

PSYC 4311.001-Abnormal Psychology

Spring 2024-Full Semester

In-Person, MWF 1:25-2:20 PM

Instructor Information:

Ceselie Tobin, MS, LPC

Email- ctobin@uttyler.edu (best way to reach me)

On Campus Office- HPR 204

Office Hours (Zoom or In-Person): Wednesdays 10:00-11:00 AM

Meeting ID: 811 2206 7310 Passcode: 253739

Course Description:

A review of abnormal psychology including clinical syndromes of deviance, etiology, and treatment tactics.

Learning Outcomes and Assessments:

Through the use of class lecture and discussion, readings, videos, quizzes, exams, and assignments; after

taking this course you should be able to:

- Evaluate definitions of abnormal behavior and mental disorders
- Demonstrate knowledge of the historical trends in abnormal psychology
- Describe the signs and symptoms of specific mental disorders
- Describe theories regarding the causes of mental disorders
- Compare and contrast different disorders
- Identify which populations are more vulnerable to specific mental disorders
- Describe how culture impacts the expression of psychiatric conditions
- Describe treatment and prevention strategies for specific mental disorders
- Have a better understanding of what it is like to live with a mental disorder

Textbook:

Jennings, Nolen-Hoeksema's Abnormal Psychology (9th Edition)

ISBN- 978-1-265-31603-7

*You do NOT need the access code/online package, just the text.

Note: A student at UT-Tyler is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated

bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Assignments & Points Possible:

Exams (2)- 400 Points
In-Class Activities (6)- 120 Points
Disorder Spotlights (3)- 300 Points
Infographics (2)- 100 Points
Diagnosis Activity- 50 Points
Attendance Points- 30 Points

Total Points Possible- 1000 Points

Extra Credit Assignment (Optional) 50 Points

Grading Scale:

A: 900-1000 Points
B: 800-899 Points
C: 700-799 Points
D: 600-699 Points
F: 0-599 Points

Assignment Descriptions:**Exams**

There will be two exams required in this course, each worth 200 points, a mid-term and a final. The exams will consist of multiple-choice, short-answer, and/or case study questions covering material presented in slides/lectures, assignments, and material from the textbook.

In-Class Activities

There will be 6 graded in-class activities worth 20 points each. The activities will vary in format, but grading for these activities will be based on participation. In-class activities are dependent on attendance and cannot be made up if a student is absent.

Disorder Spotlights

There will be 3 Disorder Spotlights required throughout this course. The Disorder Spotlights will be brief essays, 2-3 pages in length, that focus on a specific psychological disorder. Within the essay you will be required to review and discuss the disorder's symptomology and approved treatment interventions. A minimum of one cited, credible source is required to assist you with the information needed for the essay. The essay should be in APA format and include a list of references. Further instructions will be provided in Canvas.

Infographics

During the semester you will have to complete 2 infographic assignments. This first infographic will focus on mental health treatment modalities. The second infographic will focus on psychiatric medications. Further instructions for each infographic will be provided in Canvas.

Diagnosis Activity

For this assignment, you will be writing a brief, 2-page essay in which you will attempt to diagnosis a character. Please select a fictional character of your choosing from any book, tv show, or movie.

You

will need to include reasoning to support your diagnosis, including observed symptoms and how the

disorder is impacting the character's daily life. Provide a recommendation and explanation of what treatment would be best suited for this character. Diagnoses will be briefly presented to the class

(5-

minute presentation). Further instructions will be provided in Canvas.

Extra Credit (Optional)

There is one opportunity for extra credit during this course. If all the requirements are met for the extra

credit assignment, then full points will be rewarded. If your submission for this assignment does not meet all the requirements, then no points will be rewarded. Points from this extra credit assignment will

be added to your overall points for the class. The guidelines for the extra credit assignment will be posted on Canvas and discussed during class.

Course Policies:

Classroom Environment

It is essential that our course be a place where people feel comfortable expressing their thoughts without

fear of harsh or judgmental responses. I expect all students to be respectful of the varied experiences

and backgrounds of your classmates. You may expect the same level of respect from me.

Disrespect or

discrimination on any basis, including but not limited to ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical

ability, class, religion, or value system, will not be tolerated.

In addition, there will be people in class who either have a mental disorder themselves or who have a

friend or a family member with a mental health disorder. Mental health issues are very personal for many people - please keep this in mind as you make comments or pose questions.

IMPORTANT: The classroom is NOT a place to discuss one's own problems or to obtain help if you are

going through an acute problem. I can, outside of class, help direct a student to services they might

need,
although the best and most appropriate resource is often the Student Counseling Center, 903-566-7254,
located in the University Center, which is covered by your student services fees.
<http://www.uttyler.edu/counseling/services.html>

Attendance & Late Work

You will all start the class with 30 points for attendance on Canvas. You are allowed to miss 5 classes

with no penalty. Once you surpass 5 classes, I will begin taking off 5 points per absence.

Attendance will

be recorded each class. Graded in-class activities will be dependent on attendance and participation. In-class activities cannot be made up. If you need to miss class or have an unexpected absence that causes

you to miss a certain assignment due date, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. Late work

will be accepted for written assignments with the understanding that points will be deducted due to lateness (10% will be deducted each day the assignment is late). Exams cannot be taken late unless there

are severe extenuating circumstances.