

Syllabus and Calendar for Psychology 469/569 (Fall 2010):

PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

Time and Place: 2:00-3:20PM, Tuesdays & Thursdays, Rm. 142 STB

Instructor: Alan Feingold, Ph.D.

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Office: Rm. 326 STB

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 1:00-1:50PM, and after class by appointment.

Required Text: Nolen-Hoeksema, S. (2007). *Abnormal Psychology* (4th ed.)
NY: McGraw-Hill. (There will be one copy placed on reserve at Knight Library).

There will be supplemental readings for some classes. Please consult Blackboard for the articles or links prior to class attendance.

Overview: The course will examine conceptualizations, diagnosis, etiology, and treatment of abnormal behavior. How do we define “abnormality”? How do cultural, historical, and theoretical perspectives affect those definitions? What are the roles played by biological and social factors in shaping mental health? What is a clinical assessment and how is it used to develop a treatment plan for individuals diagnosed with a mental disorder according to DSM-IV criteria? The class will examine psychosocial, pharmacological, and multi-modal treatments of mental illness, including both the nature of devised interventions and findings about their efficacy.

Course Requirements

Attendance: Attendance for classes is not required but quizzes may include material covered in lectures but not discussed in the textbook and it is your responsibility to be able to answer such questions. In addition, most of the material on the quizzes will be from the lectures so attendance will make it easier to know what to focus on when reading the text chapters covering the same material.

Class participation. It is not realistic to expect major class participation from each student in a course with 65 students that meets only twice a week for 10 weeks. However, a student who makes useful contributions to many class discussions may well reap a reward in his or her grade for the class, such as receiving, say, a “B+” when her or she might otherwise have been awarded a “B” based on grades earned for exams and on papers. For those interested in falling into the “heavy participation” category, reading the textbook chapter covering the lecture topic before class is encouraged.

Exams: There will be five biweekly quizzes given on Thursdays throughout the course. All quizzes will consist exclusively of multiple choice questions. The lowest quiz score will be dropped and the grade based on the quizzes will be the average of the other four scores. The quizzes will not be cumulative, with each exam covering 2-3 textbook chapters.

If you miss one of the five quizzes, no score will be dropped in calculating your average quiz score. If you miss two quizzes but have documented reasons for the absences can be produced, a special accommodation or arrangement will be provided. The quizzes will account for half of your final grade. There will be no mid-term or final exam.

Papers. There will be two required papers, a mid-term paper running 3-4 pages plus references and a final paper running 6-8 pages plus references, with each counting for a quarter of your final grade. Both papers must be prepared in APA style (e.g., Times New Roman 12 font with 1" margins on all sides): <http://apastyle.apa.org/>.

Details about the requirements for the paper and deadlines will be discussed in class and posted as a separate document on Blackboard.

Extra-credit assignments. TBA.

Powerpoint: A Powerpoint presentation for each lecture based on the corresponding textbook chapter will be posted to Blackboard before that class is held. You can feel free to print hardcopies and take them to class or to take a laptop to class and view them on the screen during the lecture.

General Advice

You will need to spend a substantial amount of time outside of class to perform well. Keep in mind that this is an advanced class consisting almost exclusively of Psychology majors. You may also wish to check out the Psychology Department's "Practices for Students" at <http://psychweb.uoregon.edu/guidelines/students.htm>.

Some of the readings and scheduled topics may be changed to accommodate class discussions, guest speakers, etc.

Always check Blackboard (<http://blackboard.uoregon.edu/>) regularly for updates on readings, topics, and quiz dates.

You are responsible for all announcements, updates & information posted on Blackboard and sent via e-mail.

Class Calendar, Topics, and Text Readings

Week 1

September 28: Looking at Abnormality. Chap 1

September 30: Contemporary Theories of Abnormality. Chap 2

Week 2

October 5: Research Endeavor. Chap 3

October 7: Assessing and Diagnosing Abnormality. Chap 4 (Quiz 1, Chap 1-3)

Week 3

October 12: Personality Disorders. Chap 12

October 14: Eating Disorders: Chap 15

Week 4

October 19: Substance-Related Disorders. Chap 17

October 21: Treatments for Abnormality. Chap 5 (Quiz 2, Chap 4, 12, 15)

Week 5

October 26: TBD. (Due date for mid-term paper)

October 28: Stress Disorders and Health Psychology. Chap 6

Week 6

November 2: Guest Speaker: Isaac Washburn, Ph.D., Oregon Social Learning Center

November 4: Anxiety Disorders. Chap 7 (Quiz 3, Chap 5, 6, 17)

Week 7

November 09: Anxiety Disorders Text: Chap 7

November 11: Schizophrenia. Chap 11

Week 8

November 16: Somatoform and Disassociative Disorders. Chap 8

November 18: Mood Disorders. Chap 9 (Quiz 4, Chap 7, 8, 11)

Week 9

November 22: TBD. (Due date for final paper)

November 25: Thanksgiving holiday – no class

Week 10

November 30 Childhood Disorders: Chap 13

December 2: TBD (Quiz 5, Chap 9, 13)

Technicalities

Weather

Inclement Weather: Check the UO homepage for information about closure decisions (under "Campus News").

Local television and radio media will be notified as well. Also check your emails and/or the announcements on Blackboard for updates.

Health

Swine Flu (H1N1) Flu could potentially disrupt normal class functioning.

The incubation period for the H1N1 flu will average 2-4 days. Infected persons can transmit the infection to others one day prior to the onset of symptoms and for up to 7 days after symptom onset. If you have flu or flu-like illness, you should stay home for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit) or signs of fever (chills, feeling very warm, flushed appearance or sweating). In order to accommodate flu absences you will be able to drop your two lowest quiz scores. Use hand sanitizer, be well and prosper.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty in any form including plagiarism, submitting the work of others as your own and cheating will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will result in severe sanctions. If you have any questions or are in doubt about what might constitute dishonesty, please consult with me, the TA or with the staff of Academic Learning Services (68 PLC, 6-3226). Also refer to the University's policy on Academic Dishonesty:

http://www.uoregon.edu/~stl/programs/student_judi_affairs/academicdishonesty.htm

You may be required to submit writing assignments to SafeAssign. SafeAssign is a software tool designed to help students avoid plagiarism and improper citation. The software encourages original writing and proper citation by cross-referencing submitted materials with an archived database of websites, essays, journal articles, and other published work. The instructor may in some cases also submit your work to SafeAssign or some other plagiarism analysis and detection program. By enrolling in this course you grant the instructor permission to do so.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and need accommodations in this course, please discuss this with me. You will need to have documentation of the disability from Disability Services which is located in 164 Oregon Hall, 6-1155, TTY 6-1083, or at <http://ds.uoregon.edu/>

