

Psychological Disorders (PSY 342) – Spring 2013

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Office Hours: I'm in class from 9:00-10:50 am and 12:00-12:50 pm on M-W-F, and this course on Tues/Thurs. So, I'm generally in my office 11:00-11:45 am and 1:00-3:00 pm on M-W-F and 11:00 am --3:00 pm Tues/Thurs. I have committee meetings on selected Tuesdays or Thursdays. Feel free to schedule a specific time to meet.

Readings: www.SmellsLikeCollege.com/PSY342

Course Objectives, Goals, and Content: The primary goal in this course is to understand the various forms of psychological disorder and mental illness currently recognized in clinical psychology and psychiatry. Specifically, for each disorder, you should be able to describe 1) the symptoms or experiences that indicate the presence of the disorder, 2) what the major theories or explanations are for the existence of the disorder in particular individuals and not others, and 3) what the major treatments are for the disorder. You will be reading about each of the major mental and emotional disorders, yet I think it is important to see what the various disorders look like in actual people. So, for nearly all of the major disorders we will be viewing very brief film clips of people who have been diagnosed with a particular disorder. It is important to remember that these individuals may display key symptoms, but they are still individuals and not everything about each of them is true for all people with a similar disorder.

One potential concern in an abnormal psychology course is that students will "recognize" themselves or someone else in the descriptions of various disorders. That is, they may come to believe they or someone they know has one or more of the disorders we cover in this course. If you have concerns at any point in the course regarding the mental and emotional well-being of yourself or a loved one, please utilize the free counseling services on campus (786-3856). Also, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (www.NAMI.org) provides information and support. There is a midlands SC chapter, with local meetings, that can be found through the national site.

Special Arrangements: If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share, or if you need special arrangements in the event the building must be evacuated, please see me as soon as possible.

In Case of an Emergency School Closing: If we have an unexpected evacuation or closing of the college, continue to follow the assigned reading schedule. If an exam falls on a cancelled day, the exam will be held the next time the class meets (so be prepared to take the exam). If the college closes for a substantial length of time, monitor your college e-mail account for information and contact the instructor via e-mail at Michael@mindingthemind.com

Exams (*200 possible points*): Primarily, exams will consist of short-answer items, along with an occasional multiple choice item or two. There are a total of five exams in the course, each worth 50 possible points. Although each exam will focus on the material covered since the previous exam, material from any point earlier in the course may also appear. In other words, there is a cumulative quality to each exam. Because there are always unforeseen emergencies causing

students to miss a particular exam, only the highest four exam grades will be counted for each student. That way, if a student misses an exam for any reason, that is the exam grade that will be dropped. If you know prior to an exam that you will not be able to attend, discuss the issue with me well in advance so that we can try to schedule an alternative testing session.

Grading: Your grade in the course will be based on a total of 200 possible points:

180-200 (90-100%) = A 176-179 (88-89%) = B+ 160-175 (80-87%) = B
156-159 (78-79%) = C+ 140-155 (70-77%) = C 120-139 (60-69%) = D <120 = F

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
Jan. 22	What Makes a Disorder? Historical Perspectives on Disordered Behavior
Jan. 24	Classification and Diagnosis of Psychological Disorders
Jan. 29	Theories and Treatments of Psychological Disorders
Jan. 31	Generalized Anxiety Disorder, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, Hoarding
Feb. 5	Panic, Phobia, and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
Feb. 7	Exam 1
Feb. 12	Unipolar Major Depression
Feb. 14	Bipolar Disorder
Feb. 19	Suicide and Intentional Self-Harm
Feb. 21	Factitious, Somatoform, & Psychophysiological Disorders
Feb. 26	Eating Disorders: Anorexia Nervosa, Bulimia Nervosa, Binge Eating Disorder
Feb. 28	Exam 2
March 12	Substance Use Disorders
March 14	Sexual Dysfunction
March 19	Paraphilia and Gender Identity Disorder
March 21	Schizophrenia
March 26	Exam 3
March 28	Dissociative Disorders
April 2	Cognitive Disorders: Amnesic Disorders, Delirium, Dementia
April 4	Personality Disorders
April 9	Personality Disorders (<i>continued</i>)
April 11	Exam 4
April 16	Childhood: Disruptive Mood Dysregulation, Conduct Disorders, ADHD
April 18	Childhood: Autism Spectrum Disorder and Specific Learning Disorder
April 23	Mental Health, Society, and the Law
April 25	<i>Course Wrap-Up: Including How Mad Are You?</i> (BBC program)
April 30	Exam 5 (Tuesday, 8:30 am)