Abnormal Psychology
Psychology 3NN3 Course Outline
Summer 2004

Instructors:
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Lecture Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 6:30-9:30 pm in PC 154
Office Hours: By appointment


Course Description:
Drawing on the foundation topics presented in Psychology 3N03, this course reviews the
current understanding of selected mental disorders and illustrates how that understanding was reached.
We recognize that students will have different motivations for taking this course. We will address both
clinical and experimental perspectives. However, our orientation is more experimental than clinical, for
which we make no apologies.

Prerequisites: Psychology 3N03

Course Goals:
Students will:
-- develop an understanding of the relation between clinical and experimental psychology
-- be aware of the role of development in the emergence of mental disorders
-- Students are encouraged to think critically about the topics presented and expected to engage in
relevant class discussions. However, this is not an appropriate forum to discuss personal or family
concerns. Please respect the privacy an confidentiality of family and friends.

Course Objectives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>TEACHING METHOD</th>
<th>ASSESSMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate knowledge of major disorders and the psychological and the biological processes that are proposed to contribute to these disorders</td>
<td>lecture</td>
<td>midterm and exam (knowledge will also be reflected in review paper)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluate portrayal of mental disorders in media</td>
<td>class example</td>
<td>assignment: critique the portrayal of a disorder in 1) a movie and 2) a newspaper or</td>
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Reading: You are responsible for all assigned readings in the text. It is essential that you stay current with the reading assignments. Meaningful class participation requires that you read and think about the material before class. Moreover, in order to benefit from extra-credit pop quizzes, you must read the material to be covered in the current class period.

Attendance: Regular attendance is expected. Class lectures will parallel the text but will not duplicate the text. You will be tested on both the lectures and the text; thus absences will likely be detrimental to your exam performance. Extra-credit pop quizzes will be given periodically at the beginning of class; thus being absent or tardy to class is not in your best interest. If you miss class it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. Please be respectful to others in the class and be on time for class.

Evaluation: Marks for this course will be assigned according to the following scheme:
If you choose to write a review paper:
Midterm: 30%
Final exam: 50%
Critique: 5% Due date: July 6
Case study: 5% Due date: July 20
Optional paper: 10% Due date: July 27

If you choose to not write a review paper:
Midterm: 40%
Final exam: 50%
Critique: 5% Due date: July 6
Case study: 5% Due date: July 20

In addition, there will pop quizzes and in-class assignments which cannot hurt your final mark, but may benefit you as the marks from the pop quizzes will be added to the final exam mark.
Late assignments will lose 1% per day.
**Tentative Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>June 22:</strong> Course outline</td>
<td><strong>June 24:</strong> Substance-use disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>- case study</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- critique</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>- paper</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>June 29:</strong> Schizophrenia</td>
<td><strong>July 1:</strong> CANADA DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
<td>(No class)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 6:</strong> Schizophrenia (cont.) Chapter 10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Critique due</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 13:</strong> Midterm</td>
<td><strong>July 15:</strong> Mood disorders (cont)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mood disorders</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 20:</strong> Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders</td>
<td><strong>July 22:</strong> Early Onset Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Case Study due</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 27:</strong> Late Onset Disorders</td>
<td><strong>July 29:</strong> Anxiety Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Research paper due</strong></td>
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<td><strong>August 3:</strong> (OCD Chapter 5)</td>
<td><strong>August 5:</strong> Final Exam</td>
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<td>Tourette’s syndrome (Chapter 8)</td>
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**Critique of Media Portrayal**

State which mental disorder is portrayed and the context (mental hospital, living with family...) 1 point

How does the depiction or description of the disorder compare with what you have learned in this course? (2 points)

Possible Optional Questions you could address. (2 points)
1. Describe incidences related to diagnosis and/or labeling of the disorder such as misdiagnosis or stigmatization.
2. How did this assignment help you understand human behavior and psychopathology?
3. What was most striking to you about this account?
4. Given the experiences you had before this assignment, how has your understanding of this disorder changed?
5. On what model is the treatment suggested or used based?
6. Is there comorbidity—does the person have more than one disorder?

Film List

Forrest Gump  To Kill A Mockingbird  Clockwork Orange
Of Mice and Men  Rain Man  Beautiful Mind
Ordinary People  Girl Interrupted  28 Days
Losing Isaiah  Vanilla Sky
I Never Promised You a Rose Garden
What’s Love Got to Do With It
Best Little Girl in the World

Case Study

You will be given a case study and a clinical assessment form. This assignment simulates the clinical diagnosis procedure. You are to use the multiaxial classification system of the DSM propose a diagnosis for the individual in the case study. The assessment should include disorders that must be ruled out before the final diagnosis can be made.

Writing a Review Paper

Section of the paper
What it should contain

Introduction & Background
- Make it brief (~1/5 of the paper’s total length).
- Grab the reader’s interest while introducing the topic.
- Explain the "big picture" relevance.
- Provide the necessary background information.

Body of the Paper
- Experimental Evidence: Describe important results from recent primary literature articles and
- Explain how those results shape our current understanding of the topic.
Mention the types of experiments done and their corresponding data, but do not repeat the experimental procedure step for step.

Point out and address any controversies in the field.

Use figures and/or tables to present your own synthesis of the original data or to show key data taken directly from the original papers.

Conclusion

Succinctly summarize your major points.

Point out the significance of these results.

Discuss the questions that remain in the area.

Keep it brief.

Literature Cited

Minimum number of references that you must use and cite in your paper: 3

For more complete information and help see:


This website describes a review paper in detail.

Please use APA style and do not use quotes.

Your paper should have a cover page, but do not put it into fancy covers. Do staple the pages together.