

Psychology 3010 – Abnormal Psychology

Fall Semester 2011

Instructor: Jaclyn King Knapp, M.S., ED.S.,
Email: jaclynking@weber.edu
Phone: 801-643-5225

Class Location: Social Sciences Room 323
Time: Wed 5:30 - 8:10 p.m.
Credits: 3 (PSY 3010)
CRN: 22626

Course Description: An overview of abnormal human behavior, its etiology, symptoms and treatment as seen by current psychological paradigms, including the broad range of psychopathology as presented in the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

Required Text: Butcher, J.M., Mineka, S., & Hooley, J. (2010). Abnormal Psychology, Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon. (ISBN 0-205-59495-6). You will need a copy of the text. The text can be obtained through the Weber State bookstore as well directly from the publisher or from Internet or other vendors. You may use the traditional hardbound edition or ebook versions or rent the text from a rental company. These latter options may be less expensive than the regular hardbound version. There is also a free study resource website which accompanies the text. It has quizzes, flash cards and other study helps which I strongly encourage you to use: www.mypsychlab.com.

Consultations: I will be available for brief consultations before and after class each day in SS Room 323. If you need to meet with me at another time, please call or speak with me in class and I will be happy to arrange another time for you.

Course Content: This course will cover: a) the definition of abnormal behavior and DSM-IV diagnostic criteria for major disorders, b) historical and contemporary views and theories concerning major psychological disorders, c) treatments and services relevant for common psychological disorders, d) prevention practices designed to mitigate psychopathology, e) some of the legal and societal implications of mental disorders.

Learning Objectives: Students who successfully master course content will be able to:

- Recognize and describe the essential features of DSM-IV psychological disorders
- Describe common explanations for the etiology of psychological disorders, and
- Identify empirically supported and other potentially effective treatments specific psychological disorders

Expectations: Come prepared for class each day. Complete scheduled reading and/or other assignments before class and be prepared to participate in a discussion of the concepts and ideas. A lecture format will predominate, however, I prefer an interactive classroom and your appropriate questions, comments and observations are encouraged and will be most welcome. Guest speakers will present from time to time. This requires you to be prepared before class. Please be courteous to your classmates and instructor. Please be prompt in entering the classroom so as to not interrupt lectures or cause inconvenience to other students in the class. **Please have cell phones, beepers and other electronic devices turned off before and during class.** Participation [questions, comments or observations] in class discussions is welcomed; eating, private conversations, or other interruptions during lectures are not. Students engaging in horseplay or disruptive, lecture-irrelevant conversations during a class period will be given up to two warnings to stop their behavior. Following the second warning, disruptive students will be asked to leave the classroom after each additional incident. If the problem continues, students will be counseled to drop the course.

Class attendance is essential. Anything which is included in lectures, discussed or presented during class or otherwise assigned may be included in an exam— including information and material not in the text. It is a good idea to find a friend in class to study with and with whom you can share notes if one of you is unavoidably absent, the instructor will not provide make up notes for missed classes.

Be sure to check with me if you experience any problems understanding concepts, completing assignments or encounter difficulties with the exams. The sooner a difficulty is brought to my attention, the sooner we can work together to find a good solution. It is difficult to catch up if material is not mastered as the course proceeds.

Disability Accommodations: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disability (SSD) in room Suite 281 in the Student Services Building (626-6413). (http://departments.weber.edu/ssd/handbook/hb_07.htm). SSD can also arrange to provide course materials in alternative formats, if necessary. I offer any qualified student with a disability the opportunity to meet with me privately to discuss receiving reasonable accommodation, which will be afforded based on the specific disability and as agreed in writing. This statement in no way asks that students identify themselves as having a disability; however, a request for reasonable accommodation can be granted if a student makes his or her disability known.

Academic Integrity: Cheating and deceit are not acceptable. Cheating on an assignment or turning in someone else's work as your own will result in an E for the class. You may consult with each other on assignments - in fact, you are encouraged to do so - but you must turn in your own work. If you quote from a book, article, or web site, you must properly quote and cite your work. Avoid even the appearance of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism: All work submitted under your name is assumed to have been done by you and you alone. The consequences of being caught cheating are serious, including receiving an E for the class and being reported to the dean of students. If cheating occurs, it will be handled on a case by case basis. Enrollment in this course may require you to submit some or all of your assignments to it this semester, and documents submitted to TurnItIn.com are retained, anonymously, in their databases. Continued enrollment in this course constitutes an understanding of and agreement with this policy.

