

Psychology of Abnormal Behavior

PSY 3400-40, CRN: 31990

Summer 2014, Online



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Text: Rosenberg, R. S. & Kosslyn, S. M. (2011). *Abnormal Psychology*, 2nd Edition. New York: Worth Publishers. ISBN: 1-4292-4216-7

Overview & Course Description: Welcome to Psychology of Abnormal Behavior. This course is an advanced course for students of all disciplines who wish to study the nature of mental disorders. It is particularly important for students majoring in psychology, criminal justice, or education. The course will cover DSM IV-TR diagnostic categories with descriptive information concerning etiology, symptomology and therapeutic strategies. Course requires college reading level skills and will require library research. Prerequisite: Psychology 1010.

Philosophy/Expectations: This course will operate on the philosophy that active engagement with material fosters quality learning. There will be ample opportunity for in-class discussion. Students are expected to read assigned text prior to discussions and be prepared to participate intelligently and respectfully.

Learning Objectives & Outcomes

The primary objective of this course is to provide an over-view of mental disorders. By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- ⊙ Demonstrate knowledge of major issues and concepts in abnormal psychology.
- ⊙ Summarize the criteria of abnormality.
- ⊙ Apply the criteria of abnormality to different sets of symptoms.
- ⊙ Evaluate the significance of symptoms of a disorder in the sociocultural context.
- ⊙ Describe the modern explanations of psychopathology.
- ⊙ Demonstrate knowledge of empirical findings in abnormal psychology.

Participation in online discussion is a substantial part of graded material. See Dixie State University, Policies and Procedures Manual, section 5-23 on ATTENDANCE for further details.

Class Courtesy, Respectful Behavior & Responsibility: We will have a class discussion in the first week about our responsibilities to each other in this learning environment. We will generate expectations for online behavior during this discussion that will help us create a positive, responsible, and respectful learning environment. Rudeness will NOT be tolerated under any circumstances and may result in loss of points for the discussion or the full module and/or expulsion from the course at the professor's discretion. Rudeness can include (but is not limited to): negative personal comments about others and incomplete or incoherent comments.

Assignments: The major assignment is a research and presentation project on a clinical disorder (you will be assigned a clinical disorder after ranking a few that you are interested in). There will be 2 short paper assignments designed to help you research your disorder and prepare information for your disorder presentation. There will also be class discussions within each module. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN ON TIME TO RECEIVE CREDIT.** Late assignments can be turned in up to one week following the due date with points deducted for being late – no late work will be accepted after one week following the due date without a valid excuse cleared by the professor.

Exams:

There will be two Midterm Exams and a Final Exam. All Exams will be available in the Testing Center (you will be required to present your student ID to take the exam) between the hours of 9:00 am and 9:00 pm Monday through Friday and 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm Saturday and Sunday over a two-day period. **The Final Exam will be available July 17 to 18.** Please see the Testing Center website for further information and to verify hours of operation. If you are not in the Saint George area, you must arrange to have your exams proctored at another college or university testing center (download the Proctor Request Form from our Canvas sight). **No early or makeup tests will be permitted for any of the exams without a valid, documented excuse.** The exams will consist of short answer and multiple choice items.

➤ **You must take each Exam**

- Each Exam will be given at the Testing Center on computer. All you need to take with you is your **STUDENT ID**. If you do not bring your student ID to the testing center, you will not be allowed to take the exam. Do not bring any other material (e.g., no books or papers). Testing Center: <http://new.dixie.edu/testing>
- You will have a window of 2 days to go to the testing center to complete each exam (check the testing center website listed above for hours). Once you start the exam you will have 90 minutes to complete it.

Schedule

Introductory Module: May 27 & 28

Introductions, Overview of the Course

Read the Syllabus

Complete: Online Preparation Quiz, Disorder Choice, and Introductory Discussion by May 28, Online Back-up Plan by May 29

Module 1: May 27 through June 2

History

Read Chapter 1: The History of Abnormal Psychology

Complete: History Discussion by May 30

Disorder Work: Research Articles due Friday, May 30th

Module 2: June 2 through 9

Clinical Disorders

Read Chapter 2: Understanding Psychological Disorders

Disorder Work: Brief Paper 1 – Disorder Summary due Wednesday, June 11th

Module 3: June 9 through 16

Diagnosis & Assessment

Read Chapter 3: Clinical Diagnosis & Assessment

Research

Read Chapter 4: Researching Abnormality

Disorder Work: Brief Paper 2 – Research Summaries due Monday, June 16th

Module 4: June 16 through 23

Mood Disorders

Read Chapter 6: Mood Disorders & Suicide

Disorder Work: Disorder PowerPoint due Thursday, June 19th

Disorder Presentation due Thursday, June 26th

Exam 1 in Testing Center Mon 23rd thru Tues 24th

Module 5: June 23 through 30

Gender and Sexual Disorders

Read Chapter 11: Gender and Sexual Disorders

Schizophrenia

Read Chapter 12: Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders

Complete: Schizophrenia Discussion by June 30

Module 6: June 30 through July 7

To be Determined (after disorders are assigned)

Exam 2 in Testing Center July 7 & 8

Module 7: July 7 through 14

To be Determined (after disorders are assigned)

Module 8: July 11 through 16

To be Determined (after disorders are assigned)

Final Exam in the Testing Center July 17 to 18.

