

**Psychopathology of Childhood
Psychology 3220
Summer, 2012**



Contact Information

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Prerequisites

Psychology 2200 (Abnormal Psychology) *and* either Psychology 2500 (Developmental Psychology) or Psychology 2510 (Lifespan Developmental Psychology)

Required Textbook

Rita Wicks-Nelson & Allen C. Israel (2009), *Abnormal Child and Adolescent Psychology* (7th edition), Prentice Hall. ISBN: 0132359782

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

1. Students should be familiar with the phenomenology of the common disorders of childhood.
2. Students should understand what the most popular theories of psychopathology say about the causes and treatments of emotional and behavioral disorders of childhood.
3. Students should understand the unique aspects of diagnosing and treating psychological disorders in youth.
4. Students should become familiar with the ways in which psychologists discover information about psychopathology in youth.
5. Students should develop critical thinking skills that they apply to the material covered in class so that they are better able to distinguish between how they feel about the subject matter and what we know about childhood psychopathology.

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 (e.g., cable modem). All students should have the ability to navigate on-line. 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.

- 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
 - Creating file folders on your computer and saving files to these folders
 - Saving files to portable storage media such as diskettes or CD
 - Attaching files to email messages
 - 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 Childhood Psychopathology (Psychology 3220). 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 need to visit and learn to use:

- **Course News** – This is the “homepage” to our course. It provides a calendar of events, announcements, etc. I will sometimes post links and stories about childhood pathology in the current news and media.
- **Syllabus** – This is where the syllabus is located.
- **Lecture** – This is where chapter summaries from the text are located. Each chapter summary includes chapter objectives. You should use these chapter objectives to help guide your reading. The overall purpose of the summaries is to provide a template for your reading of the chapter. Each chapter summary includes multimedia, including video segments and web links. These materials are inserted into the summaries 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.
- **Discussion Board** – 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 a formal response to my question for each of the four questions. My discussion questions will be posted within a few days of the start of each session (i.e., the period before each exam) of the course. 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 (or 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 email.
- **Quizzes and Exams** – Here, you can download sample exam questions that will help prepare you for each exam. There are questions for each chapter. This is also where you will go to take your online exams. The dates for the exams are given below in the timeline for the course.
- **My Grades** – This is where you go to see your grades and points for the exams and for discussion questions.
- **Additional Readings** – This is where you can find extra readings for the course for those who want to read about certain topics in more detail.
- **Video Clips** – Here you can find a summary of the multimedia links for each chapter.
- **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 email: I have set aside specific times in my weekly schedule when I will respond to student email from this class. I will respond to your email questions and comments on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

What to include when sending an email: When sending email to me, the TA, or the rest of the class, please fully identify yourself in the text of the email. Use the subject header to indicate if the email is a general comment, question for the entire class, or a question specifically for me or the TA. 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:

- I expect that you will read the textbook and the lecture notes in a timely manner throughout the entire course
- I expect that you will explore all the multimedia materials incorporated within each lecture
- 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 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 call (419) 321-5147 or toll free at (866) 886-5336 or send an email to utdl@utoledo.edu.

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 you do not get someone, 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 the designated exam day. (Note: 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+	88-89%
B	82-87%
B-	80-81%
C+	78-79%
C	72-77%
C-	70-71%
D+	68-69%
D	62-67%
D-	60-61%
F	below 60%

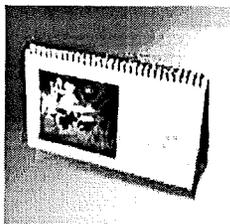
Exams: There will be **4 exams**. Each exam will consist of 65 multiple-choice questions drawn from the text and chapter summaries (including media presentations). You will have 65 minutes to complete each exam. This gives you 1 minute per question (the norm for internet course exams). You will *not* 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 **Quizzes and Exam area**. 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.

Sample exam questions are also located in the Quizzes and Exam area. I highly recommend that, in studying for the exam, you go over these sample questions because they are similar to the real exam questions and they will give you an idea about what to expect on the exam.

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 at any point before 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 topic, and be a **minimum** of 6 sentences in length. 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 by the end of Monday, May 21st

Exam 1 – This exam covers chapters 1-4 and must be taken anytime on Tuesday, May 22nd or Wednesday, May 23rd (from 12:00 a.m. Tuesday to 11:59 p.m. Wednesday).

SESSION 2 – CHAPTERS 5-7

Discussion Topic 2 – Due by the end of Tuesday, June 29th

Exam 2 – This exam covers chapters 5-7 and must be taken anytime on Thursday, February 31st Friday, June 1st (from 12:00 a.m. Thursday to 11:59 p.m. Friday).

SESSION 3 – CHAPTERS 8-11

Discussion Topic 3 – Due by the end of Monday, June 11th

Exam 3 – The exam covers chapters 8-11 and must be taken anytime on Wednesday, June 12th or Thursday, June 13th (from 12:00 a.m. Wednesday to 11:59 p.m. Thursday).

SESSION 4 – CHAPTERS 12-15

Discussion Topic 4 - Due by the end of Tuesday, June 19th

Exam 4 – The exam covers chapters 12-15 and must be taken anytime on Thursday, June 21st or Friday, June 22nd (from 12:00 a.m. Thursday to 11:59 p.m. Friday).