

REVISED Syllabus

Abnormal Psychology -- PSY 2200 section 003

Spring 2012

Class Meets: Mon. & Wed. 12:30-1:45

Place: Rocket Hall 1520

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or by appointment

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Text: *Abnormal Psychology in a Changing World (8th ed.)* Prentice Hall
Authors: Nevid, Rathus, & Beverly (2011)

Course purpose and goals:

This course is designed to offer the student a general introduction to the field of abnormal psychology by examining the historical roots and current status of clinical psychology. The course provides an overview of the major psychological disorders with regard to their clinical description, etiology, and treatment.

Course Requirements:

1. *Readings:* The student is responsible for keeping up with the readings. Topics will be organized according to the outline provided.
2. *Lectures:* In general, lectures are designed to highlight and amplify material from the textbook, however, there will be some information in class lecture that is not covered in the text. Class attendance and participation during lectures is strongly encouraged. Please ask questions if you do not understand material from the assigned readings, or material from the lectures.
3. *Exams:* Your grade for the course will be based on your performance on *three* examinations. Exams will be given during the class meeting for the exam date listed in the syllabus. Each of the three exams will consist of approximately 80 multiple choice questions which will cover material from both the text and the class lectures. *Exam questions will include class lecture material, even if the lecture material is not specifically covered in the textbook. Thus, lecture attendance is strongly encouraged. Likewise, material from the assigned text readings will be covered by the exams, even if not all assigned text readings are specifically covered in the class lectures. So, you need to come to class and take good notes and complete the assigned readings.*

4. *Grading*:: The grading system incorporates the “plus” and “minus” grade system. The grading system is described below:

a. Following each of the three exams, the score distribution will be divided into letter grades. The exam letter grade is assigned a numerical value as follows:

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| A = 11 | B + = 9 | C + = 6 | D + = 3 | F = 0 |
| A - = 10 | B = 8 | C = 5 | D = 2 | |
| | B - = 7 | C - = 4 | D - = 1 | |

b. The assignment of letter grades (and their corresponding numerical value) to each exam will be based on the following percentage scale:

93% or more = A

90 - 92% = A-

86 - 89 = B+

83 - 85% = B;

80 - 82% = B-

76 - 79 = C+

73 - 75% = C

70 - 72% = C-

66 - 69 = D+

63 - 65% = D

60 - 62% = D-

less than 60% correct = F.

Note: These percentage cut-offs for grading exams will not be considered absolute. A modified grade curve may be used to assign letter grades to each exam depending upon the performance of the entire class on a given exam.

5. *Final Course Grade*: At the end of the course, the total of the assigned numerical values for the grades achieved by the student on the three exams will be added up and divided by 3 (the number of exams). This average across the 3 exams will be used to assign a final course grade.

EXAMPLE:

Given grades of “B”, “B+” and “A-” for the three exams: add up their numerical values $8 + 9 + 10 = 27$, then divide by 3;

$27 \div 3 = 9$, which gives a “B+” for the course grade.

Note: After dividing, any fraction .5 or above rounds up, while less than .5 rounds down. For example: a final course grade average of $8.5 = \text{“B+”}$; while a final average of $8.4 = \text{“B”}$

Course Outline (subject to modification)

| <u>Date:</u> | <u>Lecture Topic:</u> | <u>Reading Assignment:</u> |
|--------------|---|----------------------------|
| Jan. 9 | Introduction, Epidemiology, Definitions of Abnormality | Ch. 1 |
| 11 | Historical Background | Ch. 1 |
| 16 | MLK - Holiday - No Class | |
| 18 | Theory & Treatment Models: Psychodynamic, Behavioral, Cognitive | Ch.2 / 4 |
| 23 | Theory & Treatment Models: Humanistic-Existential & Biological | Ch.2 / 4 |
| 25 | Classification, Assessment, & Diagnosis: DSM-IV-TR | Ch. 3 |
| 30 | Anxiety Disorders: Phobias / Generalized Anxiety Disorder | Ch. 6 |
| Feb. 1 | Anxiety Disorders: Panic Disorder/Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder | Ch. 6 |
| 6 | Anxiety Disorders: Post-traumatic stress disorder | Ch. 6 |
| 8 | EXAM 1 | |
| 13 | Mood Disorders: Depression / Dysthymia | Ch. 8 |
| 15 | Mood Disorders: Bipolar Disorder / Cyclothymia | Ch. 8 |
| 20 | Mood Disorders: Cognitive and Attributional Models | Ch. 8 |
| 22 | Mood Disorders: Suicide | Ch. 8 |
| 27 | Somatoform & Dissociative Disorders | Ch. 7 |
| 29 | Somatoform & Dissociative Disorders | Ch. 7 |
| Mar. 5 | SPRING BREAK | |
| 7 | SPRING BREAK | |
| 12 | Schizophrenia | Ch. 12 |
| 14 | Schizophrenia | Ch. 12 |
| 19 | Mental Health Recovery | |
| 21 | EXAM 2 | |
| 26 | Personality Disorders | Ch. 13 |
| 28 | Personality Disorders | Ch. 13 |
| Apr. 2 | Eating Disorders: Anorexia / Bulimia | Ch. 10 |
| 4 | Eating Disorders: Anorexia / Bulimia | Ch. 10 |
| 9 | Childhood Disorders: ADHD / ODD / CD | Ch. 14 |
| 11 | Childhood Disorders: LD / Autism / MR | Ch. 14 |
| 16 | Sexual Disorders | Ch. 11 |
| 18 | Sexual Disorders | Ch. 11 |
| 23 | Mental Health and the Law | Ch. 16 |
| 25 | Mental Health and the Law | Ch. 16 |

EXAM 3 => will be given during Finals Week on *Monday, April 30*, at 12:30