

PSY 316: Abnormal Psychology
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2014

Class Time: Wed 4:30-7:10

Location: CHEC

Instructor: Fran DeArman

Office Location: Binnion 1st Floor: Community Counseling and Psychology Clinic

Office Hours: Tue/Thurs 11- 4, By appt.

Office Phone: 903-886-5560

Office Fax: 903-886-5510

University Email Address: fran.dearman@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required: Kring, A. M., Davison, G.C., Neale, J.M., & Johnson, S.L. (2014).

Abnormal Psychology DSM-5, 12th Edition, New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

ISBN: 978-1-1-118-64088-3

Optional: DSM-5

Course Description: This course is designed as an introductory-level course in abnormal psychology. As such, we will investigate various psychological disorders and provide an introduction to the current and historical theoretical paradigms that have influenced our perception as to what constitutes “abnormal behavior”. These paradigms include cognitive, biological (neuroscience), psychoanalytical, learning, and sociocultural influences, and they also provide the basis for our understanding of human behavior as well as help guide our therapies and research efforts. We will also spend some time discussing the public’s attitudes toward individuals with psychological disorders, and we will also explore the legal, ethical, social, philosophical and professional issues that are related to the identification, diagnosis, treatment, effect (individual, family, and community) and prevention of these psychological disturbances.

Student Learning Outcome: Upon completion of this course, the students will have a better understanding of the psychological disorders that are identified in the DSM-V.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Cell phones and other electronic devices will be turned off during class.

Attendance: Attendance is strongly suggested. I cover a tremendous amount of information each class meeting, therefore, attendance is critical to your performance in this course. Please be in class, on time to class, and remain for the entire class. If you are absent for an excused reason (see student handbook or instructor for detailed explanation of excused absences) you may turn in assignments via email on that date. Assignments and projects that are missed may not be made up. Pop quizzes and exams must be taken on the date given. If a student misses an exam, a comprehensive exam may be taken to “make up” that grade. Upon receiving the 5th unexcused absence, a student will be asked to drop the course, or will receive a failing grade.

Also, if you are absent from class for any reason, please make arrangements with a classmate to get the notes from that class, and complete the assigned readings for that date. PLEASE remember that communication with the instructor is the key to taking care of attendance issues. Texas A&M University-Commerce procedures allows for instructors to determine attendance policies. I maintain a record of class absences and require copies of absence excuses. Faculty members are requested to consider the following reasons for absence as excusable: participation in university activities; verified illness, death in a student’s immediate family, obligation of student at legal proceedings, and others determined by the individual faculty to be excusable. Appeals can be made through normal administrative channels.

Weather Closings: Because we are in a Collin College building, we will follow the bad weather closings of Collin College and TAMUC. Should there be bad weather or weather that causes issues with travel, be sure to check your email. I will email you should we need to cancel class or hold class online. Again, check your email!

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Learning is an active process thus participation in course activities and discussions are integral. I will lecture on the course textbook material, but I strongly encourage you to play an active participant role in these discussions. Individual and/or group projects will be assigned.

Grading

All of the exams might have multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and/or short answer questions. Our chapters schedule us not set in stone and subject to adaptations as the semester progresses. The speed at which chapters are covered will be determined as feedback is evaluated for comprehension of the nuances of each diagnosis/category. A word of warning: If you do not thoroughly study the chapter after we have discussed it, you will experience significant difficulty in successfully navigating the evaluations and you will certainly not be prepared for the comprehensive final exam. The questions for all exams, including the final, can cover any of the material in the textbook, lectures, movies, and learning activities, regardless of whether the material was specifically discussed in class or not.

Make-up exams will not be given without sufficient cause (medical, legal, or familial). The final exam is comprehensive, which means that it will test you over every chapter in the textbook that we have discussed in lecture

Grades will be determined by the following:

All exams and the project with a maximum possible 400 points Daily quizzes, attendance, and participation with a maximum possible 100 points

Course Letter Grade: Your course letter grade will be determined by your percent earned of the total points available. Your grade is independent of the other students in the course, and your course letter grade will be assigned as follows:

Grade Performance Requirements of Possible Points

In order to receive an/a	You must earn
A	460 points
B	430 points
C	400 points
D	370 points

A Well exceeds all course requirements with superior academic distinction in all areas

B Meets course requirements with good performance in most areas

C Meets course requirements with average performance in most areas

D Meets course requirements, but with inadequate performance in some or most areas

F Does not meet the course standards and requirements

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement Students with Disabilities:

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 or (903) 886-5835; Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu**

Technical Support: This course is supported by Texas A&M University–Commerce through the eCollege course management system. There is a Student Orientation Tutorial in eCollege if you are unfamiliar

with it. If you have technology questions please contact the eCollege HelpDesk, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by clicking the HelpDesk link in the Help pages in eCollege or by sending an email directly to helpdesk@online.tamuc.org. You may also reach the HelpDesk by calling (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511.

