

# HEALTH ISSUES IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Rutgers University  
Department of Africana Studies  
014:347  
Spring 2023

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*Office Hours:* By email appointments

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*Recommended Text:* Braithwaite, Ronald & Taylor, Sandra & Treadwell, Henrie: Health Issues In the Black Community: 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (**readings provided**); **TEXTBOOK NOT REQUIRED**

*TA:* Juliana Lozano ([jl2801@scarletmail.rutgers.edu](mailto:jl2801@scarletmail.rutgers.edu))

*Office Hours:* By email appointments

## **Course Description:**

**Health Issues in the African American Community** examines critical health issues that have long impacted this demographic, which has often suffered from disparities in health care. This course focuses on the combination of sciences, skills, and beliefs that are directed to the maintenance and improvement of the health of this population. Additionally, it provides a foundation of knowledge needed to interact with the information currently being published in the field. The course exposes the student to the interface in healthcare existing between the citizen, the healthcare problems, and the potential solutions. Understanding the process of developing practical solutions is an integral part of the process.

## **Objectives:**

By the end of this course, each student will be able to do the following:

1. Appreciate, understand, and discuss the basis of health status in general and specifically as it relates to the African American community.
2. Begin to develop the tools in problem solving and team building necessary to address the issues presented in this course.

## **Course Requirements:**

All students are expected to attend **all** classes **on time** and be prepared to participate in discussions. Class participation is a critical component of this course, and all are expected to share their ideas, opinions and analysis.

### **Grade Breakdown:**

*Average of 3 Quizzes*

*Average of 2 Exams*

*A = 90<*

*B+ = 85 - 89*

*B = 80 - 84.9*

*C+ = 75 - 79.5*

*C = 70 - 74.9*

*D = 60 - 69.9*

*F = 59>*

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss class, please use the University absence-reporting website (<https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra>) to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. Please note: My policy for missed class and missed exams is

**IF YOU MISS CLASS AND ABSENCE IS NOT REPORTED TO THE UNIVERSITY, YOU WILL HAVE AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE AND YOUR GRADE WILL CONSEQUENTLY BE LOWERED ONE FULL LETTER GRADE.**

**Absence from exams: Makeup exams will be allowed only on the day following the regularly scheduled exam and only for the following reasons and reported to University absence website**

- 1. Illness verified by a doctor's note**
- 2. Religious holiday recognized by RU**
- 3. Death of an immediate family member**

**CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** Students who violate the Rutgers policy on academic integrity will be **reported to their Dean and expelled.**

### **Readings:**

Students will receive copies of articles, and other reading materials relevant to current health issues in the African American Community. **These additional readings can be found on Canvas under the "Resources" tab.** It will be **your** responsibility to keep current with these materials (*as you will be tested on them on the exams*). You are responsible for reading material from the textbook listed above. I will tell you in class what sections of the textbook you should study during the semester.

**Course Topic Outline:** (refer to class schedule)

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1, Jan. 23	Introduction to the Class Lecture 1: Covid 19 Lecture 2: Unhealthy Habits
2, Jan. 30	<b><u>QUIZ 1: COVID-19</u></b> Lecture 3: Sickle Cell and Lupus
3, Feb. 6	Lecture 4: Flu and Prostate Cancer
4, Feb. 13	Lecture 5: Lead Poisoning <b><u>QUIZ 2: SICKLE CELL + PROSTATE CANCER</u></b>
5, Feb. 20	Lecture 6: Birth Control
6, Feb. 27	Lecture 7: Diabetes <b><u>QUIZ 3: LEAD POSIONING + BIRTH CONTROL</u></b>
7, Mar. 6	EXAM 1 (COVID-19, Unhealthy Habits, Sickle Cell and Lupus, Flu and Prostate Cancer, Lead Poisoning, Birth Control) *Diabetes will NOT be on the first exam*
8, Mar. 13	SPRING BREAK
9, Mar. 20	Lecture 8: Opioids
10, Mar. 27	Lecture 9: Hypertension
11, Apr.3	Lecture 10: Infant Mortality <b><u>QUIZ 4: HYPERTENSION</u></b>
12, Apr. 10	Lecture 11: AIDS Independent Study Presentations
13, Apr. 17	Independent Study Presentations
14, Apr. 24	Independent Study Presentations
15, May 1	<b>Exam 2 (Lecture 1– Lecture 11)</b>

**Student-Wellness Services:**

**Just In Case Web App**

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

### **Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)**

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ [www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/](http://www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/)

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

### **Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)**

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.vpva.rutgers.edu/](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu/)

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

### **Disability Services**

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

### **Scarlet Listeners**

(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.