Exams and Assignments: The class schedule lists the approximate dates when material will be covered, assignments are due and exams will occur. Each exam will have 75-100 multiple-choice, T-F or other objective type questions that you will have 90 minutes to complete. Exams will be administered via Chi-Tester or in paper format at the testing center. Any material which is covered during the course [lecture, case histories, class discussion & activities, video clips, media information— newspaper or magazine articles, etc.] may be included in the exams, but the majority of questions will focus on information from the textbook (approximately 80%). Exams will not be cumulative, but will cover only the material included in each unit.

Assignments

You will take each exam via Chi Tester in one of the designated campus Testing Centers. To take an exam, you must show up on the correct date at the appropriate times (see Course Schedule) with a photo ID and your W#. If you would like to make a reservation for the exam you may do so at www.chitester.weber.edu. For information on locations, hours, busy times, policies and more, check online at www.weber.edu/TestingCenter.

Please note that there are no make-ups on exams, quizzes, in-class activities or other assignments that are missed. **No late work will be accepted.** Should there be an emergency situation which makes it impossible for you to take exams or complete assignments as scheduled, please personally notify me immediately if these circumstances develop. Other scheduling conflicts must be resolved with prior approval from the instructor.

Course Calendar: The following is an approximate time frame for the lectures and activities for the class. It is subject to change and modification as the semester proceeds.

Date	Chapter	Assignments / Examination Schedule
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8/24/11	Chapter 1 – Abnormal Psychology: An Overview	
8/31/11	Chapter 2: Historical and Contemporary Views	
9/7/11	Chapter 3: Causal Factors and Viewpoints	Assignment 1: Associative Learning
9/14/11	Chapter 4: Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis	Exam (open from 9/15 to 9/17)
9/21/11	Chapter 5: Stress and Physical and Mental Health	
9/28/11	Chapter 6: Panic, Anxiety and Their Disorders <i>Guest Speaker: Jake, tourettes and OCD</i>	
10/5/11	Chapter 7: Mood Disorders and Suicide <i>Guest Speaker: Jen, bipolar disorder</i>	Assignment 2: Disaster Plan
10/12/11	Chapter 8: Somatoform Disorders and Dissociative Disorders Chapter 9: Eating Disorders and Obesity	Exam (open from 10/6 to 10/8)
10/19/11	Chapter 12: Sexual Variants, Abuse, & Dysfunctions <i>Guest Speaker: "Jeri Jones," sexuality</i>	
10/26/11	Chapter 11: Substance-Related Disorders <i>Guest Speaker: Michelle, alcoholism</i>	
11/2/11	Chapter 10: Personality Disorders	Assignment 3: Side Effects
11/9/11	Chapter 13: Schizophrenia and Psychotic Disorders <i>Guest Speaker: Becky, schizophrenia/NAMI</i>	Exam (open from 11/10 to 11/11)
11/16/11	Chapter 14: Cognitive Disorders	
11/23/11	Chapter 15: Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence <i>Guest Speaker: Adam Schwebach, clinical neuropsychologist</i>	
11/30/11	Chapters 16: Therapy Chapter 17: Contemporary and Legal Issues	Assignment 4: Chemical Factors <u>OR</u> Media Defined Child Normality
12/7/11	Final Examination Week, No Classes	Open From 12/1 to 12/8

Grading: Approximate grading structure: Grades will be based on the completion of all required assignments and your percentage of total points possible. Grading will follow the WSU grading standards outlined below, but may be modified by the distribution of scores for the entire class. In essence, a modified curve approach will be used, incorporating natural breaks in the distribution of class scores at the end of the semester. However, your grade will not be lower than that based on the percentage of total points you have earned. If you earn an "A", you will receive an "A". The grading structure is subject to change based on class performance, progress and/or on changes in assignments or their weighting. Extra credit points will be given on in-class activities only. Extra credit points must be completed and turned in on the day they are offered.

Method of Evaluation	Point Value
Exam 1	100 Points
Exam 2	100 Points
Exam 3	100 Points
Exam 4	100 Points
Assignment 1	25 Points
Assignment 2	25 Points
Assignment 3	25 Points
Assignment 4	25 Points
In class assignments and quizzes	(up to 25 extra credit points possible)
TOTAL POINT VALUE	500 Points

Final grades will be assigned based on the percent of total points earned as follows:

A (100-93%)
A- (92-90%)
B+ (89-87%)
B (86-83%)

B- (82-80%)
C+ (79-77%)
C (76-73%)
C- (72-70%)

D+ (69-67%)
D (66-63%)
D- (62-60%)
E (59%-0%)

PLEASE NOTE: Although no changes are anticipated, this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor in order to accommodate instructional and/or student needs. It is the responsibility of the student to maintain and updated syllabus as changes are announced.