

## **ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY (PSYCH 238)**

Psychology Building, Rm.31

Spring, 2010: Section K

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**Office Hours:** Tues, Thurs 1:45-2:45pm and by appointment (schedule via email)

**Class meeting times:** **Section K:** Tues, Thurs: 3:30-4:45pm and by appointment

### **Required Text and Supplies (available at the campus bookstore):**

- Oltmanns, T.F., & Emery, R.E. (2009). *Abnormal Psychology: Custom 3rd Edition for the University of Illinois*. Prentice Hall: New Jersey.
- The university-approved *I-Clicker* will be used for this course. Using the *I-Clicker* in the classroom is a fast and effective way for instructors to get an idea of what students are learning in the course and to get students more actively involved in the class. *I-Clickers* are available in the major bookstores on campus. Please see the [I-Clicker FAQ sheet](#) on our Compass web site if you have questions about how to register your *I-Clicker* online. **MAKE SURE YOU BRING YOUR I-CLICKER TO EVERY CLASS**

### **Course Website:**

There is a course website: <http://www.psych.uiuc.edu/~lyubansk/Abnormal/abhome.html> This syllabus and other course material, including study guides and announcements will be posted on the website. Lecture notes are also available there but are password protected (to comply with copyright law). I will share the password with you in class. Please note that Compass is used only as a gradebook.

### **Course Objectives:**

Through the use of readings, videos, activities, lectures, and written assignments, after taking this course you should be able to:

- evaluate various definitions of abnormal behavior and mental disorders
- describe the signs and symptoms of specific mental disorders
- compare and contrast different disorders
- identify which populations are more vulnerable to specific mental disorders
- explain the causes of mental disorders
- describe treatment and prevention strategies for specific mental disorders
- have a compassionate understanding of what it is like to live with a mental disorder and think more openly about people who have mental disorders

## **Lecture Notes**

The slides that came with your book will be very similar to those used in class and posted on the course website. However, it is likely that I will make some changes throughout the semester. These changes will generally not be substantial (e.g. when I add “Special Topic” content) and will be available on the course website (though sometimes not until immediately before class). These slides are made available to you in order to facilitate note taking. However, both sets of slides are considered incomplete. This does not mean that they are missing words, figures, etc; rather, it means that you will be given information verbally in class that is not on the slides. Therefore, do *not* rely solely on these notes to pass the course; you still need to attend class and take your own notes. If you purchased an old edition of the book, you might want to print the PowerPoint slides and bring them to class.

## **Office Hours**

You are encouraged to come see me during office hours. You do not need a reason to stop by, but please come see me if you have a question about anything from the book or lecture, if you miss a class, to discuss study techniques for the exams, to review your exams after they are graded or to discuss anything else related to the course or your academic career. If you have a brief question, you can also talk to me before or after class. However, please do not ask to schedule an appointment during this time. While there is no substitute for face-to-face contact, you should also feel free to contact me via email. In fact, this is often the best way to get a quick answer to a question, usually within 24 hours.

## **Companion Website**

The textbook for this class has a companion website ([http://wps.ablongman.com/ab\\_abnormalpsych\\_studysite\\_1/](http://wps.ablongman.com/ab_abnormalpsych_studysite_1/)) on which you may find helpful study guides, links to mental health websites, and case study videos. This may aid in your review of content. However, do not rely on their test questions as they may differ in type and difficulty from those on quizzes and exams. There is also a link to this website from the course website.

## **Classroom Environment**

It is essential that our classroom be a place where people feel comfortable expressing their thoughts without fear of unduly critical or judgmental responses. I expect all of my students to be respectful of the widely varied experiences and backgrounds presented by classroom members. You may expect the same level of respect from me. Disrespect or discrimination on any basis, including but not limited to ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, physical ability, class, religion, or value system, will not be tolerated. Similarly, disruptive behavior (including lateness) is also not acceptable and may result in the offending student(s) being excused from class.

In addition, there will be people in class who either have a mental disorder themselves or who have a friend or a family member with a mental disorder. Mental health issues are very personal for many people -- please keep this in mind as you make comments or pose questions in class.

### **Special Considerations: Students with Disabilities**

If you have a diagnosed condition or disability that causes difficulty with learning in the classroom, completing assignments as described, or taking examinations, please see me as soon as possible and provide documentation if it is available. I will do whatever I can to accommodate your legitimate needs. According to University policy, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor of any special needs. All information and documentation of disability is strictly confidential.

### **Medical, Mental Health and Personal Emergencies**

If you must miss multiple classes, assignments, or quizzes due to a medical or personal emergency, discuss your situation with me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the end of the semester or until the problem has been resolved. However, if you will need to miss more than five classes due to illness or some other set of events; I recommend you speak to me immediately to discuss whether you should drop the course.

