PSY-316 CHILDREN EXPOSED TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: PROMOTING RESILIENCY

COURSE SYLLABUS - Summer 2017, May 15th, 2017 to June 29th, 2017

INSTRUCTOR: Heather Bomsta, MA, MBA

CONTACTING THE INSTRUCTOR:

Office hours: By appointment via Google Hangout. For help on how to use Google Hangout, please follow this link: https://support.google.com/hangouts/

EMAIL POLICY:

When emailing the instructor with any questions you have regarding the course material and assignments, you should expect a reply within 24 hours of sending the email. This applies only to emails sent PRIOR TO 5 PM EST ON FRIDAYS. *Emails sent after 5pm EST on Fridays will be answered the following Monday by 5pm.*

Keep in mind the time of response (i.e., 24 hours) as you plan to work on assignments. If you send an email regarding an assignment that is due the next day, it may be too late. Please plan accordingly!

Via D2L EMAIL: To communicate via D2L email with the instructor, please do the following:

1. Login to the course via D2L
2. Click on the communication tab at the top of the page
3. Select “Classlist”
4. Click on the instructor’s name “Bomsta, Heather”
5. Write your email in the window that appears, which is the compose email message window. **THE INSTRUCTOR WILL ONLY Respond TO EMAILS SEnt THROUGH D2L EMAIL.** Whenever there is a need, a Google Hangout can be scheduled, but email contacts must always be made by following the steps above. If you look for the instructor’s email through the MSU website and try to contact her outside the D2L environment (by not following these steps and using alternate emails such as MSU regular email, gmail, etc.), your email will not be read.

Because this is an ONLINE COURSE there are certain Technology Requirements:

- A high-speed (broadband) internet connection
- Computer manufactured within the last four years
- Access to Desire2Learn
COURSE STRUCTURE:

- This is an **accelerated** summer course; **a full semester-worth of material will be covered in seven weeks**. Read this syllabus thoroughly and be sure you have allocated enough time to complete readings and assignments. For the last day to drop this class with a full refund consult the MSU Schedule of Courses ([https://schedule.msu.edu/default.aspx](https://schedule.msu.edu/default.aspx)).
- This course is built on a weekly framework; **TWO modules are covered each week** (except for the final week). Weekly course materials will become available every Monday at 8:00 am. Once the weekly course materials are posted, the folders will remain open the rest of the semester.
- Different due dates apply to different types of assignments (e.g., posts vs. quizzes vs. reflection papers). Please carefully read the Assignment Schedule in this syllabus and pay particular attention to due dates.
- All times posted in this syllabus are EST.
- This course will be delivered entirely online through the course management system, Desire2Learn. The website will be where you will access online lessons, course materials, additional resources and where assignments and grades will be posted.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

- If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem, you can visit **Desire2Learn Help Site**. You can also call the Help Desk at Toll Free (844) 678-6200 or Local (517) 432-6200. Please know that it is much more effective to first contact the D2L Help Desk (rather than the instructor) as D2L staff are available 24/7 and well-trained in helping you navigate technical problems.
- **Getting Started:**
  - Go to MSU’s course management system – Desire-To-Learn (D2L) using this URL: [https://d2l.msu.edu/](https://d2l.msu.edu/).
  - Login using your MSU username and password. If you are officially registered for the course, you will find our course, **US17-PSY-316-Children & Domestic Violence**, listed under My Courses and available from the Select a Course pull down menu. (If you think you ARE registered but the course does not appear, please contact the D2L Help Desk.)
- Please contact the instructor ASAP with issues concerning missing assignments or poor grades.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

**Objectives:**

- To provide a comprehensive understanding of the nature and prevalence of domestic violence and its effect on children in the United States.
- To understand how racism, sexism, heterosexism, classism and ableism interface with domestic violence.
- To explore the impact domestic violence has on children’s brains, feelings and behaviors.
• To understand the varying ways in which abusers expose children to violence.
• To explore the variety of ways in which batterers interact with systems, which continue to harm children after their relationship ends with the children’s mothers.
• To explore the variety of ways that mothers attempt to protect themselves and their children from domestic violence.
• To examine the factors that promote children’s resiliency.
• To critique current interventions designed to assist children exposed to domestic violence.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING CRITERIA
Grades are made up of a number of elements including:
• Weekly participation in Online Learning Discussions (Discussion Board)
• Weekly quizzes
• Brief reflection papers (two papers of 1-2 pages each)
• Written final exam

Each of these grade elements is covered in more detail below.

