

# Psy 316 Abnormal Psychology

## **Welcome!**

I am excited about this new semester and the additional students that I will meet. I encourage you to view the syllabus to know the class content, quizzes, assignments and course requirements.

**Instructor:** William G. Masten, Ph.D. Department of Psychology and Special Education, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, Texas 75429. E-mail address [william.masten@tamuc.edu](mailto:william.masten@tamuc.edu).

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:15-2:30 pm

**Policy regarding dropping a class** (beginning January 2009) Undergraduate students are now limited to a total of six dropped courses. The drop limit will not be impacted for students dropping during the first 12 class days in a fall or spring semester (and during the first four class days in a summer session). A grade of Q will now be the assigned grade for all drops rather than a DP or DF. The last day to drop a course has been moved to Friday of the ninth week of classes.

**Attendance:** According to University policy, students are expected to attend all classes unless they are unable to due to illness, university functions, death in the immediate family, and legal and citizenship responsibilities. Unexcused absences will be reported to the Dean of Student Life.

## **Psy 316 Course Objectives:**

### **1. Learning Objectives for Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)**

The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), for the University is Preparing Students for an Interconnected World.

- ❖ Learning Outcome 1: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, processes, trends, and systems).
  - ❖ Learning Outcome 2: Students will be able to apply knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics.
  - ❖ Learning Outcome 3: Students will be able to view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.
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- ❖ How can a psychologist become prepared for an interconnected world?
  - ❖ How can teachers apply knowledge of global dynamics?

## **Psy 316 Course Objectives:**

- ❖ Define Normal/Abnormal behavior and become familiar with the history of treatment of disorders.
- ❖ Compare and contrast the major theoretical perspectives and etiology of abnormal behaviors.
- ❖ Become familiar with selected assessment techniques used in the diagnosis and major intervention techniques used in the treatment of psychological disorders

(cognitive disorders; stress-related illness; anxiety, affective, psychotic, and personality disorders; substance abuse; disorders of childhood; violence and abuse).

❖ Become familiar with the DSM-IV Classification system.

**Grading:** All grades are based on percentage. Grades are designed on the following scale:

90 to 100 percent of total points A

80 to 89 percent B

70 to 79 percent C

60 to 69 percent D

Less than 60% F

Proposed schedule (this may change if need be)

**The quizzes.** There will be two quizzes on the textbook, lectures, PowerPoint and documents in doc sharing.

Quiz 1: at midterm

Quiz 2: last week of semester

### **Psy 316 textbook.**

**Required Assignments: Readings:** *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders DSM-5* pocket guide, do not purchase until we discuss it during the first class day. Watch specific movies that relate to psychopathology.

**Suggested reading:** Butcher, J. N., Hooley, J. M., & Mineka, S. M. (2014). *Abnormal Psychology* 16/E. Pearson, Boston, MA. Wedding, J., Boyd, M. A. & Niemiec, R. M. (2005).

*Movies and Mental Illness: Using Films to Understand Psychopathology* **2<sup>nd</sup> edition** (a little bit old, but very cheap), Hogrefe & Huber. [http://www.amazon.com/Movies-Mental-Illness-Understand-Psychopathology/dp/0889372926/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1204746107&sr=8-1](http://www.amazon.com/Movies-Mental-Illness-Understand-Psychopathology/dp/0889372926/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1204746107&sr=8-1)

**QEP assignment:** due \_\_\_\_\_. Topic: Demonstrate and apply your knowledge of how the interconnectedness of global dynamics relates to some aspect of abnormal psychology. Any aspect mentioned book. Do not use web sites for references. Use books and journal articles. Include at least 3 references, no maximum number of references. Use a reference for every idea you borrow from someone. Complete a PowerPoint presentation. Print the PowerPoint presentation and place it on the walls of Henderson (use push pins, tape will not last). Use an 18x24 inch PP poster template (which is located in ecollege under doc sharing), smaller will be tough to read and should cost about \$5.00 if printed in the Pride Shop, phone 5818. the PowerPoint poster should follow this format:

QEP: Title of your presentation Your name, Psychology 316
Body of you poster

## References (At the bottom)

**Conduct:** "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)

The University regards the following as illustrations of misconduct by individuals or groups, which may result in review by the appropriate disciplinary agencies:

Academic cheating and plagiarism

Malicious destruction, damage, unauthorized possession or misuse of University property, including library and laboratory materials, or of private property on the campus.

Abuse, whether physical, mental or otherwise, of another person in the University community.

Disorderly conduct that inhibits or interferes with the educational responsibility of the University community or the University's social-educational activities. Students who interfere with the educational responsibility during class, will be given a memo stating this the first time disorderly conduct occurs. The second time disorderly conduct occurs the instructor will send a letter to the Dean of Students recommending the student be dropped from this course.

Violation of local, state, and federal laws on or off campus.

Recurring incidents, which are in violation of University policies, and/or other such persistently irresponsible behavior that brings into question the student's serious intent to pursue an education.

