



Department of Psychology
Psychology 385 (Lec 01) – Abnormal Psychology
Fall 2010 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Guy Pelletier, Ph.D.	Lecture Location:	ST 143
Phone:	403-355-3212	Lecture Days/Time:	Thursdays 5:00 – 7:45
Email:	gpellet@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	A 257		
Office Hours:	By appointment		

Course Description and Goals

A major objective of this course is to survey the field of adult psychopathology. The course will start with an introductory group of lectures during which we will review of the concept of abnormal behavior, followed by the study of possible causes (etiology) of abnormal behavior, its classification, and its assessment. The main core of lectures will consist in reviews of the psychological aspects of various diagnostic categories of adult psychopathology.

Students should keep in mind that this is a survey course indented to provide basic, wide-ranging knowledge of abnormal psychology. This is an ambitious endeavor which will require the learning and understanding of a considerable amount of information. The course will follow the textbook relatively closely, although not exclusively. Students interested in more detailed discussions of various disorders and other subjects will be encouraged to consider higher-level, more advanced courses.

Prerequisite

Psyc 205 – Principles of Psychology

Required Text

Dozois, D.J.A., & Firestone, P. (2010). *Abnormal psychology perspectives*. Toronto: Pearson Canada.

The textbook is available at the U of C bookstore.

Evaluation

The format of the exams will be multiple choice.

Mid-term #1:	October 21, 2010 - 75 minutes - 30% of final grade	Chapters 1,2,3,4,5,8 and corresponding lectures
Mid-term #2:	November 25, 2010 - 75 minutes - 30% of final grade	Chapters 6,7,10,11,12 and corresponding lectures
Final exam:	To be scheduled by the Registrar - 2.0 hours - 40% of final grade	<u>Cumulative</u> , covering all readings and lecture material , with a greater emphasis on chapters 9,13,16,17,18 and corresponding lectures

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. In this course there will be no rounding up of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/
T Sep 14	Lecture begins.
R Sep 16	Introduction and definitions of abnormality; Theoretical perspectives on abnormal behavior, etiology Chap 1 pp. 3-7; Chap. 2
T Sep 21	
R Sep 23	Theoretical perspectives on abnormal behavior, etiology Chap 2
F Sep 24	Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.
M Sep 27	Last day for registration/change of registration.
T Sep 28	
R Sep 30	Classification, assessment of mental disorders, research methods Chap. 3,4
T Oct 5	
R Oct 7	Mood disorders and suicide Chap 8
T Oct 12	
R Oct 14	Anxiety disorders Chap 5
T Oct 19	
R Oct 21	Midterm exam #1; Dissociative and somatoform disorders Chap. 6
T Oct 26	
R Oct 28	Psychophysiological disorders and stress Chap. 7
T Nov 2	
R Nov 4	Eating disorders; substance use disorders Chap. 10, 11
T Nov 9	

R Nov 11	Remembrance Day. No lecture.	
T Nov 16		
R Nov 18	Personality disorders	Chap. 12
T Nov 23		
R Nov 25	Midterm exam #2; Sexual and gender identity disorder	Chap. 13
T Nov 30		
R Dec 2	Schizophrenia and psychotic disorders	
T Dec 7		
W Dec 8	Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits.	
R Dec 9	Treatment of mental disorders	Chap. 17
	Prevention and mental health promotion	Chap. 18
F Dec 10	Last day to withdraw.	
	Final exam as scheduled by the Registrar	

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Dec 8th, 2010**.

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>. Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Sep 24th, 2010**. Last day for registration/change of registration is Sep 27th, 2010. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Dec 10th, 2010**.