Weekly Participation in Online Learning Discussions.
Traditional face-to-face instruction allows for the opportunity for the instructor to engage in discussion with the students on key topics. Through the D2L Discussion Board feature, we will create a similar online learning community of dialogue and interaction.

- One discussion board post for each week will be worth 10 points.
- See the rubric uploaded to D2L for detailed instructions and point breakdown.

PLEASE REFER TO THE SCHEDULE BELOW FOR THE POSTING DUE DATES. UNLESS YOU NOTIFY THE INSTRUCTOR ABOUT CHALLENGES TO MEET THE DEADLINE, NO POINTS WILL BE AWARDED AFTER MISSING A DUE POSTING DATE.

To earn all points for the discussion board, you will need to post once every week. In order to earn all points, your post must be a well-informed and thoughtful post.

In summary, to earn all points associated with the discussion forum, each student is responsible each week for:
- Posting one in-depth comment/reflection in response to the instructor’s weekly post.
- You are highly encouraged to initiate conversations with other classmates, however, your weekly grading will be based solely on your initial post.
- If you have questions about course materials, please write them AFTER you have written your in-depth comment/reflection. QUESTIONS ABOUT COURSE MATERIALS WILL NOT COUNT AS DISCUSSION POINTS AND YOU WILL BE GIVEN ZERO POINTS IF YOU ONLY POST A
QUESTION.

The discussion board will function as follows:

The instructor will post a reflection with the opening of every weekly module. This reflection will have the purpose of highlighting key aspects being addressed each week. You will have to post an in-depth comment/reaction to the instructor’s comments. **Posting questions is acceptable, as long as they are posted AFTER your comment as the grade will be based SOLELY on the quality of your in-depth comment/reaction. Points will NOT be awarded if comments are superficial or only make reference to material addressed in the lectures. REMEMBER: GRADING OF POSTS SHOULD REFLECT CRITICAL THINKING ABOUT COURSE MATERIAL.**

**Examples of posts that will **NOT** receive points are:** “The wheel of power and control is useful and every mental health practitioner should know it” OR “I agree with the material presented this week. The readings were informative and I learned about a new aspect of DV.”

**An example of a post that will receive FEWER POINTS is:** “The wheel of power and control is useful because it highlights the need to understand DV as related to issues of power and control. I also liked it because the issue of male privilege is minimally addressed in society.”

**An example of a post that will receive FULL POINTS (10) is:** “The wheel of power and control is useful because it highlights the need to understand DV as related to issues of power and control. Way too often DV is portrayed in the media as exclusively consisting of physical violence. However, the wheel of power and control indicates that there are many expressions of violence including psychological, financial, and intimidation. Every health and mental health practitioner should be thoroughly familiar with this wheel to be able to identify multiple expressions of DV. Further, the media should also be informed by this understanding, as the more subtle expressions of power and control are frequently minimized or overlooked when stories of DV are reported.”

Based on these examples, it is clear that there is a need to invest time in becoming familiar with course materials presented each week, in order to post an informative post. Thus, **TAKE YOUR TIME TO READ, REFLECT, AND POST A COMMENT THAT DEMONSTRATES CRITICAL THINKING ABOUT COURSE MATERIAL.**

Remember: Use discussion posts to pose questions about course materials but do so AFTER you have posted your in-depth comment/reflection. Also, you are encouraged to react to classmates’ posts but your grade will be based solely on your single weekly post.
IF YOUR QUESTION IS NOT ANSWERED IN THE DISCUSSION FORUM OR YOU ARE STILL UNCLEAR ABOUT THE COURSE MATERIAL, PLEASE EMAIL THE INSTRUCTORS AND REQUEST FURTHER CLARIFICATION.

