GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

EFHP 598 001 — Analyses of Health & Human Performance (3)
Fall 2015

DAY/TIME:	Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9:00AM - 10:15AM	LOCATION:	Occoquan 302
PROFESSOR:	Dr. Shane Caswell	EMAIL ADDRESS:	scaswell@gmu.edu
OFFICE LOCATION:	Bull Run Hall #201C	PHONE NUMBER:	703-993-4638
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment	FAX NUMBER:	703-993-2025

PRE/CO-REQUISITES
Graduate standing or Permission of instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Studies problem areas in exercise, fitness, and health promotion research, theory, or practice under direction of faculty member. May be repeated. No more than 3 credits may be earned.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate understanding of writing styles different types of scientific literature
2. Critically evaluate quality of published research in the sub-disciplines of applied kinesiology
3. Conduct a systematic review of literature using hand and computer search techniques
4. Evaluate the quality of scientific literature
5. Synthesize the scientific and professional literature
6. Demonstrate the ability to communicate professionally in both written and oral forms

COURSE OVERVIEW
This course will provide students the opportunity to survey the various sub-disciplines of applied kinesiology and their methods of inquiry. The course will place emphases on critically appraising research literature, and data collection, data organization and analyses for various research questions.

PROFESSIONAL DISPOSITIONS
Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

Attendance
Students are expected to be on time, attend all class meetings and be prepared for in class assignments and projects. Excused absences include the following: illness (must bring a receipt or note from a doctor), family death, athletic/academic event, and others at the discretion of the instructor. For known upcoming absences, students must contact the instructor at least one week in advance to the missed class to make up work. In the case of illness or some other unforeseen absence, the student must contact the instructor via e-mail or telephone. At the next attended class meeting the student will discuss material that is to be completed. It is the student's obligation to pursue any make-up work.

Participation
Students are expected to read assigned material (e.g., chapters, articles) prior to class. Class will be based on discussion lead by the students and moderated by the instructor.

Academic Load
Although many students must work to meet living expenses, employment and personal responsibilities are not a consideration for missed classes, late or incomplete assignments, the course content, or the course schedule (see http://catalog.gmu.edu). Student employment does not take priority over academic obligations. I recognize that many students need to work in order to meet living expenses, however, there are distinct guidelines for students in terms of the number of credit hours which should be attempted based on how many hours per week a student has outside employment. For additional information on this subject, please see the GMU Academic Catalog (http://catalog.gmu.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=104#Registration_attendance) for further information. Students who fail to observe these guidelines may expect no special consideration for academic problems arising from the pressures of employment.

Honor Code
Students are held to the standards of the George Mason University Honor Code (see http://honorcode.gmu.edu for details). Violations, including cheating and plagiarism, will be reported to the Honor Committee. Student assignments may be put through plagiarism detecting software.

Written Assignments
All assignments must be typed in Microsoft Word, and formatted as follows (*unless otherwise specified*): double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins, your name and title in the running header at top left hand corner, continuous line numbers on left margin, and page numbers centered in footer. Failure to comply with any or all parts of this format will result in an unacceptable assignment, which corresponds to zero (0) points. If you do not submit your document in a Microsoft Word document (doc, docx) , it will not be an acceptable assignment, which corresponds to zero (0) points.

Pay close attention to spelling and grammar as these will count towards your grade on written assignments. American Medical Association Manual (AMA) of Style (10th edition) format must be used for all written work in this class (e.g., in referencing, creation of tables, and formatting headers for paper sections).

Assignments must be turned in on Blackboard/MyMason Portal by the beginning of class on the specified date due (*unless otherwise specified*). No late assignments will be accepted. It is recommended that students keep copies of all submitted work.

Class Material
I use a combination of approaches to assist your learning. These include reading assignments and discussion of the reading, learning activities that provide practical experience in research methods, analyzing research examples, online activities, and homework preparing various elements of a research proposal. You are encouraged to ask questions about the assigned reading, followed by discussion and learning activities. This means you must read the material before the class! Be prepared to be called on at random regarding the readings.

Technology Use During Class
As per GMU policy, all sound emitting technology is required to be turned off during the class meeting time. No sound emitting technology (e.g., cell phones, smart phones, iPads, Tablets, pagers, etc.) is allowed at any time during the class period. Students who are observed using any form of technology inappropriately (e.g., sending text messages from cell phones, visiting social networking sites from laptops, etc.) will be dismissed from class for the day, counted as an absence, and not permitted to make up missed assignments. Additionally,

no laptop computers (e.g., netbooks, notebooks, tablets, etc.) will be permitted for use during class time unless with permission from the instructor.

