite(s): None

3.0 COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES
By the end of the course students should:

- possess a well-rounded knowledge of theory and research on adolescent/emerging adult risk behaviors;
- be able to think critically about and thoughtfully discuss these topics;
- have further honed their skills of critiquing research studies and writing scientific research papers.

4.0 DESCRIPTION OF CLASS METHODS
This course has multiple components. Students will be responsible for:

1. Reading peer-reviewed journal articles and formulating well-thought-out questions or comments about these readings each week.
2. Participating in class discussion on the aforementioned readings.
3. Presenting one journal article to the class and moderating a class discussion on the topic of the article.
4. Writing a critical review paper on a topic related to adolescent/emerging adult risk behaviours.
5. Contributing to and present a group project for the Healthy Behaviours in an Online World Conference.

5.0 REQUIRED TEXTS

N/A. Journal articles and chapters only.

6.0 EVALUATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Participation</th>
<th>15%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Presentation and Discussion Moderator</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Online Behaviours Conference Project</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</table>

Class Participation

Students are responsible for attending every class and actively participating in class discussion. After each class, students’ participation will be graded as follows: 0 = absent; 1 = present without participation; 2 = present with minimal participation; 3 = present with strong participation (10% of final grade). Grades will not only reflect the quantity of students’ participation, but also the quality of students’ contribution to discussion.

Students are responsible for bringing and communicating at least 2 thoughtful, high-quality questions/comments per class pertaining to the assigned weekly reading(s). Students will also be required to send both Dr. Dumas and the discussion moderator(s) for that week their questions/comments before each class (5% of final grade). Questions/comments will be sent via the “Message” tab of our OWL course page. Discussion moderators for each week will be listed in the “Schedule” tab on OWL. Students who send their questions/comments during class time or after class on a given week will lose participation marks. If students are unable to attend class on a given week, they are still responsible for sending their weekly questions/comments to Dr. Dumas and the discussion moderator(s).

Class Presentation and Discussion Moderator

Beginning the week of January 24th, students will have the opportunity to moderate class discussion of one assigned class reading. In pairs, students will choose a topic from a list of class readings on the first day of class. On their assigned day, students will first present a brief overview of their assigned reading in Powerpoint (max 10 minutes), including the study’s major implications and limitations. Presenting students will then moderate a 25-30 minute class discussion, in which they will be responsible for communicating major topics of discussion, keeping discussion on track, and, if necessary, posing their own questions to be discussed. Students are responsible for e-mailing Dr. Dumas their Powerpoint presentations by 2pm on the day of their discussion moderation. Failure to do so will result in a 10% deduction from the students’ final discussion moderation grade. Further details will follow.
**Critical Analysis Paper**

Students will be required to write a critical analysis paper on a research topic in adolescent/emerging adult risk behaviour. A hard copy of your paper must be submitted to Dr. Dumas AND an electronic copy of your paper must be submitted via the Turnitin link on our Owl course webpage before 2:30pm on February 14th. Students will lose 5% off their paper grade if their proposals are submitted to Dr. Dumas or Turnitin after 2:30pm on February 14th, and they will lose an additional 5% for each subsequent day that their paper is late. Papers will be evaluated for content, clarity, form of writing and general scholarship. Further details will follow.

**Healthy Online Behaviours Conference Project**

On Monday, April 1st from 9am-12noon, students will participate in the Healthy Behaviours in an Online World conference. This interactive conference, which was jointly created by Dr. Dumas and the Safe Schools\(^1\) team at the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB), will be hosted at Huron by the 3350 class. The conference will involve a set of presentations given by 3350 students, Dr. Dumas and individuals from TVDSB, in addition to a set of breakout discussions.

In groups, 3350 students will be responsible for giving a presentation to conference attendees (high school students and teachers). Topics will be chosen in class and will cover the promotion of healthy online practices and the reduction of unhealthy online behaviours by youth. **Attendance at the Healthy Behaviours in an Online World conference is mandatory for 3350G students. Failure to attend their groups’ presentation on that day will result in students receiving a zero for their presentation grade.**

About one week after the conference (April 8th before 4pm), groups will submit a paper that describes in more detail the research and theory that informed their presentations. Groups will submit their proposal both via the Turnitin link on our OWL course page and in hard copy to Dr. Dumas (V121). All group members will lose 5% off their proposal grade if their proposals are submitted to Dr. Dumas or Turnitin after 4:00pm on April 8th, and they will lose an additional 5% for each subsequent day that their paper is late. More detail on this project to come.

\(^1\)Safe Schools is a district-wide program that aims to maintain a positive learning environment for high school and elementary school students.

**6.1 GRADES**

Students at Huron University College should consider a grade in the range from 75-79 to be evidence of satisfactory performance in a 3000-level Psychology course. Grades in the A (80-90%) range will only be awarded for performance that is demonstrably superior to the third or fourth-year standard associated with the Major or Minor modules. A grade of A+ (90-100%) will only be awarded rarely and only for work that is exceptional.
# 7.0 Tentative Schedule of Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic(s)</th>
<th>Reading(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>10-Jan</td>
<td>Introduction to course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Topic(s)</td>
<td>Reading(s)</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>21-Feb</td>
<td>Reading Week – No class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Topic(s)</td>
<td>Reading(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>21-Mar</td>
<td>Preparation for Conference Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>28-Mar</td>
<td>Practice Conference Presentations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1-Apr</td>
<td>Healthy Behaviours in an Online World Conference</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>4-Apr</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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** Papers available for class presentation and discussion moderation

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**Appendix to Course Outlines**

**Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

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**Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars**

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Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds

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The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

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A lack of academic integrity is indicated by such behaviours as the following:

- Cheating on tests;
- Fraudulent submissions online;
- Plagiarism in papers submitted (including failure to cite and piecing together unattributed sources);
- Unauthorized resubmission of course work to a different course;
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Fabrication of results or sources; 
Purchasing work and representing it as one’s own.

**Academic Integrity: Importance and Impact**

Being at university means engaging with a variety of communities in the pursuit and sharing of knowledge and understanding in ways that are clear, respectful, efficient, and productive. University communities have established norms of academic integrity to ensure responsible, honest, and ethical behavior in the academic work of the university, which is best done when sources of ideas are properly and fully acknowledged and when responsibility for ideas is fully and accurately represented.

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