It is expected that students will have disagreements and contrasting points of view as a reaction to opinions shared in the discussion boards and the material included in the modules. To maintain a productive learning environment, it is important for these posts to be characterized by respectful language and tone.

LIMITS TO CONFIDENTIALITY

Please carefully read page 12 of this syllabus as there are limits to confidentiality in this course. Specifically, as the instructor, I must report the following information to other University offices (including the Department of Police and Public Safety) if you share this information:

- Suspected child abuse/neglect, even if this maltreatment happened when you were a child,
- Allegations of sexual assault or sexual harassment when they involve MSU students, faculty, or staff, and
- Credible threats of harm to oneself or to others.

Quizzes

Over the semester, 5 weekly quizzes will be given. Quizzes will measure the students’ knowledge of the readings, videos and lecture material for that week. Students have until the end of every week to complete each quiz. EXAMPLE: If the content for Week 2 opens on Monday, May 22nd, the quiz for Week 2 will also open on Monday, May 22nd at 5pm and will be due by Sunday, May 28th at 11 pm.

- Students will have 60 minutes to complete each quiz. Please plan accordingly before beginning your quiz session.
- Each quiz is worth 10 points.
- D2L will not allow access to the week’s quiz until you have opened each class item for the week (e.g., articles, videos, lectures).

Brief Reflection Papers

You will be asked to write two 1-2-page papers throughout the course of the semester. It is very important that you notice that the minimum length for each paper is one page and the maximum length is two pages.

Papers must meet the following specifications:

- 1-2 pages in length
- Double spaced
- Arial font style
- 12p point font size
- 1” margins
- Adheres to APA standards of publication
- Cites relevant references for critical points stated in the document.
The purpose of the Reflection papers is to give students an opportunity to exhibit (not only that they have read) that they have thought critically about course materials as they will be asked to provide expert opinion on key topics associated with DV.

- Each reflection paper will be worth a total of 25 points.
- See the rubric on D2L for detailed instructions and point breakdown.

Please read the following sources for APA formatting as points will be deducted for not following adequate formatting:

- In text citations: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/02/
- Reference list: Basic Rules. See on left hand side links to specific reference types: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/05/

Exam

You will be asked to complete a short essay exam that will test your knowledge of the material covered from weeks 1-6. The exam will be administered through D2L and will be open from 8 AM on Sunday, June 25th through Monday, June 26th at NOON.

Please notice that the closing time for the exam DOES NOT correspond with the closing time for the assignments due that week. **Students will have 1 1/2 hours (90 minutes) to complete the exam.** Please plan accordingly before beginning your exam session. The exam will be worth a total of 40 points.

### Final Grades

The total number of points possible for this class is 200 points:

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Online Discussions</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Quizzes</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Papers</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final grades will be based on a percentage of total points earned:

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<tr>
<th>Percentage of Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% of 200 points</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>180 points and above</td>
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<tr>
<td>85% of 200 points</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>170 points to 179 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>80% of 200 points</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>160 points to 169 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>75% of 200 points</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>150 points to 159 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>70% of 200 points</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>140 points to 149 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>65% of 200 points</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>130 points to 139 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>60% of 200 points</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>120 points to 129 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less than 60% of 200 points</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>Less than 120 points</td>
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# READING LIST & ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

All ASSIGNMENTS DUE TIMES ARE Eastern Standard Time

## WEEK 1: Opens Tuesday May 15th, 8 AM EST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
<th>Discussion Post</th>
<th>Quiz#1</th>
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</thead>
</table>
|                 | Post Due: Sunday, May 21st by 11PM | Start Date: Monday May 15th  
End Date: Sunday, May 21st, 11PM |

### Module 1: Domestic violence (DV) - Prevalence, overview and history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Readings</th>
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## WEEK 2: Opens Monday, May 22nd, 8 AM EST

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
<th>Discussion Post</th>
<th>Quiz#2</th>
</tr>
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</table>
|                 | Post Due: Sunday, May 28th by 11PM | Start Date: Monday, May 22nd  
End Date: Sunday, May 26th by 11PM |

