

**Syllabus and Course Outline**  
**PSY 3400-02**  
**Psychology of Abnormal Behavior**  
**Dixie State University**  
**Spring 2014**

**Instructor:** Dr. Christine E. Chew

**Class Meets on:** MWF      **Time:** 11-11:50am

**Room:** McDonald Bldg. 206

**Telephone:** (435) 879-4404

**E-Mail:** chew@dixie.edu

**Office:** McDonald Building (MCD) 210

**Office Hours:** MW: 12-1:15pm    T/TH : 11:45-1pm

PROGRAM: Psychology

CREDIT HOURS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: Lecture: 3

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

*From the Dixie State Psychology Program Website:* Fulfills Clinical/Applied Psychology requirement for Psychology majors. An advanced course for students of all disciplines who wish to study the nature of mental disorders. Particularly important for students majoring in psychology, criminal justice, or education. Course will cover DSM IV diagnostic categories with descriptive information concerning etiology, symptomatology and therapeutic strategies. Requires college reading level skills and will require library research. Prerequisites: Psychology 1010; AND Psychology major or Integrated Studies Emphasis in Psychology major; or instructor permission.

**SOCIAL SCIENCE PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

As an outcome of taking courses in the Social Sciences Program, students shall:

1. Demonstrate the ability to examine human behaviors in a structured and organized way as a means of understanding the human condition. Measured by examination and/or oral and written reports.

2. Demonstrate the ability to recognize the ideas, people and events that are generally thought to be important by social scientists. Measured by examination and/or oral reports.
3. Develop a perceptual frame or reference based on social scientific knowledge. Measured by the presence of an attitudinal frame of reference which would be expressed in written or oral activities.
4. Exhibit concepts of critical thinking and scientific methodology in examining human behavior. Measured by the presence of an attitudinal frame of reference which would be displayed in written or oral activities

### **MAJOR COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be expected to:

1. To develop basic knowledge of the theoretical background of abnormal psychology, to identify different disorders, and manifestations of dysfunctional behaviors.
2. Understand how we know what we know in the psychological pathology, with regard to research.
3. Critically think about and evaluate diagnosis paradigms as well as speak to the pitfalls and the strengths of diagnosing.
4. Apply knowledge in a useful way to the complexities of the field.
5. Understand the history of the field and the future of the field.

### **COURSE METHODS:**

The course will be as a lecture/ seminar, with each student asked to consider particular questions during class discussions and reading material, and comment in the class on these issues. We will focus on:

1. Readings in relevant texts and articles
2. Lectures which discuss the readings
3. Small group exercises and self reflection exercises
4. Examination of the relevant literature in the field
5. Student presentations
6. Exams

**Email is the preferred method for contacting the professor outside of class.**  
When emailing the professor the subject line should read **Abnormal Psychology**.

### **GENERAL CLASS CONDUCT**

<b>ALL CELL PHONES <u>OFF</u> WHEN YOU ENTER THE CLASSROOM</b>
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**Attendance at all scheduled classes is required.**

## **Disruptive Behavior**

Students are expected to approach the class as mature adults and to conduct themselves accordingly. While questions and interaction with the instructor are encouraged during the seminar, disruptive remarks, behavior and unnecessary personal conversations between students will not be tolerated. At times a topic or topic matter may contain sensitive issues. It is imperative that we all conduct ourselves with respect for others even should we disagree with someone's view point. Our classroom is a "safe" space, which requires that students agree to keeping sensitive matters confidential, and to respect each other's privacy with regard to personal remarks in classroom.

Please refrain from:

**Coming in late or leaving early.** It is imperative that you make the commitment to be in class the entire class length.

Doing other work or other activities aside from the classwork that is being presented or assigned.

Sleeping during the class.

Listening to I-pods or other portable music/audio devices.

Talking or texting on cell phones.

Making jokes or having discussions with others in the class that would be disruptive to others.

For more details, please see the disruptive behavior policy at:  
<http://www.dixie.edu/humanres/policy/sec3/334.html>

### **Referrals:**

Many psychology courses, such as this one, often provide students with self reflection oriented readings and activities. At times, this reflection can trigger emotional responses, or other types of reactions that can cause significant personal distress or upset. Sometimes these responses are from past issues, or traumas, or other things happening in a student's life. While I am able to understand this, as a clinician, and have training in the area of therapeutic intervention; as a faculty member, I am unable to engage in a relationship of this nature with my students. It is unethical, according to the field ethics code, and it is also considered a dual role relationship, which is highly discouraged. Should you find yourself in a situation of this sort, I would be happy to make a confidential referral for you, to our college counseling center, and provide any support I can to find you some resources. Again, unfortunately, I cannot serve you in a

therapeutic role, but I am very happy we have the counseling center available to students for just such situations.