E-mail Correspondence
Only messages that originate from a George Mason University address will be accepted. Please address the subject line for all email pertaining to this course as: *EFHP 612: Last Name – purpose of email.* The following is an appropriate professional format:

Subject: EFHP 612: Spongebob Squarepants – Help with long division

Dear Dr. Caswell, *(Introductory salutation)*

I have a question regarding one of the assignments. *(Text body)*

Regards, *(Ending Salutation)*

Mr. Sponge Bob Squarepants *(Your name)*

Note: All email will be responded to in the order in which it is received. Students should allow 48 hours for a response.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
GMU is an Honor Code University; please see the University Catalog for a full description of the code and the honor committee process. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously and violations are treated gravely. What does academic integrity mean in this course? First, it means that when you are responsible for a task, you will be the one to perform that task. When you rely on someone else's work in an aspect of the performance of that task, you will give full credit in the proper, accepted form. Another aspect of academic integrity is the free play of ideas. Vigorous discussion and debate are encouraged in this course, the firm expectation that all aspects of the class will be conducted with civility and respect for differing ideas, perspectives and traditions. When in doubt, please ask for guidance and clarification.

REQUIRED READINGS
As assigned by the instructor

NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY
This course is delivered through a hybrid model using classroom instruction (face to face) and online assignments.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
All students will have to use Zotero as their citation management software, and provide a digital copy of the library. Online tutorials, guides, and download of plugin is available at:
http://infoguides.gmu.edu/content.php?pid=23687&sid=170423

Zotero works primarily with Firefox browser, which is also free for download at:
http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/ There is also an extension for the google browser (Chrome).

There is also a standalone version for windows and Mac that can be downloaded from https://www.zotero.org/

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

First Year Students:
1. Research Critique Assignments #'s 1 to 4 -- See appropriate document for instructions
2. Final Project -- See appropriate document for instructions

Second Year Students:
3. Critical evaluation and annotation: Assignment #1 -- See appropriate document for instructions
4. Research Question and Purpose: Assignment #2 -- See appropriate document for instructions
5. Article Presentation and Discussion: Assignment #3 -- See appropriate document for instructions
6. Critiquing research presentations: Assignment #4 -- See appropriate document for instructions
7. Final Project -- See appropriate document for instructions

FIRST YEAR STUDENT ASSESSMENT METHOD	TOTAL
Assignment #1	10
Assignment #2	20
Assignment #3	20
Assignment #4	20
Final Project	30
TOTAL	**100**

SECOND YEAR STUDENT ASSESSMENT METHOD	TOTAL
Assignment #1	10
Assignment #2	10
Assignment #3	25
Assignment #4	25
Final Project	30
TOTAL	**100**

Course Grading Scale
The student's final letter grade will be earned based on the following scale:

Grade	Percentage	Quality Points	Grade	Percentage	Quality Points
A+	93%	4.00	B	83%	3.00
A	93%	4.00	B-	80%	2.67*
A-	90%	3.67	C	73%	2.00
B+	87%	3.33	F	<73%	0.00