### Reflection Paper

Due Date: Must be submitted to D2L Dropbox by Sunday, May 28th by 11PM

### Module 2: An introduction to Ecological Systems Theory

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<th>Readings</th>
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## Module 3: Children’s exposure to domestic violence

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<th>Readings</th>
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### Module 4: Psychological health and behavior

**Readings**


### WEEK 3: Opens Monday, May 29th, 8 AM EST

<table>
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<th>Assignments Due</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Post Due: Sunday, June 4th by 11PM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Quiz#3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Start Date: Monday, May 29th</td>
<td>End Date: Sunday, June 4th by 11PM</td>
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</tbody>
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### Module 5: Neurological and emotional development

**Readings**


### Module 6: Academic achievement and physical health

**Readings**

# WEEK 4: Opens Monday, June 5\(^{th}\), 8 AM EST

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
<th>Discussion Post</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Post Due: Sunday, June 11(^{th}) by 11PM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Quiz#4</strong></td>
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|                 | Start Date: Monday, June 5\(^{th}\)  
End Date: Sunday, June 11\(^{th}\) by 11PM |
|                 | **Reflection Paper** |
|                 | Due Date: Must be submitted to D2L Dropbox by Sunday, June 11\(^{th}\) by 11PM |

## Module 7: Risk and use of violence/victimization & homelessness

|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|          | Recommended:  

## Module 8: Child abuse and dual exposure


# WEEK 5: Opens Monday June 12\(^{th}\) at 8 AM EST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
<th>Discussion Post</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Quiz#5</strong></td>
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|                 | Start Date: Monday, June 12\(^{th}\)  
End Date: Sunday, June 18\(^{th}\) by 11PM |

## Module 9: How responsible are mothers for protecting their children?

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### Module 10: Shifting the responsibility where it belongs

**Readings**


- Recommended:

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### WEEK 6: Opens Monday, June 19th, 8 AM EST

**Assignments Due**

**Discussion Post**

- Post Due: Sunday, June 25th by 11PM

**NO QUIZ**

**FINAL EXAM**

- Start Date: Sunday, June 25th from 8 AM
- End Date: Monday, June 26th at NOON

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### Module 11: Exposure to violence after “divorce” and how systems interact with batterers

**Readings**


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### Module 12: Interventions designed to promote children’s resiliency

**Readings**


WEEK 7: Opens Monday June 26th, 8 AM EST

Assignments Due (OPTIONAL) | Discussion Post - Bonus Points—SINGLE Discussion Post Post Due: Wednesday, June 28th by 11PM NO QUIZ

Module 13: Coping Strategies and factors that promote children’s resiliency


Course Policies & Student Responsibilities

Participate:
• Everyone’s participation is needed to accomplish this course’s goals.
• Reading is of the utmost importance; please do the readings if you intend to participate.
• Disagree respectfully; it is acceptable to question others’ ideas, but do so respectfully.

Complete Assignments
• All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Desire2Learn.
• Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline or special permission must be requested from instructor before the due date. Extensions will not be given beyond the next assignment except under extreme circumstances.
• Technical difficulties will not be accepted as an excuse for late assignments; if you anticipate having problems, begin the process early and utilize the services listed above. Late/missing assignments will affect your grade.
Attendance Policy:

- Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not participate in this class.
- Students who fail to log-in during the first two weeks will be dropped from the course.
- If you miss more than three consecutive weeks of class, i.e., do not participate actively in class assignments or activities, and have not communicated the instructor to be excused from class, you will receive a failing grade of 0.0 in the course.
- If you are going to be absent from class for a week (or more) and unable to complete an assignment on time, you must inform the instructor in advance to be formally excused and still receive credit for the assignment. You must provide the instructor with an explanation in writing at least 24 hours before the absence. Emails received later than this will not be honored and your assignment will not be accepted.
- If you have an emergency situation, the instructor must to be contacted prior to the assignment due date to make alternative arrangements. Otherwise, you will receive a 0.0 for the missed assignment(s).

