Abnormal Psychology Psychology 2200, Section 901 Fall, 2013

Contact Information

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Email Address: Use the message system for the course

Office Hours: Wednesday 9 to 2, UH 1880C

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Psychology 1010 (Principles of Psychology)

Required Textbook

David H. Barlow, V. Mark Durand, *Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach (Sixth Edition)*, Cengage Learning.

Please note that the textbook is absolutely essential for the course. You will not be able to pass the course without reading and comprehending the textbook material!

Objectives of Course

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to abnormal human behavior. The course will cover the definition, etiology, and treatment of abnormal behavior. The course will examine the different theories of abnormal behavior, the cultural implications of abnormal behavior, and will critically analyze the diagnostic classification of abnormal behavior.

Although we cannot—in a course of this nature—explore every area of abnormal human behavior, I believe you will gain an understanding of the wide breadth of behavior that is considered abnormal in our society. By the end of the semester, you should be better able to comprehend how abnormal behavior is defined, to differentiate between different types of abnormal behavior, to understand the etiology of different types of abnormal behavior, and to understand the treatment options available for different types of disorders.



Computer Skill Requirements

You will achieve the best results in this distance learning class by having a computer with a lot of random access memory (RAM) and a fast connection to the Internet. All students should have the ability to navigate online. Please do not take this course if you do not have strong computer skills. Computer skills will not be taught in this course. If you have never taken an online course, please visit http://www.dl.utoledo.edu/help_desk/help.htm to learn how to work with the online course system.

In accessing the course website, I highly recommend that you use <u>Mozilla</u> <u>Firefox</u> or <u>Safari</u> as your browser because these browsers appear to better stream the course videos (compared to Internet Explorer).

- For this course you will need to be competent in the following skills:
 - Sending and receiving email messages
 - Opening and viewing video files and listening to audio files
 - o Creating file folders on your computer and saving files to these folders
 - Saving files to portable storage media such as USB keys or CDs
 - Attaching files to email messages
 - o Opening files attached to email messages

Back Up Your Work! Please go to your computer right now and create a folder within My Documents on your hard-drive for this class. Call this new folder Abnormal Psychology (Psychology 2200). Save a copy of all of your work (including discussion postings and important email messages) in this folder.

Tour of Our Class Home Page

These are the areas on our home page that you to need to visit and learn to use:

- Course News This is the "homepage" for our course. It provides a
 calendar of events, announcements, etc. I may sometimes post links and
 stories about clinical psychology in the current news and media. The
 calendar lists upcoming assignments and exams.
- Course Syllabus This is where the syllabus for the course is located.
- Lecture Room This is where chapter summaries from the text are located. The overall purpose of the summaries is to provide a template for your reading of the chapter. Many of the summaries include multimedia such as video segments and web links. These materials are included in the course as a way to highlight course material. All information in the lecture notes, including the information presented in the videos and web links, may appear on exams.
- Video Center This is where you will view videos for the course. The
 videos for each chapter are alphabetized. The chapter summary will let
 you know which video segment pertains to which part of the summary.
- Discussion Room This is where I will post discussion topics. I will post one discussion question here for each of our four sessions. You are required to post one formal response to my question for each of the four questions. Deadlines for your responses are given below in the timeline for the course. Please note that this discussion board will be run by the TA for the course. Also, please note that your postings should be *your own*. Copying others' posts (copying from another source) will result in a zero for the assignment and/or an F in the course.
- Messages This is where you can send and receive emails.
- **Study Aides** Here, you can download material that will help you prepare for each exam. These include PowerPoint slides, sample exam questions, and a description of the SQ3R study method.
- Exam Room This is where you will go to take online exams. There will be four exams. The dates for the exams are given below in the timeline for the course
- Grades This is where you go to see your grades and points for the exams and for discussion questions.
- **Course Evaluation** This is where you can evaluate the course after you have completed all exams and discussion questions.

Correspondence Policies & Procedures

Responding to your messages: I have set aside specific times in my weekly schedule when I will respond to student messages from this class. I will respond to your questions and comments on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays.

What to include when sending a message: When sending a message to me, the TA, or the rest of the class, please fully identify yourself in the text of the message. Use the subject header to indicate if the message is a general comment, question for the entire class, or a question specifically for me or the TAs. If you are responding to other messages or my questions, please reply directly to that message.

Course Expectations

Here are some of my expectations for you:

- o I expect that you will read the textbook and the chapter summaries in a timely manner throughout the entire course
- o I expect that you will explore all the multimedia materials incorporated within each lecture
- o I expect that you will plan appropriately so as to have your discussion postings and exams completed by the designated deadlines. Meeting the designated deadlines is entirely your responsibility. Please note: The deadlines for the discussion questions are the LAST day you can turn in a response. You can post your response any time before the deadline; therefore, if you wait to post until the last day and then have problems, you will not receive credit. The same is true for exams. There is a two day period in which you can take each exam. If you wait until the last minute and have problems, you will not be able to retake the exam. I strongly suggest that you post your responses to discussion questions early and take all exams on the first day that they are offered. If you choose not to follow this advice and have a problem, do not message or email me. By that point, there will be nothing I can do for you.

Absenteeism: This is NOT a self-paced, self-timed course. This course is designed to be a successive progression from one chapter to the next. If you have a work or family emergency that interferes with your ability to participate or meet deadlines in this class, you need to notify me by email ASAP. Such events may necessitate dropping the course.

