

<p style="text-align: center;">Abnormal Psychology PSYC 2351 – 001 Fall 2012 TTH 9:30-10:50 am, 201 Hyer Hall</p>

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Office Hours
 Tuesday, 11:00-12:00 pm
 and by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

This course is designed to provide an introduction to a wide variety of psychological disorders and related theoretical concepts. We will review diagnostic criteria, possible causes, and available treatments for each class of disorders discussed. Specific learning outcomes for individuals taking this course include:

1. On class exams, students will be able to identify, describe, and differentiate major psychological disorders. Students will also demonstrate proficiency in applying the multiaxial system of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders – Fourth Edition, Text Revision, 2000 (DSM-IV-TR) to the diagnosis of psychological disorders.
2. Also on class exams, students will be able to discuss the multiple causes of psychopathology as viewed from a number of different theoretical perspectives and identify intervention and prevention strategies for psychological disorders.
3. In class discussions and exercises, students will articulate the role of research in understanding abnormal behavior and be able to describe how research has advanced both pharmacological and behavioral intervention techniques.

I am available to meet with you during scheduled office hours and by appointment. I encourage you to use office hours as frequently as needed. Please come speak to me if you are having difficulties with the class or just want additional information. Email is the best way to reach me to schedule an appointment or for brief questions, or you may talk to me before or after class. I will not answer lengthy questions via email; please speak to me during office hours. Class announcements will also be posted on Blackboard and/or sent as a general email to the class.

Course Materials

Required Textbooks:

- Barlow, D.H., & Durand, V.M. (2012). *Abnormal psychology: An integrative approach*, (6th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
- Brown, T.A., & Barlow, D.H. (2011). *Casebook in Abnormal Psychology*, (4th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Course Requirements and Format

Class time will be spent primarily in lectures and discussion. You are required to read all assigned material **prior** to the class for which it is assigned. Class lecture and activities will be based on the assumption that you have read all of the assigned material. Lectures will cover topics from the readings in greater depth, as well as material not found in the readings. A schedule of assigned readings is provided in the Course Outline.

Attendance will be monitored via sign-in sheets, and it is highly recommended that you attend all classes. Due to the large amount of information that will be covered in this course, exams will include information from both the text and lectures. If you must miss a lecture for whatever

reason, you should get notes from at least one, preferably two, of your colleagues. *I will **not** provide summaries of lecture materials for absent students.*

Course Evaluation

Your performance in this course will be assessed via three scheduled exams and a final exam. Exams 1-3 will cover material from the respective part of the course, and the final exam will be cumulative for the entire course, but with an emphasis on the material following Exam 3. Again, exams will cover information provided in both the textbook and lectures, so it is important that you complete the required reading and attend class on a regular basis. Exams will consist of multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer questions. Exams 1-3 will count for 100 points each toward your final grade, and the final exam will count for 200 points.

A note about make-up exams: Make-up exams are not normally given in this course. The only circumstances in which a make-up exam will be given are: 1) an official, University sponsored event requires you to be off campus during the regularly scheduled examination time; 2) a medical emergency prevents you from attending class; 3) a family emergency prevents you from attending class; 4) jury duty, military service, a religious observance, or a similar obligation prevents you from attending class. If you are going to miss an exam for any of the above reasons, you **must** contact me **before** the exam, and you must provide written documentation of the event or emergency in order to schedule a make-up exam. If you miss an exam without a legitimate reason listed above, you will receive a zero for that exam. Makeup exams will be scheduled at my discretion and will consist of short answer and essay questions.

Grading

Final grades will be based on the total points accumulated from exams and extra credit opportunities.

Possible Points per Assignment

	Points
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Final Exam	200
Total	500

Letter Grades

Letter	Percentage
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 or lower

Grades will be posted on the course Blackboard website.

Course Policies

Disability Accommodations: If you need academic accommodations for a disability, you must first contact Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS) at 214-768-1470 or www.smu.edu/alec/dass.asp to verify the disability and to establish eligibility for accommodations. Then you must schedule an appointment with the professor to make appropriate arrangements.

Religious Observance: Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence.

