

TEXT: Comer. Abnormal Psychology, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Worth, 2001.

LECTURES & READING ASSIGNMENTS: The lectures will *not* duplicate the material presented in the text. Instead, the lectures will be used to present contrasting opinion, related materials, and information integration. For optimal preparation and maximal benefit from class attendance, you should read the assigned materials by the following dates (note that not *every* class day will have a new reading assignment):

September 25	Chapter 1 & Chapter 2	Abnormal Psychology: Past and Present Research in Abnormal Psychology
September 27	Chapter 3 & Chapter 4	Models of Abnormality Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment
October 2	Chapter 5 & Chapter 6	Generalized Anxiety Disorder and Phobias Panic, Obsessive Compulsive, and Stress Disorders
October 9	Chapter 16	Disorders of Memory and Other Cognitive Functions (pages 477-492 only)
October 11	Chapter 10	Psychosocial Factors in Physical Disorders
October 18	Chapter 18	Disorders of Childhood and Old Age
October 23	Chapter 11	Eating Disorders
October 25	<b><i>Optional Midterm Exam</i></b>	
October 30	Chapter 17	Personality Disorders
November 6	Chapter 7 & Chapter 8	Mood Disorders Treatment for Mood Disorders
November 8	Chapter 9	Suicide
November 13	Chapter 14	Schizophrenia
November 15	Chapter 15	Treatments for Schizophrenia
November 20	Chapter 13	Sexual Disorders and Gender Identity Disorders (pages 408-421 only)
November 27	Chapter 19	Law, Society, and the Mental Health Profession

**Evaluation:** Several sources could be used in deriving your course grade: (1) the mandatory final exam; (2) the optional midterm (3) the optional quiz/discussion groups; (4) the optional course project; and (5) the personal statement.

- (1) The final exam will cover the *entire* course and will be aimed at assessing your comprehension of the ideas presented in the lectures, films, and text. Date: Friday, December 7 at 8:00 a.m.
- (2) The optional midterm will be offered on Thursday, October 25. Since this is optional, *no make-ups* will be given.

(3) Optional fifty-minute weekly quiz/discussion groups will meet on Tuesdays at 10:00 and 12:30 and Wednesdays at 11:00 and 12:00 (choose one) beginning Week #3. Sign-up sheets will be available Thursday September 27 for those who elect to participate in this option. Weekly quizzes will be given in these groups and the points will be cumulative. Some take-home assignments may be included in the group structure. You will be graded on the quality of your group participation (60%) and on the cumulative quiz points (40%). One person will act as group facilitator and will meet with the instructor and TA each Thursday after class to keep the groups coordinated, clarify expectations, report quiz scores, and give the instructor feedback about class presentations. Group facilitators will begin meeting on Thursday, October 4. There will be **no make-ups** for missed quizzes; after the second group meeting, this option becomes a commitment. *Note: Do not elect the group discussion/quiz option unless you are confident you can be present and active at every group meeting and can be current in your reading.*

The following are the topics covered by the quizzes:

Quiz #1: Anxiety and dissociative disorders  
 Quiz #2: Psychosomatic and somatoform disorders  
 Quiz #3: Disorders of childhood and adolescence  
 Quiz #4: Personality disorders

Quiz #5: Mood disorders  
 Quiz #6: Schizophrenia spectrum disorders  
 Quiz #7: Psychosexual disorders  
 Quiz #8: Legal Issues

- (4) The optional course project entails a class presentation, bringing in a guest speaker, or organizing some other activity that would enhance the educational experience of all class members. (Proposals must be submitted to the instructor for consideration and approval well in advance of the presentation date.)
- (5) The personal statement. During the first week of class, each student should hand in a paper including the following bits of information:

– Name:	– Phone number:
– Major:	– E-mail address:
– Year in school:	– Something unusual about yourself:
– Previous courses, if any, in related topics:	– Hopes for and fears about this course:
– Experience, if any, in dealing with emotionally disturbed people:	
– <b>and</b> a current photograph of yourself (driver's license, student ID, other photo) photocopied onto or attached to the personal statement.	

Although the personal statement will not be graded, it is mandatory and a grade of "Incomplete" will be given unless it is handed in.

**Weighting of sources:** If you do none of the optional activities, the mandatory final will constitute 100% of your grade. If you elect to take the optional midterm and the optional discussion/quiz group, the final will count 40% of your grade, and the midterm and the discussion/quiz group will each count as 30% of your grade. Other weightings can easily be calculated by knowing that none of these activities, except the final and the optional course project, will count for more than 30% of your course grade. The optional course project will be graded separately on the basis of quality of the presentation and enhancement of the course content. In addition, extra credit can be earned by signing up for and keeping a brief (10 minute) appointment with the instructor.

To receive **graduate** credit for the course, you will need to write a series of "one minute papers" in addition to the above options. Using the last minute of class time every Tuesday, you will jot down your spontaneous responses to the following two questions: "What was the most important concept of personal learning in today's class?" and "What is still missing or still confusing to me about today's topic?" These papers will be handed in as you leave the classroom on each Tuesday.

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