### **Announcements**

You will be responsible for all announcements made in class. If you miss class, I expect *you* to contact *me* (or a classmate) to find out what you have missed. In addition, you should check the course website as some announcements will be posted there. I will also try to send announcements via e-mail whenever possible. To facilitate electronic communication, please make sure that your inbox is not full and try to read your email daily. In addition, because I teach several different courses, it is very helpful to me if you include "P238" in the subject header.

### **Academic Honesty**

Cheating on exams or other class assignments will not be tolerated. If anyone is caught cheating on exams, I will take the appropriate action. It is the policy of the Psychology Department to recommend your dismissal from the University if you engage in academic dishonesty. If you are having problems in class, please talk with me so that we can develop a plan for you to improve your performance in the course without cheating.

This course adheres to UIUC guidelines on academic integrity. Every direct quotation, even of a few consecutive words, must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation. Every paraphrase or quotation from published sources, the unpublished work of others, or the web must be cited with an exact reference. Cheating and plagiarism will be penalized in accord with the penalties and procedures indicated in the Code of Policies and Regulations Applying to All Students ([http://admin.illinois.edu/policy/code/article1\\_part4\\_1-401.html](http://admin.illinois.edu/policy/code/article1_part4_1-401.html)). All students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Code's definition of infractions of academic integrity.

### **Honors**

This course may not be taken for honors credit.

## Course Requirements

### Participation (30 points)

Students are expected to attend class and actively participate by asking and answering questions and taking part in class activities and demonstrations. Reading the assigned chapter prior to class will maximize your class experience, but you should come to class even if you are unable to do so. Excessive absence is likely to result in poor test performance, as exams will be based on materials from both lecture and reading. Moreover, there is substantial research indicating that individuals who are exposed to content in multiple ways (e.g., reading and listening to a lecture) retain the material better than students who have only one type of exposure.

Participation Points are earned through various in-class individual or group activities and I-clicker activities. These activities and points **CANNOT be made up** and I will not always announce when participation points will occur ahead of time, so you should plan to attend regularly. Although you can only earn a maximum of 30 points, I intend to provide opportunity to earn between 35-40 points (30 is the max). Thus, students who don't earn the full 30 points by the end of the semester tend to be those who were chronically absent or neglected to bring their **I-clicker**.

### Quizzes (80 points)

There will be a total of five quizzes, but only four will count toward your grade (the lowest quiz grade will be dropped). Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple choice questions (2 points per question), which will be similar to those that will be on the exams. The purpose of the quizzes is to give you an idea of what the exam will look like and give you an opportunity to evaluate your mastery of the material. If you are absent for a quiz, you will receive a 0 (zero). Make-up quizzes will not be given except under exceptional circumstances (e.g., the student is in the hospital, a family member passes away) and with proper documentation (e.g., a note from the hospital). A note from McKinley is not proper documentation. If a student wishes to petition for a make-up quiz, they must do so within one week of the quiz, and the make-up quiz must be taken within two weeks. Make-up quizzes may be in the form of short-answer and matching.

### Exams (200 total)

There will be a midterm and a final exam (non-cumulative), each worth 100 points. The exams will consist of 50 multiple-choice and/or matching questions covering material presented in class and material presented in the textbook. You are responsible for *all* materials covered in lecture AND in the assigned reading. Students who do not do the assigned reading in this course generally do poorly on exams, even if they attend class regularly. Exams will be proctored, and you must bring a picture ID and a pencil to each exam.

Make-up exams will be in the form of short answer, matching, and/or multiple-choice. In order to take the make-up exam, you need to have me sign a make-up petition (which can be available on the course website) at least a week before the exam. Make-up exams without a signed petition will only be given under extenuating circumstances, such as a death or illness. This will require documentation (a note simply stating that you were at McKinley is not sufficient) to explain your absence from the exam. If you miss the exam for other reasons (e.g., your alarm clock broke, you could not find the room) you may be allowed to take the make-up exam -- however, 10 points will be automatically deducted from your score.

### Assignments (90 points)

There will be three assignments worth a total of 90 points. Assignments will be handed out in class and available on the course website. Assignments are due by the beginning of class on the day they are due. **You must submit a hard copy of each assignment.** Even if you are not in class the day the assignment is given, hand it in on time. If you cannot come to class, you should place your assignment in my mailbox on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor prior to the start of class (I will pick them up on the way to class). No assignments will be accepted by e-mail.

A **late penalty** will be imposed if the assignment is not turned in on time. **If the assignment is handed in within 48 hours of the beginning of the class in which it was due, 2 points will be taken off the grade. If the assignment is handed in more than 2 days late, 5 points will be deducted.** However, assignments that are more than one week late will not be accepted, and unless there are exceptional circumstances (see section on “quizzes” for explanation), you will not be given an opportunity to make up those points. If there are extra-ordinary circumstances, proper documentation (a note from McKinley is not sufficient) is required within two weeks of the assignment’s due date, in order for you to be allowed to turn in the assignment. We also do not allow re-writes on assignments.

