

**Psychology 3010: Abnormal Psychology**  
**Weber State University**  
**M-W-F: 7:30-8:20**

**Professor:** Theresa Stueland Kay, PhD  
**Office:** SS366  
**Office Hours:** Drop-In or By Appointment

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**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):**

*Durand & Barlow (2006). **Essentials of Abnormal Psychology**, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*

**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  
Understanding of Etiology  
Familiarity with the Process of Assessment and Diagnosis  
Increased Writing Competency  
Enhanced Critical Thinking Skills*

**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.*

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Points</i>
Exam I	150
Exam II	150
Exam III	150
Exam IV	150
Exam V	150
Poster Project	
Hard Copies of 2 Peer-Reviewed Articles	15
Summary of Non-Peer-Reviewed Source	35
Summary of Peer-Reviewed Article (1)	50
Summary of Peer-Reviewed Article (2)	50
<u>Poster Presentation</u>	<u>100</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>

**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 45 multiple-choice items and 1 essay question. The exams are NOT comprehensive, and they will be designed to last approximately 1 hour.

You will be able to access the exams at the Testing Center located in the basement of the Social and Behavioral Sciences building. Each exam will be available to you for approximately 4 days. Your course outline will tell you when each exam is available. 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.

#### **Poster Presentation:**

Twenty-five percent of your grade will be based on a poster presentation that you will give at the end of the semester. There will be multiple deadlines leading to the presentation, and you can find these due dates in your course outline.

You will choose a disorder on which to present. One of your sources can be your textbook or other non-peer-reviewed source (website, *Psychology Today*, etc.). The remaining 2 sources **MUST** come from peer-reviewed, scientific journals. Throughout the semester, you will submit brief summaries of each of your sources. Please note that while the summaries **MUST** be in your own words, I grade **HEAVILY** on spelling, grammar, and sentence structure. Please be sure to proofread your summaries thoroughly before submitting them. *If you submit a summary with sufficiently substandard writing*

*proficiency, I will require that you use the Writing Center before you submit any future written work.*

*You will use these summaries to construct a poster that you will present at the end of the semester. Please note that you will not be presenting your poster to the entire class. Rather, ½ of the class will present each day, and the other ½ will circulate about the room and ask questions about the posters.*

#### **LATENESS POLICY:**

*Your instructor believes that it is vitally important to adhere to all deadlines noted in the course outline. Making a regular practice of respecting deadlines will go a long way toward success in the various areas of your life. However, your instructor recognizes that emergencies do occur and that they can interfere with even the most serious intent to respect deadlines. Therefore, your instructor expects that we will adhere to the following:*

- 1. If you are sick, please stay home until you are no longer contagious. Generally, the standard is going 24 hours without a fever. Your instructor and classmates do not want to be infected with whatever illness you might have.*
- 2. If an illness or other emergency occurs, it is your responsibility to notify your instructor as immediately as is realistically possible. It is also your responsibility to keep your instructor updated. If you do this, your instructor will work with you with exam and assignment deadlines. Please note that your instructor will be trying to balance your needs with the upcoming demands of the course. Therefore, while you may get an extension, you will need to complete the exam or assignment within the parameters set by the instructor.*
- 3. If you are unable or otherwise fail to contact your instructor in the manner described in #2, you **MUST** provide documentation in order to get an extension without a penalty. This documentation will need to adequately why you need an extension and why you were unable to contact me in a timely manner. **YOUR INSTRUCTOR WILL BE THE ONE TO DETERMINE WHAT IS SUFFICIENT DOCUMENTATION.***
- 4. Generally speaking, the penalty for late submission of an exam or assignment will be 20% if it is submitted within 2 business days of the deadline. After 2 days, the score becomes a zero.*

#### **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 uses WSU Online 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 email the class with announcements.

It is the instructor's expectation that the work you submit is in fact your work. Cheating on exams will result in immediate failure of the course and report of your behavior to the Department Chair and Dean of Students. Plagiarism on assignments will be dealt with according to the severity of the infraction. Plagiarism is representing someone else's work as your own by taking sentences, paragraphs, or sections from other sources without using quotation marks or appropriate references. Changing a few words in a sentence while maintaining the original structure of the sentence is also plagiarism. Please consult the instructor if you have any questions about the appropriate referencing of material.

Appropriate classroom behavior is vital to a productive learning environment. Anything that distracts your peers or your instructor (e.g. excessive talking, texting, receiving phone calls, habitually arriving late or leaving early) will be addressed. If these behaviors persist, you will be encouraged to drop the course.

**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

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic/Assignment</i>	<i>Reading</i>
1-4	Intro to Class	None
1-6	...Historical Context	Ch1
1-8	...Historical Context	Ch1
1-11	...Historical Context <b>Choose Poster Topic</b>	Ch1
1-13	Assessment & Diagnosis	Ch3
1-15	Assessment & Diagnosis	Ch3
1-18	<b>Martin Luther King Holiday</b>	
1-20	Assessment & Diagnosis	Ch3
1-22	<b>Hard Copies of 2 Peer Reviewed Articles Due</b> <b>Exam I: 1-21 to 1-25: No Class Friday</b>	
1-25	Anxiety Disorders	Ch4
1-27	Anxiety Disorders	Ch4
1-29	Anxiety Disorders	Ch4
2-1	Anxiety Disorders	Ch4
	<b>Non-Peer Reviewed Source Summary Due</b>	
2-3	Mood Disorders	Ch6
2-5	Mood Disorders	Ch6
2-8	Mood Disorders	Ch6
2-10	Mood Disorders	Ch6
2-12	<b>Exam II: 2-11 to 2-16: No Class Friday</b>	
2-15	<b>Presidents Day Holiday</b>	
2-17	Eating Disorders	Ch8
2-19	Eating Disorders	Ch8
2-22	Eating Disorders	Ch8
	<b>Peer-Reviewed Source Summary Due</b>	
2-24	Homosexuality	pp344-347
2-26	Schizophrenia	Ch12
3-1	Schizophrenia	Ch12
3-3	Schizophrenia	Ch12
3-5	<b>Exam III: 3-4 to 3-8: No Class Friday</b>	

3-8	<i>Substance-Related Disorders</i>	pp387-394
3-10	<i>Personality Disorders</i>	Ch11
3-12	<i>Personality Disorders</i>	Ch11
	<b><i>Peer-Reviewed Source Summary Due</i></b>	

*3-15 to 3-19: Spring Break - Enjoy!!!*

3-22	<i>Personality Disorders</i>	Ch11
3-24	<i>Personality Disorders</i>	Ch11
3-26	<b><i>Exam IV: 3-25 to 3-29: No Class Friday</i></b>	
3-29	<i>Developmental Disorders</i>	Ch13
3-31	<i>Developmental Disorders</i>	Ch13
4-2	<i>Developmental Disorders</i>	Ch13
4-5	<i>Developmental Disorders</i>	Ch13
4-7	<i>Legal and Ethical Issues</i>	Ch14
4-9	<i>Legal and Ethical Issues</i>	Ch14
4-12	<i>Poster Presentations</i>	
4-14	<i>Poster Presentations</i>	
4-16	<i>Instructor at RMPA</i>	

***Exam V: 4-16 to 4-22***