Time Commitment: Although this is a web-based course, this does not mean that this course is easier or less of a time commitment than a regular classroom-based course. You will still need to thoroughly review and read the course material in order to receive a passing grade in the course.

Academic Honesty and Integrity: Please note that you are expected to display academic honesty. Any instances of cheating will result in an automatic "F" for the course. You will also be referred to the college Dean with the possible sanction of expulsion from the University.

Professional Courtesy: It is my expectation that you will act, perform, and conduct yourself in a professional manner. This includes the content and style of your online communication and the nature of communication with me. Profanity, vulgar or offensive words or phrases are unacceptable. I will be the judge of what is offensive as well as the penalty for such offenses. Please click on the following link for resources on Netiquette: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/

Additional Course Support

Technical Assistance: I am not a computer expert. Thus, if you are having technical problems, please contact the Office of Distance Learning by calling (866) 886-5336, sending an email to utdl@utoledo.edu, or you can live chate at www.utoledo.edu/dl

Notification of Technical Problems: Technical problems with your computer are not a legitimate reason for failing to complete assignments or exams by posted deadlines. There are many computer options available to you, such as the many University of Toledo computer labs and the computers at public libraries. To find out the hours of the University of Toledo computer labs, please call (419) 530-4636. Students are responsible for finding their own alternative methods or locations to complete exams and assignments by the given deadlines. If you have a technical problem during an exam that results in your being unable to complete the exam please call the number for technical assistance right away and complete the exam as soon as the problem is addressed. If some does not immediately answer your call, leave a message to verify that you attempted to get help in order to complete the exam immediately. If you do not follow these steps you will not be able to complete the exam and your score will be equal to the number of completed correct items divided by the total number of items on the exam.

Grading

There will be a total of 300 points available for the class. Exams and discussion will be the basis for your grade. All discussion comments must be completed on time or they will not be accepted. Exams must be completed on one of the designated exam days. (Please note that I reserve the right to adjust the grading distribution based on the class' scores. However, you will not receive a lower grade than that indicated in the table below.)

Grading:	Points
Exams	260
Discussion	40
Total Points:	300

Letter	Points
A	92-100%
A-	90-91%
B+	87-89%
В	82-86%
В-	80-81%
C+	77-79%
C	72-76%
C-	70-71%
D+	67-69%
D	62-66%
D-	60-61%
F	below 60%

Exams: There will be **4 exams**. Each exam will consist of 65 true-false and multiple-choice questions drawn from the text and chapter summaries (including media presentations). You will have 65 minutes to complete each exam. This gives you about 1 minute per question (the norm for internet course exams). You will *not* have time to use your notes or book, so you will need to prepare as you would for an in-class exam. You must take the exam on one of the two days that are designated for the exam. You will have from 12:00 am on day 1 until 11:59 pm on day 2 to complete the exam (see course calendar for exam dates). You can only take the exam once, not on both days. **Because you have two days to take each exam, NO MAKEUP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN.**

The exams will take place in the **Exam Room**. PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUBMIT YOUR EXAM FOR GRADING WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED WITH YOUR EXAM. THIS ENSURES THAT YOUR GRADE IS ENTERED INTO MY GRADE BOOK. YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO VIEW YOUR GRADE AFTER THE EXAM PERIOD IS OVER.

Discussion: To stimulate engagement of the course material, I will post **4 discussion topics** (see calendar for due dates). You are responsible for responding by posting at least one thoughtful, academic-style response for each of the four topics. Your responses to the topics will be graded. Responses can be posted any time up to the due date. Thus, you do not have to wait until the last day to post a response. **Each response is worth up to 10 points (for a maximum of 40 points)**. To receive full credit, responses must be insightful, relevant to the topic, be a **minimum** of 6 sentences in length, and be well-written (i.e., free of typos and incorrect grammar). Responses should also demonstrate knowledge of the lecture and reading materials. Thus, a response of "I agree" or anything of that nature will receive zero points. Please do not email your discussion responses. Failure to participate in class discussions by the posted deadlines will result in 0 points for that topic.

As noted earlier, your discussion responses should be *your own*. They should be based on the course material. Plagiarizing the responses of others will result in a zero for the assignment and/or an F in the course.



Course Calendar

SESSION 1 – CHAPTERS 1-4

Discussion Topic 1 - Due before the end of Wednesday, September 11th

Exam 1 – This exam covers chapters 1-4 and may be taken anytime on Thursday, September 12th or Friday, September 13th (from 12:00 a.m. Thursday to 11:59 p.m. Friday).

SESSION 2 – CHAPTERS 5-7

Discussion Topic 2 – Due before the end of Friday, October 11th

Exam 2 – This exam covers chapters 5-7 and may be taken anytime on Monday, October 14th or Tuesday, October 15th (from 12:00 a.m. Monday to 11:59 p.m. Tuesday).

SESSION 3 – CHAPTERS 8-9, 11-12

Discussion Topic 3 – Due before the end of Tuesday, November 12th

Exam 3 – The exam covers chapters 8-9 and 11-12 and may be taken anytime on Thursday, November 14th or Friday, November 15th (from 12:00 a.m. Thursday to 11:59 p.m. Friday).

SESSION 4 – CHAPTERS 13-16

Discussion Topic 4 - Due before the end of Monday, December 2nd

Exam 4 – The exam covers chapters 13-16 and may be taken anytime on Wednesday, December 4th or Thursday, December 5th (from 12:00 a.m. Wednesday to 11:59 p.m. Thursday).