Limits to confidentiality:

Essays, journals, and other materials submitted for this class are generally considered confidential pursuant to the University's student record policies. However, students should be aware that University employees, including instructors, may not be able to maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues to protect the health and safety of MSU community members and others.

As the instructor, I must report the following information to other University offices (including the Department of Police and Public Safety) if you share this information with me:

- Suspected child abuse/neglect, even if this maltreatment happened when you were a child,
- Allegations of sexual assault or sexual harassment when they involve MSU students, faculty, or staff, and
- Credible threats of harm to oneself or to others.

These reports may trigger contact from a campus official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like to talk about these events in a more confidential setting you are encouraged to make an appointment with the MSU Counseling Center.
Understand when you may drop this course:
• It is your responsibility to understand when you need to consider un-enrolling from a course. Refer to the Michigan State University Office of the Registrar for important dates and deadlines.

Discuss Disability Accommodations with the Instructor:
• Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. If you have a documented disability and verification from the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD), and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student’s responsibility to provide documentation of disability to RCPD and meet with an RCPD specialist to request special accommodation before classes start.
• Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a verified individual services accommodation (“VISA”) form. Please present this form to the instructor at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.
• RCPD may be contacted by phone at (517) 884-7273 (884-RCPD), or via their website (http://www.rcpd.msu.edu). RCPD is located in 120 Bessey Hall, near the center of the Michigan State University campus, on the southwest corner of Farm Lane and Auditorium Road.

Practice Academic Honesty:
• Article 2.3.3 of the Academic Freedom Report states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, the Psychology Department adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide and/or the MSU website: http://www.msu.edu.)
• Academic integrity is a minimal expectation of this course. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, and submitting work of another person. Any student involved in academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs and a grade of 0.0 may be issued for the course.
• Lectures and other course materials must remain the property of the Department of Psychology and must not be copied from the internet for distribution to anyone who is not registered for this course. Online discussions and exercises are confidential and should not be discussed with others who are not enrolled in the class.
• It is important for each course participant to express his/her ideas. All ideas need to be respected in discussions and exercises. Any “group projects” that are required, still require individual work as a minimal expectation.
• All assignments are to be done **on your own**, without the assistance of additional materials, i.e., internet, texts, articles, other people, etc., unless you are instructed to do otherwise. This includes weekly assignments and exams.

**Plagiarism Policy:**
• Plagiarism involves taking credit for someone else’s work or ideas, submitting a piece of work (for example, a paper, assignment, discussion post) which in part or in whole is not entirely your own work without fully and accurately attributing those same portions to their correct source. This includes information taken from the Internet.
• You are expected to do your own, original work on each assignment in each class. If you recycle your own course work from one class to another, you may face an allegation of academic dishonesty. If your instructor believes you have committed an act of plagiarism, he/she may take appropriate action, which includes the issuing of a “penalty grade” for academic dishonesty. Article 11 of the Academic Freedom Report for Students at Michigan State University, or the “AFR,” defines a penalty grade as “a grade assigned by an instructor who believes a student to have committed academic dishonesty. . . .” A penalty grade can include, but is not limited to, a failing grade on the assignment or in the course.

**USEFUL RESOURCES, FOUNDATIONS, AND WEBSITES**

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<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>MSU Safe Place</td>
<td>East Lansing, MI (517) 355-1100</td>
<td><a href="http://safeplace.msu.edu/">http://safeplace.msu.edu/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening Ear Crisis Intervention Center</td>
<td>Lansing, MI 48912 (517) 337-1717</td>
<td><a href="http://theear.org/">http://theear.org/</a></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families &amp; Communities</th>
<th>Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community</th>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.nationallatinonetwork.org">www.nationallatinonetwork.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.idvaac.org">www.idvaac.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Northwest Network (focusing on LGBTQ survivors of domestic violence)</td>
<td>National Domestic Violence Hotline</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.nwnetwork.org">http://www.nwnetwork.org</a></td>
<td>1-800-799-7233</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.thehotline.org">http://www.thehotline.org</a></td>
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