## **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

### **Texts:**

Title: **Abnormal Psychology**  
Authors: Barlow and Durand  
Edition: 6th Edition  
Publisher: Wadsworth Publishing

*Suggested Text: DSM-5*

## **CLASS STRUCTURE**

In general, the class will follow seminar / discussion format. All text material will not be covered in class. However, students are responsible for all material in the text reading assignments and handouts.

Typically, classes will consist of lecture, discussion, student presentations, and experiential types of activities.

## **EVALUATION:**

Grading will be based upon possible points in the course distributed as follows:

1. 5 scheduled exams (worth 50 points)	300 points
2. Final Exam	50 points
2. Student Presentation	50 points

**TOTAL      400 points**

## **GRADING SCALE:**

A = (94 – 100)
A- = (90-93)
B += (86 – 89)
B = (84-85)
B- = (80-83)
C+ = (76-79)
C = (74-75)
C- = (70 -73)
D+ = (66-69)
D = (64- 65)
D- = (60-63)
F = (59% and less)

## **EXAMINATIONS:**

Grades will be determined in part based on student performance on exams. (50 pts each)

### **Final Exam:**

The final exam will be cumulative, but very broad. You can expect a variety of questions from the course; however they will be very general in nature.

### **Make Up Policy**

As a rule, there will not be any make up exams in this course. Talk further with the instructor for excused absences as per college policy.

***The professor reserves the right to assign activities as is deemed necessary during the semester.***

## **READING ASSIGNMENTS:**

You will be expected to complete the required reading assignments outlined in the course schedule, regarding assessment issues, prior to class and incorporate this learning into your comments during lecture and case presentations.

## **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS**

Students will work in small groups, or individually, depending on class size, to present a pre-selected disorder to the class. Presentation will include diagnostic criteria, potential treatments, and one research article that has studied the disorder, from a scholarly journal. Presentation will be no longer than 12 -15 minutes. Students will turn in a summary sheet to instructor, of the presentation written in APA style with references.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

<b><u>Jan 6:</u></b>	<b>Course Introduction</b>
<b><u>Jan 8:</u></b>	<b>Introduce a friend</b>
<b><u>Jan 10:</u></b>	<b>What is Abnormal?</b>
<b><u>Jan. 13:</u></b>	<b>History of Abnormal Psychology</b>
<b><u>Jan 15:</u></b>	<b>History, Con't</b>
<b><u>Jan 17:</u></b>	<b>Interest Topic: Exorcism as treatment</b>
<b><u>Jan 20:</u></b>	<b>No Class; Holiday</b>
<b><u>Jan 22:</u></b>	<b>Chapter 2 : Research and Diagnosis</b>
<b><u>Jan 24:</u></b>	<b>Diagnosis and Ethics Con't</b>
<b><u>Jan 27:</u></b>	<b>Anxiety Disorders</b>
<b><u>Jan 29:</u></b>	<b>Review for Exam #1</b>
<b><u>Jan 30/31:</u></b>	<b>Exam #1 in testing center</b>
<b><u>Feb 3 :</u></b>	<b>Mood Disorders</b>
<b><u>Feb 5:</u></b>	<b>Mood Disorders</b>
<b><u>Feb 7:</u></b>	<b>Personality Disorders Cluster A</b>
<b><u>Feb 11:</u></b>	<b>Personality Disorders: Cluster B</b>
<b><u>Feb 13:</u></b>	<b>Personality Disorders: Cluster C</b>
<b><u>Feb 15:</u></b>	<b>Library Day/ Independent Research</b>
<b><u>Feb 17:</u></b>	<b>No Class; Holiday</b>
<b><u>Feb 19:</u></b>	<b>Exam #2 Review</b>
<b><u>Feb.20- 21:</u></b>	<b>Exam #2 in testing center</b>
<b><u>Feb 24:</u></b>	<b>Student Presentations</b>
<b><u>Feb: 26:</u></b>	<b>Childhood Disorders</b>
<b><u>Feb 28:</u></b>	<b>Substance Abuse Disorders</b>
<b><u>March 3:</u></b>	<b>Student Presentations</b>
<b><u>March 5:</u></b>	<b>Catch up</b>
<b><u>March 7:</u></b>	<b>Special Topic</b>
<b><u>March :</u></b>	<b>Dissociative Disorders</b>
<b><u>March 20:</u></b>	<b>Review for Exam #3</b>
<b><u>March 20/21 :</u></b>	<b>Exam #3 in testing center</b>
<b><u>March 24:</u></b>	<b>Eating Disorders</b>
<b><u>March 26:</u></b>	<b>Schizophrenia</b>
<b><u>March 28:</u></b>	<b>Schizophrenia</b>
<b><u>March 31:</u></b>	<b>Special Topic: Civil Hospitals</b>
<b><u>April 2:</u></b>	<b>Review for Exam #4</b>
<b><u>April 4/5:</u></b>	<b>Exam #4 in testing center</b>