Note:* Although a B- is a satisfactory grade for a course, students must maintain a 3.00 average in their degree program and present a 3.00 GPA on the courses listed on the graduation application.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading/Assignment Due Date
Sept 1[T]	Overview of course requirement	
Sept 3[R]	Research Process: Presentations – overview of research project, challenges, and, next steps with timelines	
Sept 8[T]	Searching the Literature: Mason library, interlibrary loan, databases, journals, creating alerts in journals, search keys, search history (pubmed), computing services Zotfile, iannotate, and zotepad	
Sept 10[R]	Synthesizing literature: Critical evaluation of literature and annotation tools	2nd Year Students: Assignment #1
Sept 15[T]	**Online/Out of Class** Synthesizing literature: Critically read and review literature	
Sept 17[R]	Synthesizing literature: Synthesis matrix & concept mapping	
Sept 22[T]	**Online/Out of Class**: Concept mapping for clarity and progress	
Sept 24[R]	Synthesizing literature: Presentations	2nd Year Students: Come to class prepared to share concept map
Sept 29[T]	**Online/Out of Class** Read assigned article: Develop 1 question about the article to ask the guest on Thursday 1st year students: develop question about instruction, methods, design and benefits of epidemiology 2nd year students: develop question about analysis, results, comparing literature, translating findings into policy	
Oct 1[R]	Guest Lecture – Dr. Zack Kerr – Meet at 10:30AM	
Oct 6[T]	**Online/Out of Class** Developing and refining research questions	
Oct 8[R]	Present purpose and research questions paragraph to class and provide a plan and rationale for analyses based on questions	2nd Year Students: Assignment #2 refine research questions and share draft purpose of study paragraph with literature support
Oct 13[T]	*No Class – Columbus Day Recess*	
Oct 15[R]	Matching research questions to your analyses	2nd Year Students: Come to class with your updated research plan with plan for analyses
Oct 20[T]	**Online/Out of Class** 2nd Year Students: Matt Stemmler and Kate Romm provide 1 article each – seminal or most important to support their respective study. All other 2nd Year Students work on data collection and organization First year students read and develop question(s)	
Oct 22[R]	Matt Stemmler present his study Kate Romm present her study 1st year students inquire about article read and how it supports their study Other questions regarding presentation Discussion Note: Presentation is 9:00 to 10:15AM	**1st Year Students:** Assignment #1 Write questions and critique 2nd year presentation for content and style **2nd Year Students:** Assignment #3 present to first year students and film presentation of partner. Upload film to Blackboard.

Oct 27[T]	**Online/Out of Class** Jonathan Neddo and Trish Kelshaw provide 1 article each – seminal or most important to support their respective study. First year students read and develop question(s). All other 2nd Year Students work on data collection and organization First year students read and develop question(s)	
Oct 29[R]	Jonathan Neddo present his study Trish Kelshaw present her study 1st year students inquire about article read and how it supports their study Other questions regarding presentation Discussion Note: Presentation is 9:00 to 10:15AM	**1st Year Students:** Assignment #2 Formulate good questions and critique 2nd year presentation for content and style **2nd Year Students:** Assignment #3 present to first year students and film presentation of partner. Upload to Blackboard.
Nov 3[T]	**Online/Out of Class** Hannah Stone and Tijana Popovic provide 1 article each – seminal or most important to support their respective study. First year students read and develop question(s). All other 2nd Year Students work on data collection and organization First year students read and develop question(s)	
Nov 5[R]	Hannah Stone present her study Tijana Popovic present her study 1st year students inquire about article read and how it supports their study Other questions regarding presentation Discussion Note: Presentation is 9:00 to 10:15AM	**1st Year Students:** Assignment #3 Formulate good questions and critique 2nd year presentation for content and style **2nd Year Students:** Assignment #3 present to first year students and film presentation of partner. Upload to Blackboard.
Nov 10[T]	**Online/Out of Class** Amanda Cary and Oladipo Eddo provide 1 article each – seminal or most important to support their respective study. All other 2nd Year Students work on data collection and organization First year students read and develop question(s)	
Nov 12[R]	Amanda Cary present her study Oladipo Eddo present his study 1st year students inquire about article read and how it supports their study Other questions regarding presentation Discussion: mind mapping exercise Note: Presentation is 9:00 to 10:15AM	**1st Year Students:** Assignment #4 Formulate good questions and critique 2nd year presentation for content and style **2nd Year Students:** Required to attend
Nov 17[T]	**Online/Out of Class**	**2nd Year Students:** Assignment #4. Critiquing research presentations.
Nov 19[R]	Review of statistical software data sets	
Nov 24[T]	Organizing data to answer research questions	**2nd Year Students:** Post copy of working data set to Blackboard and bring lap tops to class
Nov 26[R]	*No Class – Thanksgiving Recess*	**2nd Year Students:** Bring lap tops to class
Dec 1[T]	Conducting your analyses	**2nd Year Students:** Bring lap tops to class
Dec 3[R]	Presenting your research plan	**2nd Year Students:** Bring lap tops to class
Dec 8[T]	Putting all the pieces together	**2nd Year Students:** Bring lap tops to class

Dec 10^R	Final Project	**Final Project Due**

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course syllabus and/or schedule at any time. Changes will always posted on MyMason Portal/BlackBoard

Student Expectations

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/].

- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See http://ods.gmu.edu/].

- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responible-use-of-computing/].

- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.

- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See http://caps.gmu.edu/].

- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/].

- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism, please visit our website [See http://rht.gmu.edu].

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR: Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

CORE VALUES COMMITMENT: The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles.

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY | School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism