# University of North Texas at Dallas
## Spring 2025
## Abuse in Adult Relationships * PSYC 4000-001 * 3 hours

**Department:** Sociology & Psychology
**School:** Liberal Arts & Sciences
**Instructor:** Candice "Dr. K" Kowalski-Dulaney
**Email:** Candice.Kowalski@untdallas.edu
**Phone:** 720-764-1865 (Text Only)
**Virtual Office Hours:** Mon – Thur, 10:00am – 12:00pm CST
**Class Location:** Online
**Class Day/Time:** Asynchronous Remote Learning

**UNT Dallas Library Contact Info:**
972-780-1616; http://www.untdallas.edu/library; library@untdallas.edu

**UNT Dallas Bookstore Contact Info:**
972-780-3652; http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore; untdallas@bkstr.com
********************************************************************

**Course Catalogue Description:** A general survey of current research on psychological, interpersonal, and situational factors involved in physical and emotional abuse in dating, cohabiting, and marital relationships. The interdisciplinary body of research is covered from a psychological perspective.

**Pre-requisite(s):** PSYC 3650 or equivalent

**Required Textbook:** Family & Intimate Partner Violence, 6th Edition
Denise Kindschi Gosselin, Pearson

**Course Overview:**

The overall goal of this course is to give you a thorough understanding of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) to inspire awareness and action. We will examine the psychological, interpersonal, and situational factors of IPV by gaining an understanding of the conceptual frameworks, types of IPV, abuse in specific populations, prevention and intervention strategies, and emergency management.

**Learning Objectives/Outcomes:**
At the end of this course, students will be able to:
1. Describe the scope and prevalence of the problem of IPV.
2. Identify the specific behavioral characteristics of abusers and their victims.
3. Understand the theoretical frameworks that are used to explain IPV.
4. Identify prevention and intervention strategies for lay people as well as counselors and first responders.
5. Gain skills in detecting IPV and in providing help for victims.

**Course Schedule**
- All assignments are due by **11:59 pm** on the Sunday of their respective week and <u>should be submitted via Canvas.</u>
- This will NOT be the case for Finals Week; **Finals will be due by 11:59 pm on FRIDAY OF FINALS WEEK – NO EXCEPTIONS!**

| Week | Start Date | Chapter(s) | Assignment(s) | Due Date |
|------|-----------|------------|---------------|----------|
| 1 | Jan 13 | None | Introduction Post | Jan 19 |
| 2 | Jan 20 | 1: Violence Against Women | Discussion 1 | Jan 26 |
| 3 | Jan 27 | 2: History of Family Violence | Discussion 2 | Feb 2 |
| 4 | Feb 3 | 3: Focus on Research | **Exam 1**<br><br>Discussion 3 | Feb 9 |
| 5 | Feb 10 | 4: Intro to Child Abuse/Neglect | Discussion 4 | Feb 16 |
| 6 | Feb 17 | 5: Investigating Child Abuse | Discussion 5 | Feb 23 |
| 7 | Feb 24 | 6: Adolescent Victimization | **Short Essay 1**<br><br>Discussion 6 | Mar 2 |
| 8 | Mar 3 | 7: Adolescent Perpetrators | **Exam 2**<br><br>Discussion 7 | Mar 9 |
|  | Mar 10 | **SPRING BREAK** |  |  |
| 9 | Mar 17 | 8: Intimate Partner Violence | Discussion 8 | Mar 23 |
| 10 | Mar 24 | 9: LGBTQ Partner Abuse | Discussion 9 | Mar 30 |

| 11 | Mar 31 | 10: Abuse in Later Life | **Exam 3**<br><br>Discussion 10 | Apr 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12 | Apr 7 | 11: Adult Perpetrators | Discussion 11 | Apr 13 |
| 13 | Apr 14 | 12: Police Response to IPV | Discussion 12 | Apr 20 |
| 14 | Apr 21 | 13: Stalking and Homicide | Discussion 13 | Apr 27 |
| 15 | Apr 28 | 14: Court Response to IPV | **Short Essay 2**<br><br>Discussion 14 | May 4 |
| 16 | May 5 | None | **Final Exam** | **\*May 9**<br><br>**(FRI)** |