DISCLAIMER

Information contained in this syllabus, other than the grading scale and exam policy may be subject to change with advanced notice, as deemed appropriate to the instructor.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES

May 27	Class-work Begins, Last Day for Waitlist
May 28	Last Day to Add Without Signature
June 3	\$25 Late Registration/Payment Fee
June 5	Pell Grant Census
June 5	Last Day for Refund
June 5	Last day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
June 9	Last Day to ADD/AUDIT Classes
June 9	Courses dropped for non-payment
June 23	Last Day to DROP Individual Class
July 3	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
July 4	Independence Day
July 18	Class-work Ends
July 18	Final Exams

Canvas messaging & e-mail: *You are required to frequently check your Canvas and Dmail accounts.* Important class and college information will be sent to your dmail account, including DSU bills, financial aid/scholarship notices, notices of cancelled classes, reminders of important dates and deadlines, and other information critical to your success at DSU and in your courses. If you don't know how to access your dmail account, go to www.dixie.edu and select "Dmail" from the left column. To locate your dmail username and password, go to www.dixie.edu, and click on "Log in to student services" (upper right corner).

Earning Points:

- A. Class Discussions: earned for participating actively in class discussions, clearly demonstrating that you have done the reading and viewed the PowerPoint, and commenting intelligently on the material. Each discussion is worth 10 points for a total of 90 points.
- B. 2 Short Paper Assignments: Brief (2 to 3 page) papers submitted online by the due date & time. Each Paper is worth 20 points for a total of 40 points.

- C. Disorder PowerPoint & Presentation: PowerPoints (with only a sample recording) will be submitted early & feedback will be given to ensure that material is complete and coherent. Once the PowerPoint is edited completely, you will then record and submit the full presentation. The presentations are worth 80 points (20 point PowerPoint & 60 point full presentation).
- D. Midterm Exams: Taken at the Testing Center. Each Midterm is worth 100 points for a total of 200 points.
- E. Comprehensive Final Exam: Taken at the Testing Center on July 17th or 18th. The final is worth 150 points.

Summary of Points Possible

Class Discussions are worth 10 points each, times 9 Discussions is	90 points
Short Paper Assignments, 20 points each, times 2 Assignments is	40 points
Disorder PowerPoint & Presentation is worth 80 points	80 points
Midterm Exams are worth 100 points each, times 2 Midterms is	200 points
<u>Final Exam is worth 150 points</u>	<u>150 points</u>
TOTAL:	560 points

Grading Policy

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>
A	94% - 100%	C	74% - 76%
A-	90% - 93%	C-	70% - 73%
B+	87% - 89%	D+	67% - 69%
B	84% - 86%	D	64% - 66%
B-	80% - 83%	D-	60% - 63%
C+	77% - 79%	F	59% AND BELOW

- I typically give credit for questions on exams that are answered incorrectly by seventy percent of the class or more.
- At no time during the course will grades be curved. Your point totals determine your grade, not how other people perform.

Disability Statement: If you suspect or are aware that you have a disability that may affect your success in the course you are strongly encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) located in the North Plaza Building. The disability will be evaluated and eligible students will receive assistance in obtaining reasonable accommodations. Phone # 435-652-7516

Cheating: Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated at Dixie State University, including but not limited to plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, and cheating on exams or quizzes. Teachers at Dixie State University may discipline students proven guilty of academic dishonesty by:

- Giving a failing grade on the specific assignment where dishonesty occurred,
- Failing the student in the entire course,

- Immediately dismissing and removing the student from the course, and/or
- Referring the student to Student Affairs, a committee which may reprimand, place on probation, suspend, and/or expel the student.

Disruptive Behavior: Teachers at Dixie State University have the right to manage the classroom environment to ensure a good learning climate. Toward this end, teachers may dismiss and remove disruptive students from individual class activities. If a student's behavior continues to disrupt class activities, the teacher may dismiss and cause the removal of disruptive students from their course.

Student Appeals: Students who believe themselves wrongfully disciplined may appeal those disciplinary actions through the standard grievance procedure. (Policy 5-35)