

TEXT: Raulin. Abnormal Psychology, Allyn & Bacon, 2003.

LECTURES & READING ASSIGNMENTS: The lectures will ***not*** duplicate the material presented in the text. Instead, the lectures will be used to present contrasting opinions, 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):

March 30	Chapter 1	Understanding Abnormal Psychology
April 1	Chapter 2 & Chapter 3	Diagnosis and Assessment Historical Perspective on Psychopathology
April 6	Chapter 8	Anxiety Disorders
April 8	Chapter 4	Current Perspective on Psychopathology
April 13	Chapter 15	Cognitive and Dissociative Disorders (pages 491-511 only)
April 15	Chapter 9	Stress, Health, and Somatoform Disorders
April 22	Chapter 13	Disorders First Apparent in Childhood
April 27	Chapter 10	Eating and Sleep Disorders (pages 290 –303 only)
April 29	<i>Optional Midterm Exam</i>	
May 4	Chapter 12	Personality Disorders
May 11	Chapter 7	Mood Disorders
May 18	Chapter 5	Schizophrenia
May 25	Chapter 11	Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders (pages 338-361 only)
June 1	Chapter 16	Contemporary Issues and Future Directions

Evaluation: Several sources could be used in deriving your course grade: (1) the mandatory final exam; (2) the mandatory Critical Thinking paper; (3) the optional midterm (4) the optional quiz/discussion groups; (5) the optional course project: and (6) 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 June 11 at 8:00 a.m.

(2) The mandatory Critical Thinking paper (APA style) requires that you integrate at least three recent scientific journal articles (1999-2004) or current information from *credible* web sites in a paper responding to one of the following topics:

- Common Personality Characteristics of Hypochondriacal Patients
- Serial Killers: Common Features
- Cross-cultural differences in Shared Psychotic Disorder
- Body Dysmorphic Disorder: Cross-cultural Differences
- Factitious Disorder and the Nation's Health Care Costs
- Cross-cultural Studies of Personality Disorders
- Cross-cultural Differences in Dissociative Disorders
- Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy: Is it really a "Mental Disorder"?
- Healthy Forms of Dissociation
- "Sudden Death" or "Voodoo Death" (*not* SIDS)
- Causal Factors in Delusional Disorder
- Should Transvestic Fetishism be Included in the DSM?
- Depressogenic Aspects of Contemporary Society
- Narcissistic Personality Disorder and Homicide
- Borderline Personality Disorder and Suicide
- The Incidence of Eating Disorders Among Athletes
- Benefits and Risks of "Seroquel" in the Treatment of Schizophrenia

Please refer to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (Fifth Edition), 2001 for stylistic policy, including writing style, grammar, guidelines to reduce bias in language, punctuation, spelling, capitalization, headings and series, quotations, reference citations in text, and reference list. Papers must be typed, double-spaced, with appropriate margins, headings, and complete references. Select a topic of interest, and then develop a reasoned and consistent point of view based on your journal articles. Papers are due no later

than Thursday, May 20 at 10:00 a.m. Bonus points (half a letter grade) will be given for papers submitted by May 13 at 10:00 a.m. Suggested length: 4 - 7 pages. Think ten pages and carefully edit downward so that the paper is factual, concise, and clear. Your paper must be read and edited by one other class member. His or her name should be typed on the title page of the first draft and he or she should sign this page by the typed name. This additional requirement is meant to (1) assure quality papers, (2) broaden your course knowledge base by the benefit of a colleague's research, and (3) discourage procrastination. Hand in **both** the first draft signed by a peer reviewer and the final draft. Your paper must use one of the titles presented above unless you have a compelling reason to write on some other topic; if so, the alternative topic must be proposed and accepted by the instructor no later than Thursday, October 22.

Please read the directions for the Critical Thinking Paper found under Course Information on the website and look under External Links on the website for guidelines for APA styles. On the title page of the final draft of your paper, include the following statement: "I have read the 10 most common mistakes in Critical Thinking Papers and I am willing to take a substantial deduction in my grade if I make any of these mistakes" and sign your name to that statement.

(3) The optional midterm will be offered on Thursday, April 29. Since this is optional, ***no make-ups*** will be given.

(4) Optional fifty-minute weekly quiz/discussion groups will meet on Tuesdays at 9:00 and 11:30 and Wednesdays at 11:00 and 12:00 (choose one) beginning Week #3. Sign-up sheets will be available Thursday, April 1, for those who elect to participate in this option. Weekly quizzes will be given in these groups and the points will be cumulative. 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 the course. Group facilitators will begin meeting on Thursday, October 8. There will be **no make-ups** for missed quizzes; after the second group meeting, this discussion group 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

(5) 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.)

(6) The personal statement. During the first week of class, each student should hand in a paper including the following bits of information:

- _ Name:
- _ Name you prefer to go by (if different from first name above):
- _ Major:
- _ Year in school:
- _ Previous courses, if any, in related topics:
- _ Phone number:
- _ E-mail address:
- _ Something unusual about yourself:
- _ Hopes for and fears about this course:
- _ Experience, if any, in dealing with emotionally disturbed people:
- _ **and** 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 80% of your grade and the Critical Thinking paper will count 20% of your grade. If you elect to take the optional midterm and the optional discussion/quiz group, the final will count 30% of your grade, the Critical Thinking paper will count 20% of your grade and the midterm and the discussion/quiz group will each count as 25% 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 25% 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.

To receive **graduate** credit for the course, you need to write a series of "one minute papers" in addition to the above options. Using the last minute of class time every Tuesday, jot down your spontaneous responses to the following two questions: "What was the most important bit 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 each Tuesday.

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