Theory Testing Assignment
Due Monday 2/12/07

We will be discussing various theories and models of (occupational) stress during the first section of the course. The readings for Mon. 1/29 and Wed. 1/31 are general discussions of some of these theories. The readings from Mon. 2/5 (Ganster, et al., 2001; Kudielka, et al., 2004) are examples of empirical research studies that are testing one theory of stress or another.

After reading the articles assigned for 2/5, use PSYCInfo and the library to locate an additional article that provides an empirical test of one of the theories discussed in class or in your readings from 1/29 and 1/31. This should obviously be an article testing the theory in a work/occupational setting.

Print/Copy and read the article. Then, write a 2-3 page discussion piece about the article.

Your discussion must:

- Identify and explain the theory of stress that your article is testing.
- Discuss which stressors, strains, and moderators are being examined in the article.
- Discuss how the particular theory of work stress was tested (this includes a discussion of the sample, and the methods of the experiment)
- Explain to me whether the theory being tested was supported by the research (i.e., discuss the results)
- Discuss at least one other work stress theory that could be used to test the relationships in this research study, and why you think that would be a good theory to use in this particular case.

Other points about this assignment:

- At the top of your write-up, provide the full reference for your article, in APA format.
- Your write-up should be double-spaced, Times New Roman font with one inch margins.
- Spelling, grammar, and punctuation matter and will affect your grade.
- Attach a copy of the article to your write-up.
- **Academic misconduct (e.g., cheating, plagiarism) will lead to a grade of zero on the assignment. Make sure you paraphrase and use proper citations.**
- Other articles that I have assigned throughout the semester will also include a test of a particular theory of stress. You may not choose these articles. The easiest ways to lose points on my assignments are a) failing to follow the directions above and b) failing to address all of the discussion points outlined above.
- We will informally discuss/present these articles on Mon. 2/12.