## Course Evaluation Methods

| Assignment | Point Value | Total |
|---|---|---|
| Introductions | 1 @ 20 points | 20 |
| Discussions (Initial post + 2 peer responses) | 14 @ 20 points each | 280 |
| Exams (Including Final) | 4 @ 100 points each | 400 |
| Short Essays | 2 @ 50 points each | 100 |
| **TOTAL** | | **800** |

## Grade Determination

| A | 89.5% – 100% | 716 – 800 points |
|---|---|---|
| B | 79.5% – 89.4% | 636 – 715 points |
| C | 69.5% – 79.4% | 556 – 635 points |
| D | 59.5% – 69.4% | 476 – 555 points |
| F | 0% – 59.4% | 0 – 475 points |

*Note: I do not "bump up" at the end of the semester. It is your responsibility to keep track of your grade throughout the semester and apply yourself. If you wait until the end of the semester to work with me, it may be too late to achieve the grade you want.

**Classroom Policies and Procedures**

**Assignment Policy:**

All assignments will be administered via Canvas. For additional information on final grade percentages and calculations, please see the grade table provided above in the syllabus.

For this course, you will be expected to complete the following assignments:

-<u>Introduction Post (20 points)</u>

In the first week of class, you will be asked to provide a personal biography. In an online setting, it is important that we get to know and welcome one another early in the course since the course will rely heavily on discussions with peers. Please see the discussion board on Canvas for instructions.

-<u>Discussions (20 points each)</u>

Each week, a question will be posed in the discussion board on Canvas for you to reflect on. You will be expected to draft a response in a minimum of 250 words (worth 10 points). Please use at least one scholarly, peer-reviewed source (not the textbook). After you post your answer, you will have the opportunity to respond to your classmates for your 2 required peer responses in a minimum of 100 words (5 points each). All posts have the same due date, so I encourage everyone to post their initial response early, giving everyone ample time to draft their peer responses. Please keep in mind our diversity and tolerance policy (provided below); no derogatory comments or hate speech will be tolerated. I also expect for sources to be scholarly and properly cited using APA formatting (information also provided below).

-<u>Exams (100 points each)</u>

A total of 4 exams (including the final) will be administered over the course of the semester. All will be accessible via Canvas. Please see the section entitled "Exam Policy" below for further information.

-<u>Short Essays (50 points each)</u>

Your short essay writing assignments give you an opportunity to demonstrate how you are synthesizing information discussed in class and will exhibit your

proficiency in academic writing, APA formatting, and overall scientific literacy. The prompts for these writing assignments will be provided on Canvas; you will be expected to compile an essay response approximately 350 – 500 words in length in which you properly utilize 2 – 3 scholarly sources. (Please note that while textbooks are discouraged as references in scientific writing, I will allow your textbook to serve as one of your sources.) Be sure to provide a reference sheet in addition to in-text citations.

**APA Format:**

This course, along with every psychology course at UNT Dallas, employs the use of APA formatting in *all* writing assignments. This is vastly different from MLA formatting, so I encourage everyone to familiarize yourself with this method of formatting. Please refrain from using shortcut citation generators (e.g., Citation Machine, EasyBib, etc.) as these *do not* provide accurate references.

Outside of the APA Manual, I recommend referring to the Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab) for accurate guidelines and assistance. You may either enter *APA Purdue OWL* in any online search engine or access the site directly at https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html.

**Exam Policy:**

Traditional on-site classes typically have Midterms, Finals, and/or periodic exams throughout the course of the semester. We will have similar assessments, which will be administered online via Canvas during the weeks designated above in the syllabus. These exams are designed to test your knowledge and comprehension of the assigned reading material. Exams will be multiple choice format and will only cover information discussed since the time of the previous exam (e.g., Exam 1 may cover chapters 1 – 3, Exam 2 may cover chapters 4 – 7, and so on). Each exam will open on the Monday of the designated week and close the following Sunday at 11:59 pm. **\*\*The only exception to this is anything due during Finals week, which MUST be completed by Friday.\*\*** Please refer to the course calendar above for further clarification.

