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**Psychology 385**

**Abnormal Psychology**

**Winter 2013**

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|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Instructor:</b>   | Guy Pelletier, Ph.D. | <b>Lecture Location:</b>  | SA 106         |
| <b>Phone:</b>        | 403-355-3212         | <b>Lecture Days/Time:</b> | R/17:00– 19:50 |
| <b>Email:</b>        | gpelleti@ucalgary.ca |                           |                |
| <b>Office:</b>       | A157                 |                           |                |
| <b>Office Hours:</b> | By appointment       |                           |                |

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**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 or Psyc 200 – Principles of Psychology I and Psyc 201 – Principles of Psychology II

**Required Text**

Dozois, D.J.A., & Firestone, P. (2010). *Abnormal Psychology Perspectives*. 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Toronto: Pearson Canada.

The textbook is available at the U of C bookstore.

## Evaluation

The format of the exams will be multiple choice. No study aids will be permitted.

|              |                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mid-term #1: | <b>February 28, 2013</b> - 75 minutes - 30% of final grade        | Chapters <b>1,2,3,4,5,8</b> and corresponding lectures                                                                                                   |
| Mid-term #2: | <b>March 21, 2013</b> - 75 minutes - 30% of final grade           | Chapters <b>6,7,10,11,12</b> and corresponding lectures                                                                                                  |
| Final exam:  | To be scheduled by the Registrar - 2.0 hours - 40% of final grade | <u>Cumulative</u> , covering <b>all readings and lecture material</b> , with a greater emphasis on chapters <b>9,13,17,18</b> 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.

## Important dates

[Winter 2013]

| Date      |                                                   |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------|
| T Jan 8   | Lectures begin.                                   |
| F Jan 18  | Last day to drop a course with tuition refund.    |
| M Jan 21  | Last day for registration/change of registration. |
| Feb 17-24 | Reading days. No lecture.                         |
| M Feb 18  | Alberta Family Day. No lecture.                   |
| T Apr 16  | Lectures end.                                     |

## Tentative Lecture Schedule

| Date     | Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date                                                                                                |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| T Jan 8  | <b>Lectures begin.</b>                                                                                                          |
| R Jan 10 | Introduction and definitions of abnormality;<br>Theoretical perspectives on abnormal behavior, etiology Chap 1 pp. 3-7; Chap. 2 |
| R Jan 17 | Theoretical perspectives on abnormal behavior, etiology Chap 2                                                                  |
| F Jan 18 | <b>Last day to drop a course with tuition refund.</b>                                                                           |
| M Jan 21 | <b>Last day for registration/change of registration.</b>                                                                        |
| R Jan 24 | Classification, assessment of mental disorders, research methods Chap. 3,4                                                      |
| R Jan 31 | Mood disorders and suicide Chap 8                                                                                               |
| R Feb 7  | Anxiety disorders Chap 5                                                                                                        |
| R Feb 14 | Anxiety disorders Chap 5<br>Dissociative and somatoform disorders Chap. 6                                                       |
| T Feb 19 | <b>Reading days. No lecture.</b>                                                                                                |
| R Feb 21 | <b>Reading days. No lecture.</b>                                                                                                |
| R Feb 28 | <b>Midterm exam #1;</b><br>Dissociative and somatoform disorders Chap. 6<br>Psychophysiological disorders and stress Chap. 7    |
| R Mar 7  | Psychophysiological disorders and stress Chap. 7<br>Eating disorders Chap. 10                                                   |
| R Mar 14 | Substance use disorders Chap. 11<br>Personality disorders Chap. 12                                                              |
| R Mar 21 | <b>Midterm exam #2;</b><br>Sexual and gender identity disorder Chap. 13                                                         |
| R Mar 28 | Schizophrenia and psychotic disorders Chap. 9                                                                                   |
| R Apr 4  | Treatment of mental disorders Chap. 17                                                                                          |
| R Apr 11 | Prevention and mental health promotion Chap. 18                                                                                 |
| T Apr 16 | <b>Lectures end. Last day to withdraw</b>                                                                                       |

### 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**

Students who miss a term test due to a valid and documented official University reason (illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction) have 48 hours to contact AND schedule a makeup test with the instructor. The onus is on the student to have a makeup test approved and scheduled within 48 hours, or the makeup test option is forfeited. The same process applies to missed makeup tests. At the instructor's discretion, the makeup test may differ significantly in form and/or content from the missed test. However, the makeup test cannot differ in weight (% of final grade) from the missed test. Except in extenuating circumstances (a documented official University medical excuse), a makeup test must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test. Absence from a final exam, and deferral of a final exam, are handled by Enrolment Services (see [http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred\\_final](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred_final)). Students absent from a final exam must notify the instructor within 48 hours and must then apply for an official deferred final exam no later than the deadline indicated in the Examinations Schedule.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act**

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

### **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 7, 2012**

### **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 Ombudsman's Office**

The Office of the Student Ombuds provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca) (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

### **Safewalk**

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year.  
Call 403-220-5333.

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Jan 18, 2013**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Jan 21 2013**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 16, 2013**.