Etiquette/Netiquette: Offensive language in class and aggressive correspondence online will not be tolerated. Students are expected to be respectful of others' opinions when communicating. Rule of thumb: Just be nice and courteous. 😊

Plagiarism: Texas A & M University-Commerce views plagiarism as a serious offense. Plagiarism occurs when individuals take ideas and/or words from another source and claim these ideas as their own without giving credit to the original author(s). This can include copying words from an Internet website, reading an article and taking the authors ideas without giving them credit, or writing work that is remarkably similar to other written work (e.g., Changing words to synonyms is still plagiarism). If any written work contains ideas that are not your own, you need to give credit to the author(s) by including citations. Instructors are obligated to report instances of plagiarism to university officials. Please refer to the American Psychology Association (APA) manual for instructions on citing materials. When in doubt about citing materials consult with me. Ignorance will not be tolerated as an excuse for plagiarism. The first offense of plagiarism will result in a zero on the assignment. Additional accounts of plagiarism will result in an automatic zero in the course.

Smoke, Vapor & Tobacco Free Environment: Procedure 34.05.99.R1 now prohibits the use of vapor/electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff and chewing tobacco inside and adjacent to any building owned, leased, or operated by A&M – Commerce.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Course lecture will be the primary mode of instruction. Chapters will be covered in the order of the text. The following is a general guide: This may be changed at the discretion of the professor.

Lecture 1 Introduction, Syllabus Review, Get to know each other

Lecture 2 & 3 Chapter 1 Historical Overview of Mental Illness

Lecture 4 & 5 Chapter 2 Current Paradigms in Psychology

Lecture 7 & 8 Chapter 3 Diagnosis and Assessment

Lecture 9 & 10 Chapter 4 Research Methodologies

Lecture 11 Flex Day & Review

1st Opportunity to Excel

Lecture 12 & 13 Chapter 5 Mood Disorders (2 days)

Lecture 14 & 15 Chapter 6 Anxiety Disorders (2 days)

Lecture 16 & 17 Chapter 7 Obsessive-Compulsive Related Disorders (2 days)

Lecture 18 & 19 Chapter 7 Trauma-Related Disorders (2 days)

Lecture 20 & 21 Chapter 8 Dissociative Disorders (2 days)

Lecture 22 & 23 Chapter 9 Schizophrenia (2 days)

Flex Day & Review

2nd Opportunity to Excel

Lecture 24 Chapter 13 Disorders of Childhood

Lecture 25 Chapter 14 Late-Life & Neurocognitive Disorders

Lecture 26 & 27 Chapter 15 Personality Disorders

Flex Day & Review

3rd Opportunity to Excel

Project Presentations You will be given hand out in reference to the project assignment.

Project Presentations

*FINALS WEEK Comprehensive Final

**Extra Credit opportunities will be given during the semester. This is your opportunity to bump up your own grade and learn more about cutting edge research! 😊 I strongly encourage you to take advantage of these extra credit opportunities.

Final Note:

Student 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)

Act your age and respect your colleagues. This is adult education. Basically, I do not care what you do unless it is disrupting/disturbing other students or myself. If, I find your activity falling into that category, you will be asked to leave. I am not difficult to get along with respect others, yourself and me and we will have a great semester. Of course any cheating/plagiarism will result in an automatic F in the course.

Misc Information

I am here to help you. Please let me know if there is something I can do to help you succeed.

If you are someone you know is having issues please reach out to someone on campus you trust. There are many of us here that want to help you all.

Campus Counseling Center is located:

Halladay Student Services Building Room 204

903-886-5145

Community Counseling & Psychology Clinic is located:

Binnion First Floor

903-886-5560