Academic Integrity: Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated in this course and will be dealt with according to the University's Honor Code. As stated by the Honor Council, "Permitting others to prepare their work, using published or unpublished summaries as a substitute for studying required materials, or giving or receiving unauthorized assistance in preparation of work to be submitted are directly contrary to the honest process of learning." A violation of the Code will result in an F for the course. In addition, the student may also be taken before the Honor Council. If you are unclear about this please see the instructor immediately.

Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities: Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity will be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work.

Electronic Devices: The use of cell phones, text messaging, iPods, and other electronic devices not related to class material is not allowed during class. Make sure that all cell phones are turned off or placed on silent during class. Do not place cell phones on vibrate as this is often audible and disruptive to other students. You are welcome to bring a laptop or PDA to class for the purpose of taking notes. However, you may not use those devices for anything else (e.g. playing games, checking email) during class. Use of electronic devices during class for non-approved reasons will result in loss of points from your total grade.

Changes to Syllabus: The syllabus may change to accommodate the needs of the class and the instructor. You are responsible for all such changes announced in class.

Extra Credit: You can earn up to 8 points of extra credit for this course in two ways: (1) participating in research projects which may be available through the psychology department from time to time (one credit = one extra credit point); or (2) by finding current articles in a media outlet (e.g., newspaper, magazine) that relate directly to one of the topics we have covered in this course and writing a one page analysis of the article. To receive credit, these summaries must be typed and should be an analysis of the article (not just a summary) detailing how it relates to the relevant course topic. If the write-up is applicable to the course, accurate, and well written, you will receive one extra credit point for each such write-up. At the end of the semester, extra credit points will be added to the lowest test grade. Extra credit opportunities will end one week prior to the last regular day of classes. Thus, all extra credit must be turned no later than November 26.

Grade Disputes: If you wish to dispute the grade assigned on an exam or writing assignment, your dispute must be presented to the instructor IN WRITING within one week after the exam or assignment has been returned. You must include a specific rationale for why you are disputing the grade. "I think I deserve a better grade" does not constitute a rationale.

Campus Services: While participating in this class, students sometimes feel that course material "hits home." SMU's Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS) center provides students with free and confidential services that might be helpful in this event. CAPS is located on the second floor of the Memorial Health Center, and the telephone number is 214-768-2277.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Date	Day	Topic	Readings
1	8/21	T	Course Introduction/Abnormality	
	8/23	Th	Abnormal Behavior in Historical Context	Ch. 1
2	8/28	T	An Integrative Approach to Psychopathology	Ch. 2
	8/30	Th	An Integrative Approach to Psychopathology	Ch. 2
3	9/4	T	Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis	Ch. 3
	9/6	Th	Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis	Ch. 3
4	9/11	T	Exam 1	
	9/13	Th	Anxiety Disorders	Ch. 5; CB 1-5
5	9/18	T	Anxiety Disorders	Ch. 5
	9/20	Th	Anxiety Disorders	Ch. 5
6	9/25	T	Mood Disorders	Ch. 7; CB 9-10
	9/27	Th	Mood Disorders	Ch. 7
7	10/2	T	Mood Disorders	Ch. 7
	10/4	Th	Eating Disorders	Ch. 8; CB 11-12
8	10/9	T	Exam 2	
	10/11	Th	Substance-Related Disorders	Ch. 11; CB 14
9	10/16	T	Fall Break – no class	
	10/18	Th	Substance-Related Disorders	Ch. 11
10	10/23	T	Personality Disorders	Ch. 12; CB 15
	10/25	Th	Personality Disorders	Ch. 12
11	10/30	T	Dissociative Disorders	Ch. 6; CB 8
	11/1	Th	Sexual Disorders	Ch. 10; CB 13
12	11/6	T	Exam 3	
	11/8	Th	Schizophrenia	Ch. 13; CB 16
13	11/13	T	Schizophrenia	Ch. 13
	11/15	Th	Schizophrenia	Ch. 13
14	11/20	T	Other Psychotic Disorders	Ch. 13
	11/22	Th	Thanksgiving – no class	
15	11/27	T	Developmental Disorders	Ch. 14; CB 17
	11/29	Th	Developmental Disorders	Ch. 14
16	12/8	Th	Final Exam (8:00 am – 11:00 am) – 201 Hyer Hall	

Note: CB refers to chapters in the casebook.

Add/Drop dates: Aug. 24 is the last day to enroll, add courses or drop courses without a grade record or tuition billing. Nov. 2 is the last day to drop a course.