



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY
Department of Psychology
Psychology 385 (L20) – Abnormal Psychology
Spring 2009

Instructor:	Dr. Deborah Brown	Lecture Location:	PF118
Phone:	403-662-3876	Lecture Days/Time:	TR 11:00 – 13:45
Email:	dlbrow@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	A257D		
Office Hours:	By appointment		

Course Description and Goals

This course surveys the field of adult psychopathology. It reviews the history of psychopathology and covers symptoms (what the disorders look like), diagnosis (how we classify disorders), etiology (what causes disorders), assessment (how we measure disorders), treatment (how we intervene), and social implications (the effects that disorders have on the individual, their family and society) of mental disorders.

After completing this course students should be able to: discuss selected psychological disorders with regard to their classification, assessment and treatment, discuss causes of selected psychological disorders from an integrative perspective, locate current research articles addressing pertinent issues in abnormal psychology and provide citations and references according to APA format.

Prerequisite

PSYC 205 – Principles of Psychology

Required Text

Barlow, D. H., Durand, M. V., & Stewart, S.H. (2009). *Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach* (2nd Canadian Edition). Toronto: Nelson Education.
Available for purchase at the University of Calgary Bookstore

Evaluation

Component	Weighting toward final grade	Due date
Midterm Exam	40%	June 4, 2009
Assignment	15%	June 9, 2009
Final Exam	45%	Scheduled by Registrar

Exams

Exams will be two hours in length and consist of 100 multiple-choice questions. For both exams, you will be responsible for the **lecture material (videos, guest lectures, assigned readings, etc) and the material covered in the textbook.**

Annotated Bibliography Assignment

For this assignment, you will develop an annotated bibliography of three scholarly articles on a specific topic in abnormal psychology. The goal of this assignment is for you to gain a more thorough understanding of a research issue in the area of abnormal psychology than is possible through reading the required readings only. This is also an opportunity to learn more about a topic that the class covers briefly or not at all. In a sense, you will become a mini-expert in one topic. You will need to clearly define your research question. You will be graded on the quality of the articles you choose, the quality of your annotation, and the quality of your criticism – negative or positive. Use only articles from peer-reviewed journals. Most journals published by the American Psychological Association are peer reviewed. This assignment should not exceed four pages in length. You must include a photocopy of the abstract of the articles you have chosen to summarize. More details on this assignment will be provided in class and posted on Blackboard.

Please note:

- Exams will NOT be cumulative.
- Late assignments will NOT be accepted without an official university medical excuse.
- Emailed assignments will NOT be accepted.
- A failing grade may be assigned to any student who fails to complete one or more of the exams.
- Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official university medical excuse (see University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled exam or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. Any medical excuses must be accompanied by a note from a physician.

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/Due Date	
R May 14	History of Abnormal Behaviour/Integrative Approach to Psychopathology	Chapters 1 & 2
T May 19	Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis <i>Last day for registration and change of registration. No fee refunds after today.</i>	Chapters 3
R May 21	Research Methods	Chapter 4
T May 26	Anxiety Disorders	Chapter 5
R May 28	Mood Disorders	Chapter 7
T June 2	Eating Disorders	Chapter 8
R June 4	Midterm Exam	
T June 9	Developmental Disorders Assignment Due	Chapter 14
R June 11	Personality Disorders – <i>Guest Speaker Dr. Ryan Day</i>	Chapter 12
T June 16	Sexual Disorders and Gender Identity Disorder	Chapter 10

R June 18	Substance Related Disorders	Chapter 11
T June 23	Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorder	Chapter 13
R June 25	Mental Health and the Law <i>Last day to participate in research and allocate credits.</i>	Chapter 16
F June 26	Lectures end. Last day to withdraw.	
June 27-30	Final exams (scheduled by the Registrar)	

Notes: In addition to the chapters, there may be additional assigned readings posted for you on the Blackboard. Adjustments may be made to our class schedule and readings as required.

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 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 **June 25th, 2009**.

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 220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is **May 19th, 2009**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **June 26th, 2009**.