

Psychology 3010: Abnormal Psychology  
Weber State University  
Spring, 2013: Online and T-R Sections

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or via PsychPortal

**SPECIAL NOTE TO THE STUDENT:**

*This syllabus will serve as a contract between you and the instructor. If you stay in this course, you are agreeing to abide by the guidelines and standards in this document. If you feel that you are unwilling or unable to abide by the standards and guidelines in this document, you are STRONGLY encouraged to take this course from another instructor.*

**TEXTBOOK (Required):**

*Comer, R. J. (2008). Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, Worth Publishers.*

**PSYCHPORTAL (Required):**

*PsychPortal is a required part of this course. Your Mastery Quizzes can only be taken on PsychPortal. Announcements and the Gradebook will only be available on PsychPortal. See instructions at the end of this syllabus for accessing PsychPortal.*

**PURPOSE:**

*The primary purpose is to promote an understanding of the etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of psychological disorders. Please note that you are not qualified to provide diagnostic or treatment services, even informally, as a result of taking this course.*

**OBJECTIVES:**

*Familiarity with the DSM-IV-TR  
Familiarity with the Process of Assessment and Diagnosis  
Familiarity with Etiology and Treatment of Psychological Disorders  
Increased Writing Competency  
Enhanced Critical Thinking Skills and Awareness of Ethical Issues*

**GRADING:**

*All students will have a chance to earn an A in this course. The instructor*

does NOT use a normal curve when determining grades. The following point system and grade scale will be used.

Modality	Points
Exam I	200
Exam II	200
Exam III	200
Exam IV	200
Article Summary	200
<u>Mastery Quizzes (20 points each)</u>	<u>200</u>
-	
TOTAL	1000

Grading Scale: A 920+, A- 900-919, B+ 880-899, B 820-879, B- 800-819,  
C+ 780-799, C 720-779, C- 700-719, D+ 680-699, D 620-679, D- 600-619  
E 0-599

#### Exams:

The exams will consist of approximately 50 items. The exams are NOT comprehensive, and they will be designed to last approximately 1 hour.

You will be able to access the exams at any WSU Testing Center via ChiTester.

Each exam will be available to you from the beginning of the term until the deadline noted on the PsychPortal Assignment Center and in the Course Outline section of this syllabus. There is no penalty for completing exams early. If you do not take the exam by the deadline, you have 2 business days to complete the exam, but a 20% penalty will be taken. If you do not complete the exam by the end of the 2-business day window, your score will be a zero. There will be no way to make up these points, so you will want to take the exam on time.

It is my expectation that you work alone and NOT use your textbook or any notes as you take the exams. Cheating on exams will result in immediate failure of the course and a report of your behavior to the department chair and the Dean of Students.

#### Mastery Quizzes:

Ten percent of your grade will be based on your performance on the Mastery Quizzes. The Mastery Quizzes are

available on PsychPortal from the first day of the term until the deadline noted under the Assignments tab and under the Course Outline section of the syllabus. You can repeat each Mastery Quiz as many times as you like until you get the score you want. The computer only records the highest score. Because you have easy access to the Mastery Quizzes for such a long time, LATE MASTERY QUIZZES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

#### Article Summary:

Ten percent of your grade will be based on an article summary. The due date for the summary can be found on your course outline. To complete the summary, you will need to read an article that your instructor has placed under the Course Materials. Then, you will write a summary according to guidelines I will provide on a separate handout under the Course Materials. The summaries will need to be submitted via PsychPortal email.

Please note that I grade very heavily on spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and organization. You will want to give yourself adequate time to proofread your summary. You can earn an extra 10 points on your summary if you submit proof that you used the WSU Writing Center. This proof consists of the 1<sup>st</sup> draft given to the Writing Center, the comments from a Writing Center staff person, and the draft you wrote that includes the changes recommended by the Writing Center. The whole process can be done either in person or via email.

You are welcome to submit the summaries to me early. The lateness policy for exams will apply to late article summary submissions.

#### MISCELLANEOUS:

While every effort will be made to adhere to the course outline, all times, topics, and subjects covered will be at the instructor's discretion and could change. Advance notice will be given if a change is necessary.

Your instructor wants to provide a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Therefore, any behaviors that interfere with the concentration of your classmates or instructor will not be permitted. Such behaviors include texting, inappropriate use of a laptop or tablet computer (e.g. Facebook), excessive conversations, leaving late, or leaving early.

As previously stated, your instructor uses PsychPortal for this course. You will have access to lecture notes, your grade book, and email in this environment. Please check your grade book often to ensure that your assignment and exam grades are entered properly. I may also post announcements to the class. You are responsible for the announcements posted in PsychPortal or communicated in class.

#### DISABILITY NOTICE:

Any student needing accommodations or services due to a learning or other disability must be registered with the Services

for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 801-626-6413. The office is located in Room 181 in the Student Services Center.

### COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 1/7 -1/11	Ch1 (Abnormal Psychology: Past & Present) & Ch3 (Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, & Treatment)
Week 2 1/14 -1/18	Ch1 & Ch3 Continued
Week 3 1/21 -1/25	Ch1 and Ch3 Mastery Quizzes and Exam I Due on Thursday, 1/24. No Class on Thursday.
Week 4 1/28 -2/1	Start Ch 4 (Anxiety Disorders), 5 (Stress Disorders) and 12 (Schizophrenia)
Week 5 2/4 -2/8	Ch's 4, 5, & 12 Continued
Week 6 2/11 -2/15	Ch's 4, 5, & 12 Continued
Week 7 2/18 -2/22	Ch's 4, 5, & 12 Continued Article Summary Due
Week 8 2/25 -3/1	Ch's 4, 5, & 12 Mastery Quizzes & Exam II Due on Tuesday, 2/26. No class on Tuesday. Start Ch 7 (Mood Disorders), 8 (Suicide) and 9 (Eating Disorders)
Spring Break 3/4 -3/8: ENJOY!!!	
Week 9 3/11 -3/15	Ch's 7, 8, & 9 Continued

Week 10                      Ch's 7, 8, & 9 Mastery Quizzes and Exam III Due on  
3/18-3/22                      Thursday, 3/21. No Class Thursday

Week 11                      Start Ch13 (Personality Disorders), 14 (Disorders of Childhood  
3/25-3/29                      & Adolescence, and 16 (Law, Society, and the Mental Health  
   Profession)

Week 12                      Ch's 13, 14, & 16 Continued  
4/1-4/5

Week 13                      Ch's 13, 14, & 16 Continued  
4/8-4/12                      All Extra Credit Due on Friday, 4/12

Week 14                      Ch's 13, 14, & 16 Continued  
4/15-4/19

*\*\*\*Ch's 13, 14, & 16 Mastery Quizzes and Exam IV Due on 4/25/12.\*\*\**

### *Getting onto PsychPortal*

*After purchasing the access code, follow these steps:*

- 1. Go to [www.yourPsychPortal.com](http://www.yourPsychPortal.com)*
- 2. Select the "StudentsRegister Your Code" button*
- 3. On the next page, select "Register your Code" beneath your textbook's title*
- 4. Fill in the requested information (note: be sure to write down your password!)*
- 5. Click "Next" at the bottom of the page; confirm the information on the following screen, and click "Create Account" to complete the registration process*
- 6. Once you have registered, you can always access your course by logging in at [www.yourPsychPortal.com](http://www.yourPsychPortal.com)*

*If you have any difficulties, you can contact tech support at 800-936-6899.*