Failure to respond to a summons by letter, telephone call, or personal messenger from a University administrative official or faculty member.

Sexual or racial harassment.

State law prohibits Visitors, including infants and children, to the classroom.

**Academic Misconduct:** If I detect academic misconduct, you may automatically FAIL this course.

On independent work: everything you do in this course is done without the aid of others, except the Writing Lab. You may not have aid on quizzes. You may not use books, notes or other help on the quizzes.

**Honesty and Plagiarism:** There may be an opportunity to cheat (share exams, or perform other acts of academic dishonesty). Unless otherwise indicated, all of your work is completed independently. If you are suspected of academic dishonesty, you may be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary actions. I welcome and encourage you to use the journal articles, and books. However, avoid independent websites that are not journal articles as resources. You must provide a reference for every idea not your own. A simple statement such as "references included" will not be sufficient. No one cares if you get an idea from someone as long as you credit the source. Do not use

sources without crediting the source. Another person's idea used without a reference is plagiarism. Plagiarism: Instructors do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Students are expected to uphold and support the highest academic standards. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty are listed in the Student Code of Conduct (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct). If it is determined, you committed plagiarism or cheating will get you an F in this course.

**Plagiarism is a complicated issue.** 1. If you use a direct quote without using quotation marks, the page number of the quote and the authors name and year of publication, this is definitely plagiarism. 2. Using someone's idea without crediting the source is plagiarism. This includes information from our textbook. 3. Using an essay you have used before is plagiarism. 4. Using a paper from a "paper mill" is plagiarism (i.e. [termpapers\\_are\\_us.com](http://termpapers_are_us.com)). 5. Using a paper or essay someone wrote for you is plagiarism. Using a paper or essay for 2 courses is plagiarism. You may not open or use another student's files.

**Cheating** is the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination, illicitly obtaining examination questions in advance, unauthorized copying of computer or Internet files, using someone else's work for the assignments and presenting it as if it were one's own, copying test items, printing test items or saving test items, or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course. You may not open, view, download, save or use another student's files or your work from another course. If you do this is cheating and will fail this course.

**Collusion** is intentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to, providing a paper or project to another student; providing an inappropriate level of assistance; communicating answers to a classmate during an examination; removing tests or answer sheets from a test site, or allowing a classmate to copy answers.

**People First Language:** In special education, general education, and psychology, it is important to refer to individuals who have a disability (or a D.S.M. diagnosis) in "people first" language as described in the federal special education law, I.D.E.A. 2004. We do this to focus on the individual first, not the disability. Always refer to the person first, and the disability second. For example, you would not discuss a person as "an A.D.H.D. student," but refer to them as "a student with A.D.H.D."

**Diagnosis in Special Education and psychology.** We will follow the federal special education law IDEA 2004, to guide our use of use of the various diagnoses in special education.

**Email Policy:** I will attempt to return emails with 48 hours. If you send a message on Friday night or the weekend, do not expect a reply until Monday. Do not send a

message on Saturday and expect it to be answered on Sunday. Please do not send second emails etc. Please, do not request grades be send via email.

**Students with disabilities:** If you have a disability you should notify the instructor at least 6 weeks before the semester begins, (considerable time is necessary to prepare the course). The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132, Phone (903) 886-5150 (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu.

**Respect for Others:** The topics of conversation may be emotional and controversial. I encourage you to disagree with me and other students. I encourage you to offer your opinion, but be respectful to your classmates and your teacher. I may not agree with what you have to say, but you have a right to say it. However, there is a difference between academic discourse and rudeness. Do not confuse opinions with facts. If you make racist, sexist, ageist (ageism), non-scholarly comments or derogatory statements, I will refer you to Dean of Students. If you cross the line, I will counsel you on the matter.

## **Undergraduate Graduation Checklist**

1. Total Hours for degree met? (Must be at least 120 hrs)
2. Required Institutional-25% of course work taken at TAMU-Commerce?
3. Last Number Institutional Required-24 out of last 30 hrs?
4. Overall GPA at least 2.00 (2.50 for Certification Students)?
5. University Studies Met?
6. Major (plus support if applicable) Course Requirements Met?
7. Major GPA is at least 2.00 (2.50 for Certification Students)?
8. Major Required courses have C's or better?
9. At least 6 hours are advanced in Major?
10. All Certification Requirements Met? (Internship/Residency/Etc.)
11. 2nd Major (plus support if applicable) Course Requirements Met?
12. 2nd Major GPA is at least 2.00 (2.50 for Certification Students)?
13. Minor (plus support if applicable) Requirements Met?
14. Minor GPA is at least 2.00 (2.50 for Certification Students)?
15. Junior Level Essay Met?
16. Senior Level Check Met (minimum 60 hrs)?
17. Advanced Hour Check Met?
18. 24 Advanced Hours taken at TAMU-Commerce?
19. A&M Commerce GPA 2.00 Met (2.50 for Certification Students)?