Assignment 1	The Stigma of Mental Illness	30 points	Due Thursday, February 11
Assignment 2	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	30 points	Due Thursday, March 18
Assignment 3	Personality Disorders	30 points	Due Tuesday, April 20

### Research Participation (EXTRA CREDIT, 6 POINTS MAXIMUM)

Students will be able to earn 2 points extra credit for each hour of participation with a maximum of 6 points (3 study-hours). Please note that research participants must complete each study in order to receive full credit for that study. Although research participation is highly encouraged, it is not mandatory. Hence, an alternative 6-point assignment will be provided to those who wish not to participate. The alternative assignment may be attending a talk and writing a paper. The paper will be graded according to the quality of a student’s answer so it is possible to not earn the 6 points. Students must commit to EITHER the research participation OR the alternative assignment (no combinations). Subject pool participants that get locked-out of the system due to no-shows will not be allowed to complete the alternative extra credit assignment.

## Grading

There will be a maximum of 400 points for this course:

Midterm exam	100 points
Final exam	100 points
Class Participation	20 points
Quizzes (20 points each)	80 points
Out of class assignment	10 points
Assignment 1	30 points
Assignment 2	30 points
<u>Assignment 3</u>	<u>30 points</u>
TOTAL	400 points
(+ extra credit	6 points)

The final grade will be based on the following points. Note that we use point totals when recording your final grade. This means that grades will **not** be rounded up for any assignment, quiz, exam, etc. (WE DO NOT CURVE FINAL GRADES):

The final letter grade will be based on a percentage of your 400 points:

<u>% of 400</u>	<u>Number of Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>
93-100	372-400	A
90-92.99	360-371	A-
87-89.99	348-359	B+
83-86.99	332-347	B
80-82.99	320-331	B-
77-79.99	308-319	C+
73-76.99	292-307	C
70-72.99	280-291	C-
67-69.99	268-279	D+
63-66.99	252-267	D
60-62.99	240-251	D-
<60	<240	F

**Tentative Course Schedule (exam dates are fixed)**

You are expected to read the assigned readings by the date next to the reading. For example, for Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, you should read Chapter 2. Assignment and quiz dates are also listed.

DATE	TOPIC	READING	ASSIGNMENT/ QUIZ
Tues, 1/19	Examples & Definitions of Abnormal Behavior	Ch. 1	
Thurs, 1/21	Causes of Abnormal Behavior	Ch. 2	
Tues, 1/26		Ch. 2	
Thurs, 1/28	Classification (Assignment 1 distributed)	Ch. 4: 88-101	
Tues, 2/2	Childhood Disorders	Ch. 16	<i>Quiz 1: 1, 2, 4</i>
Thurs, 2/4			<i>Rough draft for Assignment 1 due</i>
Tues, 2/9	Mood Disorders	Ch. 5	
Thurs, 2/11			<i>Assignment 1 due</i>
Tues, 2/16			
Thurs, 2/18			
Tues, 2/23	Anxiety Disorders	Ch. 6	
Thurs, 2/25			
Tues, 3/2			<i>Quiz 2: 16, 5, 6</i>
Thurs, 3/4			
Tues, 3/9	<b><u>MIDTERM EXAM</u></b> , 7-9PM, Location: Animal Science Lab 150	Ch. 1, 2, 4, 16, 5, & 6	
Wed, 3/10	<b>MAKE-UP MIDTERM EXAM</b> , 7-9PM, Location: 32 Psychology Building		
Thurs, 3/11	PTSD, ASD, & Dissociative Identity Disorders; Group Projects distributed; *** <i>Last Day to <u>DROP</u> is Friday 3/12!</i> ***	Ch. 7: 196-219	
Tues, 3/16			
Thurs, 3/18	Substance Use Disorders	Ch. 11	<i>Assignment 2 due</i>
<b>3/22-3/26</b>	<b><i>SPRING BREAK</i></b>		
Tues, 3/30		Ch. 11 cont.	
Thurs, 4/1	Personality Disorders		<i>Quiz 3: 7 &amp; 11</i>
Tues, 4/6			
Thurs, 4/8	(Assignment 3 handed out)		
Tues, 4/13			
Thurs, 4/15	Schizophrenia	Ch. 13	
Tues, 4/20			<i>Assignment 3 Due</i>

Thurs, 4/22			<i>Quiz 4: 9 &amp; 1<sup>st</sup> half of 13</i>
Tues, 4/27	Eating Disorders	Ch. 10	
Thurs, 4/29			
Tues, 5/4			<i>Quiz 5: 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 13 &amp; 10</i>

**Final Exam: TBA**

The final exam will be scheduled by the Office of Facility Management and Scheduling for some time slot during final exams week because it is a common exam (all Abnormal Psych classes take it at the same time). The instructors for abnormal psychology have no control over when this exam is held. I will let you know as soon as I find out the date and time. Until then, you should plan to be here for the last exam period on Friday, May 14.