**Attendance & Participation:**

Regular attendance and consistent participation is expected because this class is designed as a shared learning experience. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it very challenging to catch up on missed information and/or receive credit for missed activities. Participation in all class activities is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

**Late Work Policy:**

Any work submitted after the designated due date will <u>AUTOMATICALLY</u> be docked 5% for each day it is missing. This policy will be enacted for every student regardless of reason. I provide students an entire week to complete their assignments, and so I expect you to utilize your time responsibly.

**Virtual Office Hours:**

As I am 100% online, my office hours are virtual only. I will hold my virtual office hours Monday through Thursday, 4 - 6 pm cst. Please schedule with me via email and I will send you the appropriate Zoom link for our meeting.

**Communication Preferences:**

<u>Emails</u>

I encourage everyone to reach out to me via email should you have questions or concerns. Please use your university email to contact me at [Candice.Kowalski@untdallas.edu](mailto:Candice.Kowalski@untdallas.edu), as the security filters often flag messages from "external" sources and do not properly include any attachments you may be sending. You may also email me through the Canvas messaging system, which will forward directly to my university email.

When sending me emails, please remember to provide your name and class. If you wish to ask about a particular assignment, please tell me which assignment you are specifically referring to.

Please give me at least 24 hours to respond to your emails. I limit my screen time on the weekends, so keep this in mind if you decide to wait until Sunday to address your weekly assignments.

<u>Text Messaging & Voice Calling</u>

For my courses, I utilize a free text app called Talkatone to remain readily available to my students. This number should be used for text messaging only (**720-764-1865**). For the quickest response from me, you may text me any time during normal business hours. I cannot guarantee quick responses outside of these times. In addition, my phone enters "Do Not Disturb" mode every night at 9:00 pm; if you text after then, I will not see it until the following morning.

If you wish to speak to me over the phone, please text the above number to request a voice call. Unless you tell me otherwise, I will call the number from which you texted; your caller ID will read "Restricted" for security purposes.

**Diversity/Tolerance Policy:**

This is meant to be a safe environment for the exchange of ideas. Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive and inappropriate language and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual identities, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated; <u>no hate speech is permitted in this course</u>. Please conduct yourself with dignity and respect. Disruptions that violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities as I deem appropriate. Furthermore, please practice discretion when discussing personal matters and give others a chance to share.

**Note on Course Content:**

As this is a university level course, the content is geared toward adult students. This means we may tackle conversations that could be uncomfortable for some students. Sensitive topics will be approached respectfully, and I encourage everyone to remain objective and academic in their contributions; I will be doing the same. I would also like to ask my students to speak to me directly should anything offensive surface in our class; otherwise, I will not have the opportunity to learn myself and correct the situation.

**University Policies and Procedures**

**Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):**

Chapter 7 (7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see Disability Services Office [http://www.untdallas.edu/disability](http://www.untdallas.edu/disability). You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at [UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu](mailto:UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu).

**Canvas Accessibility Statement:**

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. Canvas Instructor Accessibility Statement is also provided [https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility](https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility).

*Note: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

**Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:**

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNTD. This short survery will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. The university is very interested in feedback from students as faculty work

to continually improve teaching and course delivery strategies. The SETE is an important part of your participation in this class.

**Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of academic integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Code of Academic Integrity at
[http://www.untdallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf](http://www.untdallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf)

In addition, conduct all academic work turned in for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments according to the following:

*On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.*

**Bad Weather Policy:**

While this is a remote course, please note that on those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In the event of inclement weather, class the UNT Dallas main voicemail number at 972-780-3600 or search posting on the campus website at
[http://www.untdallas.edu](http://www.untdallas.edu). Students are also encouraged to update their Jag Alert contact information so they will receive these notifications automatically.

**Online "Netiquette":**

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps – usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks). Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the UNT Dallas Student Code of Conduct at https://www.untdallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/hds0041/pdf/7_001_student_code_of_conduct_may_2014.pdf. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

**Disruptive Behavior in an Instructional Setting:**

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absence for that class period and any other classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (UNTD Policy 7.001 found at https://www.untdallas.edu/hr/upol) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the

Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

**Technology Assistance:**

In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with minimum system requirements. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using the Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Student Assistance (Distance Learning) at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups.

For more information see:

UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements
https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721

Canvas Instructure Supported & Unsupported Operating Systems
https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10720