<u>April 7:</u>	<b>Student Presentations</b>
<u>April 9:</u>	<b>Special interest: Forensic Psychologists</b>
<u>April 11:</u>	<b>Treatment of Psychological Disorders</b>
<u>April 14:</u>	<b>Treatment Con't</b>
<u>April 16:</u>	<b>Catch up</b>
<u>April 18:</u>	<b>Clinical Issues</b>
<u>April 21:</u>	<b>Review Exam #5</b>
<u>April 23/24:</u>	<b>Exam #5</b>

**Final Exam: Monday April 28; 10am-12pm**

**\* ALL TEST DATES AND ASSIGNMENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE \*\***

**Dmail:**

Important class and college information will be sent to your Dmail account. This information includes your DSC bill, financial aid/scholarship notices, notification of dropped classes, reminders of important dates and events, and other information critical to your success in this class and at DSC. All DSC students are automatically assigned a Dmail account. If you don't know your user name and password, go to [www.dixie.edu](http://www.dixie.edu) and select "Dmail," for complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your Dmail email, so please check it often.

**Important Dates to Remember:**

Jan 2	Spring 2014 Late application penalty begins
Jan 6	Classwork Starts
Jan 9	Last Day to Waitlist
Jan 10	Last Day to Add Without Signature
Jan 15	Drop/Audit Fee Begins (\$10 per class)
Jan 15	Residency Application Deadline
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan 21	\$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Jan 27	Pell Grant Census
Jan 27	Last Day for Refund
Jan 27	Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Jan 29	Courses dropped for non-payment
Jan 31	Last Day to Add/Audit
Jan 31	Associate's degree Graduation Deadline - Spring 2014
Feb 17	President's Day
Feb 24	Mid-Term Grades Due
Feb 28	Last Day to Drop Individual Class

Feb 28	Bachelor's degree Graduation Deadline - Summer 2014
Mar 10-14	Spring Break
Mar 17	Fall 2014 Class schedule available online
Mar 17	Summer Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Mar 18	Summer Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Mar 19	Summer Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Mar 20	Summer Registration open to all students
Mar 28	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
Apr 1	Bachelor's degree Graduation Deadline - Fall 2014
Apr 7	Fall Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Apr 8	Fall Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Apr 9	Fall Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Apr 10	Fall Registration open to all students
Apr 23	Classwork Ends
Apr 24	Reading Day
Apr 25	Final Exams
Apr 28-30, May 1	Final Exams
May 1	Associate's degree Graduation Deadline - Summer 2014
May 2	Commencement

### **Disability Accommodations:**

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring reasonable academic adjustment, accommodations, or auxiliary aids to be successful in this class will need to contact the DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER Coordinator (Baako Wahabu) for eligibility determination. Proper documentation of impairment is required in order to receive services or accommodations. DRC is located in the North Plaza Building. Visit or call 652-7516 to schedule appointment to discuss the process. DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

### **College resources:**

Several college resources are available to help you succeed. Check out the links for each one to get more information. If you need help understanding the content of your courses, go to the **Tutoring Center** located in the Browning Learning Center, Room 105. There is a schedule of what courses have tutors at what times outside the door. You can also visit them online at <http://dsc.dixie.edu/tutoring/> If you need help writing papers, go to the Writing Center in the Browning Learning Center, Room 105. You can also visit them online at [http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc\\_writing\\_center.php](http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php)

If you are assigned to take a test in the Testing Center, go to the North Plaza. You can get information on their website at <http://new.dixie.edu/testing/>

The Library has all kinds of information and resources. Visit the Val Browning Library or go to the library website at <http://library.dixie.edu/>



### **Academic integrity:**

DSC believes that most students are honest. However, cheating will not be tolerated, and if discovered, a zero grade will be given for that assignment or exam, and you will not be allowed to make it up. Repeated or aggravated offenses will result in failing the course. Any time you take credit for work you did not do, you are cheating. This includes getting the answers to homework problems from someone else, copying information from a library or internet source and presenting it as if it were your own words which is called plagiarism. Plagiarism is a particularly serious offense in academia.

Looking at someone else's answers on an exam, and asking someone who has already taken a test about what questions it contains also constitutes cheating. This course has been designed to minimize the temptation to cheat, however it is not the job DSC or the instructor to make things "cheat proof." If you cheat and are not caught, it doesn't mean that you "beat the system." It means you violated the Student Code and forfeited your integrity.

For further information on the Student code please refer to <http://library.dixie.edu/policies/studentcodesectionfour.pdf> page 8. DSC is committed to helping students honor the student code and to have consequences for those who do not abide by its standards.

### **COPYRIGHT STATEMENT:**

Students shall adhere to the laws governing the use of copyrighted materials. They must insure that their activities comply with fair use and in no way infringe on the copyright or other proprietary rights of others and that the materials used and developed at Union College contain nothing unlawful, unethical, or libelous and do not constitute any violation of any right of privacy.