

Psychology 427
Summer 1989
Office Hours: M,W 1:00-2:00 PM

Dr. R. L. Weiss
385 Straub Hall
Ext. 4900

COURSE SYLLABUS AND READINGS

Text: Rosenhan & Seligman: Abnormal Psychology, 1989 (2nd ed.).

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>Readings</u>
<u>Section I: Studying Madness</u>				
1	6/20	U	Introduction & Organization	
	6/21	W	Cultural & Professional View of Madness	1,2
	6/22	H	Models of Abnormality: Biological	3
2	6/26	M	Psychodynamic/Humanistic	4
	6/27	U	Behavioral, Cognitive & Systems	5
	6/28	W	Assessment, Classification, Diagnosis,	6,7
	6/29	H	FILM: "Abnormal Behavior: A mental Hospital"	
<u>Section II: Anxiety & Stress Related Disorders</u>				
	7/3	M	Anxiety Felt: Fears and Phobias	8
	7/5	W	Anxiety Inferred: Obsessive, Compulsive & Psychosomatic Disorders	9,10
	7/6	H	***** EXAM-I ***** Chapters 1-8	
<u>Section III: Depression and Schizophrenia</u>				
4	7/10	M	Psychotic Disorders: Affective	11
	7/11	U	" " " " " "	
	7/12	W	Schizophrenias	12
	7/13	H	FILM/SPEAKER	
5	7/17	M	Schizophrenias cont'd	
	7/18	U	Sexual Variations	13
	7/19	W	Sexual Dysfunctions	
	7/20	H	FILM: "Radical Sex Styles"	
<u>Section-IV: Social Problems-Personality Disorders</u>				
6	7/24	M	Drug Related Disorders	14
	7/25	U	Personality Disorders	15
	7/26	W	Child Disorders (Not on Exam II)	
	7/27	H	***** EXAM-II ***** Chapters 9-15	
<u>Section V-Special Topics</u>				
7	7/31	M	Child & Family Problems	16
	8/1	U	Disorders of the Nervous System	17
	8/2	W	Legal Issues and Abnormal Behavior	18
	8/3	H	FILM/SPEAKER	
<u>Section VI-Interventions & Therapies</u>				
8	8/7	M	The Social Context of Psychotherapy	19
	8/8	U	Psychodynamic Therapies: PAPERS DUE	
	8/9	W	Cognitive-Behavioral Therapies	
	8/10	H	***** EXAM-III ***** Chapters 16-19/Paper	

The exams will be graded on a curve determined by the overall class performance. The first 2 exams are worth 100 points each; the third exam is made up of two parts: 25 multiple choice questions worth 50 points and the short paper contributing a maximum of 50 points.

The papers will be graded on a letter grade scale as follows:

95-100	A+	75-80	C
90-94	A	70-74	C-
85-89	B	65-69	D-
80-84	B-	< 65	NP

The total score on what I am calling the third exam will be computed by adding test exam points (maximum = 50) plus one-half of the actual points earned on the paper (maximum = 50). Thus, as with the first two exams, you can get 100 points on the third "exam." 300 points are possible on all three exams.

Since the assigned text reading for exam-III is much lighter in the final weeks of the course, the papers MUST be turned in by 5:00PM on August 8, 1989. Any paper received after that time will NOT be graded. No incompletes will be given for unfinished papers. Please keep a hard copy of any paper you turn in!

ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended as an overview of Abnormal Psychology primarily for advanced undergraduate students who are non-psychology majors. The course covers a broad spectrum of psychopathology. Students must have had the introductory psychology sequence; some familiarity with statistics is helpful but not a prerequisite. There is a considerable amount of reading for the course. The main text is Rosenhan and Seligman "Abnormal Psychology" 2nd edition. This is an easy reading, social psychologically oriented text.

Format:

The class format will consist of lectures, films, speakers, and discussion. Thursday will be dedicated to exams, films and/or speakers or student presentations.

Grading:

Exams and Paper Requirements

There will be three "mid-term" exams (no final), all in multiple choice format. Exams will cover assigned readings, lectures, and speakers/films. The first two exams will cover 8 and 7 chapters of the text, respectively; the third exam will cover only 4 chapters in the text, but it will also include your grade on a short paper (described below). The first two exams will consist of 50 questions each, and each item is worth 2 points (maximum per exam = 100 points). The third exam will consist of 25 questions (maximum = 50 points on questions). NOTE: Readings and lectures covered on exams do not always break with the syllabus Sections, i.e., material at the end of a syllabus Section may be covered on the next subsequent exam.

Each student will also define an area of interest within Abnormal Psychology (with final instructor approval of topics), and prepare a 5 page paper in APA style (typed, double spaced, a sixth page for references). The articles must define a coherent topic, not different topics! The paper should be based on at least 3 articles from journals in the psychopathology area. Again, the articles should pertain to the topic. Among the journal titles are: Abnormal Psychology, Archives of General Psychiatry, Psychiatry, Journal of Nervous and Mental Disorders, etc. (There are many to choose from!) The idea is to become familiar with journals in this field, and to read a few articles in these journals so as to learn more about a topic of interest to you. You may essentially summarize the material but you may not copy the authors' abstracts.