

COURSE SYLLABUS

ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSY 350
Fall 2012
MWF 10:00 AM, KT 146
TR 10:30 AM, KT 146

DR. DAVID YOUNG
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OFFICE HOURS: TBA

REQUIRED TEXT: Kring, Johnson, Davison, & Neale Abnormal Psychology, 11th Edition, John Wiley & Sons, 2010

OPTIONAL STUDY GUIDE: Study Guide to Accompany Abnormal Psychology, 11th Edition (A very helpful study guide - PLEASE consider this purchase!!!)

COURSE WEB SITE : <http://users.ipfw.edu/young/>

SOME NOTES ON THIS COURSE:

This course is designed to involve you actively in learning a good deal about what is known and what is not known in the study of abnormal behavior. Basically, we will attempt to approach the subject in terms of theory, "diagnosis" or description, and treatment or methods of behavior change. We will also be examining the disorders from the point of view of several main schools of psychological thought or paradigms. One important goal in this course is for you to become familiar with the development of scientific thought and practice that led to modern psychological paradigms and understanding of behavior. You will know how and why we have moved from "demonology" and bloodletting to modern models of psychotherapy and psychotropic medications. Other course goals include developing your skill in discussing, understanding, and writing clearly about psychopathology. You should also be able to learn to tap information sources in the field. Quantitative thought will also be developed as we explore statistical concepts related to understanding research in psychopathology (i.e. epidemiology, research design). Understanding differences and similarities in disorders across cultures will be emphasized. Finally, at the end of this course you should be able to be a better consumer and evaluator of psychological practice and research using your critical thinking skills and reasoning. There is a tremendous amount of information contained under these headings – and we will have limited class time. To accomplish these educational goals we will use a variety of methods including lecture, discussion groups, open-discussion, brief in class writing assignments, in class activities (i.e. case role-playing), short critical thinking papers, and multi-media (especially video clips of patients). I enjoy a lecture/discussion format and believe that learning is enhanced for most students when discussion takes place. A special emphasis this term will be on developments in positive psychology.

Power point slides to accompany each chapter that we cover will be found on my faculty website. Please print them out and bring them to class as I will often refer to them and sometimes prefer not to project images – but rather write new and related thought on the board.

Please feel free to visit me during office hours in Neff 388B. I will announce them shortly.

GRADING:

Four exams (all objective items) will be held this semester. The first three will not be comprehensive, as they will include only the material (readings and lectures) covered since the previous exam. **NOTE:** The final exam WILL include previous material - IT WILL BE COMPREHENSIVE. You will have one written critical thinking assignment, a short paper on “public pathology” which will be worth up to four bonus points and will be explained later in a handout. Please note that all written assignments are to be handed in class on the due date or earlier. No late papers will be accepted. No email papers will be accepted. Papers that have been plagiarized or “cut and pasted” will receive no credit and the student will be contacted for disciplinary action. See me if you would like a handout on how to appropriately cite your sources.

Please note that exam questions are designed to promote critical inquiry skills above and beyond simple rote retention of information about the disorders. Becoming skillful in operating within the main paradigms of psychological thought will be essential. Problem solving skills in all modes mentioned in the above section will be needed for all exams. Understanding the development of psychological thought will be a major focus. There are no additional extra credit options available.

NOTE: Your final course grade will be posted via Oasis at the end of the semester. However, if you would like more immediate feedback, including “curve information” simply bring a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope to class and give it to me the day of the final.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ON SOME CLASSROOM POLICIES:

Although I will not call the roll often during the semester, your attendance in this course is expected. I expect you to be on time for this course, just as you expect me to be on time. **If you are fatigued and need to sleep, please do not come to class. Please turn off all telephones and other electronic devices during class time. Please do not text-message in class. Please do not use a laptop in class, many students find it distracting. It is distracting for others if students are focused on email or other messages. If you are expecting an emergency call, please sit in the front of the room and quietly go outside to take your call.** Please consider the impact of your behavior on others.

As the four exams will make up almost your entire grade, it is important that you take each exam as scheduled. I will announce specific dates for the exams in class. I cannot give exact dates now as each class progresses at a unique pace. If you miss an exam, you will be able to take a make-up version of the test **at the time of the final exam.** I will administer the final, and after you have completed the final I will administer the make-up exam. **In order to use this option you must contact me immediately before or after the scheduled examination.** Please be careful about missing exams as having to study for an additional exam during finals week should be avoided. Remember, you may make up only **one** exam this semester.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. Contact the Director of Services for Students with Disabilities (Walb, room 113, telephone number 481-6658), as soon as possible to work out the details. Once the Director has provided you with a letter attesting to your needs for modification, bring the letter to me. For more information, please visit the web site for SSD at <http://www.ipfw.edu/ssd/> .

COURSE OUTLINE

Note: This is an approximate schedule

TEXT

TOPIC:

WEEK OF:

CHAPTER:

8/20	Introduction and History of Diagnosis and Treatment	1
8/27	Models of Pathology and Treatment	2
9/3	Diagnosis and Classification (Practice Quiz) (No class 9/3, Labor Day)	3
9/10	Research Methods in Abnormal Psychology (EXAM 1 about here - covers chapters 1, 2, 3, 4)	4
9/17	Anxiety Disorders	5
9/24	Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders	6
10/1	Stress and Health (EXAM 2 about here - covers chapters 5, 6, 7)	7
10/8, 10/15	Mood Disorders (No class 10/8 to 10/9, Fall Break)	8
10/22	Personality Disorders	12
10/29	Substance Related Disorders (EXAM 3 about here - covers chapters 8, 12, 10)	10
11/5	Sexual Disorders	13
11/12	Sexual Disorders-Start Schizophrenia	13, 11
11/19, 11/26	Schizophrenia (Continued) Start Child (No class 11/21, 11/22, 11/23 Thanksgiving)	11, 14
12/3	Child Disorders and Wrap Up	14

(Unless noted, last class is a reading day – no meeting)

12/13

FINAL EXAMINATION WEEK

FINAL FOR MWF CLASS is Wednesday Dec. 12, 8-10 AM

FINAL FOR TR CLASS is Tuesday Dec. 11, 10:30-12:30 PM

ALL EXAMS ARE HELD IN THE REGULAR CLASSROOM