

Psychology of Abnormal Behavior

PSY 3400-01, CRN: 31354

Summer 2011



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Office Hours: 10-11am TWR

Lecture/Discussion: Tues/Wed/Thur 1:00pm to 2:50pm in McDonald 106

Text: Rosenberg, R. S. & Kosslyn, S. M. (2011). *Abnormal Psychology*. New York: Worth Publishers.

ISBN: 1-4292-4304-X

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 activities and discussion, both in small groups and with the entire class. Students are expected to read assigned text prior to class and be prepared to participate in class. Students are also expected to coordinate small group work effectively.

Attendance and participation in class is a substantial part of graded material. In addition, absences may result in lost learning opportunities, including possible schedule changes and extra credit opportunities.

Class Courtesy, Respectful Behavior & Responsibility: We will have a class discussion on the first day about our responsibilities to each other in this learning environment. We will generate expectations for behavior during class that will help us create a positive, responsible, and respectful learning environment.

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.

Assignments: There is an in-class small group presentation on a group of clinical disorders (you will have your individual disorder and will be in a group with others with similar disorders to present). There will be small group discussion within class or disorder questions due in class on most class days. There will also be 2 short paper assignments and one conclusion/revision paper assignment. The short paper assignments are designed to help you prepare to do your in-class presentation, **ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN ON TIME TO RECEIVE CREDIT.** No late assignments can be turned in without a valid excuse cleared by the professor.

Note: Valid excuses are documented excuses that make it clear that it was not possible to come to class (e.g. medical note of serious illness, car repair receipt on the day of class, etc.).

Exams:

There will be two Midterm Exams and a Final Exam. The Midterm Exams will be administered 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 four-day period. **The Final Exam is in class on Thursday, July 21st.** Please see the Testing Center website for further information and to verify hours of operation. **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**

- Make-up exams will only be given with a valid, documented excuse.
- Each Midterm 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 quiz. 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 4 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 one hour to complete it.

e-mail: You are required to frequently check your Dmail account. Important class and college information will be sent to your dmail account, including DSC bills, financial aid/scholarship notices, notices of cancelled classes, reminders of important dates and deadlines, and other information critical to your success at DSC 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).

Tentative Schedule

Week 1: May 31st through June 2nd

Tuesday: Introductions, Overview of the Course & History

Read Chapter 1: The History of Abnormal Psychology

Wednesday: Overview & History (cont'd)

Read Chapter 1: The History of Abnormal Psychology

Thursday: Clinical Disorders

Read Chapter 2: Understanding Psychological Disorders

Week 2: June 7th through 9th

Tuesday: Clinical Disorders (cont'd)

Read Chapter 2: Understanding Psychological Disorders

Wednesday: Diagnosis & Assessment

Read Chapter 3: Clinical Diagnosis & Assessment

Assignments: 2 research article abstracts due Friday, June 10th

Brief Paper 1 - Disorder Summary due Monday, June 13th

Thursday: Treatment

Read Chapter 4: Foundations of Treatment

Week 3: June 14th through 16th

Tuesday: Research

Read Chapter 5: Researching Abnormality

Assignments: Brief Paper 2 - Research & DSM 5 Summaries due Thursday, June 16th

Disorder Questions due in class on following day

Wednesday: Mood Disorders sample presentation

Read Chapter 6: Mood Disorders & Suicide

Thursday: Review for Exam 1

*Group Presentation planning & outlining

Group Assignment: Presentation Outline due Monday, June 20th

Exam 1 in Testing Center (Sat 18th thru Tues 21st)

Week 4: June 21st through 23rd

Tuesday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Wednesday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Thursday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Week 5: June 28th through 30th

Tuesday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Wednesday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Thursday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Week 6: July 5th through 7th

Tuesday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Wednesday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Thursday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Exam 2 in Testing Center (Sat 9th thru Tues 12th)

Week 7: July 12th through 14th

Tuesday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Wednesday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Thursday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Assignment: Brief Paper Revisions & Conclusion due Tuesday, July 19th

Week 8: July 19th through 21st

Tuesday: Disorders presentations

Readings TBD

Wednesday: Ethics & Other Topics

Read Chapter 16

Thursday: Final Exam in Class

Attendance: With so much of the work for this course done in class, it is vital that you attend every class period. See Dixie State College of Utah, Policies and Procedures Manual, section 5-23 on ATTENDANCE for further details.

DISCLAIMER

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

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES

May 31	Class-work Begins
June 1	Last Day to Add Without Signature
June 7	\$25 Late Registration/Payment Fee
June 9	Pell Grant Census
June 9	Last Day for Refund
June 9	Last day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
June 13	Last Day to ADD Classes
June 13	Courses dropped for non-payment
June 27	Last Day to DROP/AUDIT Classes
July 4	Independence Day
July 8	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
July 22	Class-work Ends
July 22	Final Exams

Earning Points:

- A. Small Group/Class Participation: earned for participating actively in class discussions and in-class small group assignments. Each day is worth 5 points. So with 7 non-presentation class days, this totals to 35 points.
- B. 2 Short Paper Assignments: Brief (1 page) papers done outside of class, handed-in at the beginning of class on the due date. Each Paper is worth 10 points for a total of 20 points.
- C. Disorder Questions: questions are to be typed, printed & brought to class on each presentation day. Questions are worth 5 points each. So with 15 presentation class days, this totals to 75 points.
- D. Disorder Presentation & Outline: Your in-class presentations will be in groups, but you will be scored individually for your contributions. Outlines will receive one score for the entire group. Presentations are worth 80 points (20 point outline & 60 point presentation)
- E. Midterm Exams: Taken at the Testing Center. Each Midterm is worth 100 points for a total of 200 points.
- F. Short Paper Revision & Conclusion: A revision of previous short papers with a conclusion about your disorder presented in class.
- G. Comprehensive Final Exam: Taken in class on Friday, July 22nd in class. The final is worth 150 points.

Summary of Points Possible

Short Paper Assignments, 10 points each, times 2 Assignments is	20 points
Small Group Activities are worth 5 points each, times 7 Activities is	35 points
Disorder Questions are worth 5 points each, times 15 days is	75 points
Disorder Presentations & Outlines are worth 80 points	80 points
Midterms 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 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.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:

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. The DRC is located on the ground floor of the Financial Aid Office. Visit or call 652-7516 to schedule an appointment to discuss the process. The DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

Cheating: Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated at Dixie State College, 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 College 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 College have the right to manage the classroom environment to ensure a good learning climate. Toward this end, teachers (or college security) 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)