COURSE SYLLABUS

ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

PSY 35000
FALL 2018
TR 10:30 AM, KT 146

DR. DAVID YOUNG
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OFFICE PHONE: 481-6394
E-MAIL: young@pfw.edu
OFFICE HOURS: T, Th 12:00-1:00 pm


COURSE WEB SITE: https://www.pfw.edu/departments/coas/depts/psychology/about/faculty/David-M-Young-PhD.html

SOME NOTES ON THIS COURSE:
This course is designed to involve you actively in learning a good deal about what is known and what is not known in the study of abnormal behavior. Basically, we will attempt to approach the subject in terms of theory, "diagnosis" or description, and treatment or methods of behavior change. We will also be examining the disorders from the point of view of several main schools of psychological thought or paradigms. One important goal in this course is for you to become familiar with the development of scientific thought and practice that led to modern psychological paradigms and understanding of behavior. You will know how and why we have moved from "demonology" and bloodletting to modern models of psychotherapy and psychotropic medications.

Other course goals include developing your skill in discussing, understanding, and writing clearly about psychopathology. You should also be able to learn to tap information sources in the field. Quantitative thought will also be developed as we explore statistical concepts related to understanding research in psychopathology (i.e. epidemiology, research design). Understanding differences and similarities in disorders across cultures will be emphasized. Ethical issues in the field of psychology and psychotherapy will be highlighted.

Finally, at the end of this course, you should be able to be a better consumer and evaluator of psychological practice and research using your critical thinking skills and reasoning. There is a tremendous amount of information contained under these headings – and we will have limited class time. To accomplish these educational goals we will use a variety of methods including lecture, discussion groups, open-discussion, brief in-class writing assignments, in-class activities (i.e. case role-playing), short critical-thinking papers, and multi-media (especially video clips of patients). I enjoy a lecture/discussion format and believe that learning is enhanced for most students when discussion takes place. A special emphasis this term will be on developments in positive psychology.

PowerPoint slides to accompany each chapter that we cover will be found on my faculty website. Please print them out and bring them to class as I will often refer to them and sometimes prefer not to project images – but rather write new and related thoughts on the board.

Please feel free to visit me during office hours in Neff 388B. I will announce them shortly.
**General Education Course Learning Outcomes**

**Psychology 35000**
Abnormal psychology has been identified as meeting 7 out of the 41 learning objectives for the Indiana statewide transfer general education core. This course belongs to the category B5 for General Education. Learning objectives met by this course are listed below.

- **B5: Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing Competency** (all 6 learning objectives have been identified for this course.)
  5.1 Demonstrate knowledge of major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical patterns, or historical contexts within a given social or behavioral domain.
  5.2 Identify the strengths and weaknesses of contending explanations or interpretations for social, behavioral, or historical phenomena.
  5.3 Demonstrate basic literacy in social, behavioral, or historical research methods or analyses.
  5.4 Evaluate evidence supporting conclusions about the behavior of individuals, groups, institutions, or organizations.
  5.5 Recognize the extent and impact of diversity among individuals, cultures, or societies in contemporary or historical concepts.
  5.6 Identify examples of how social, behavioral, or historical knowledge informs and can shape personal, ethical, civic, or global decisions and responsibilities.

- **A3: Quantitative Reasoning Competency** (1 learning objective identified for this course)
  3.1 Interpret information that has been presented in mathematical form (e.g. with functions, equations, graphs, diagrams, tables, words, geometric figures).

**GRADING:**
Four exams (all objective items) will be held this semester. The first three will not be comprehensive as they will include only the material (readings and lectures) covered since the previous exam. **NOTE:** The final exam WILL include previous material - IT WILL BE COMPREHENSIVE. You will have one written critical-thinking assignment: a short paper on “public pathology” which will be worth up to four bonus points and will be explained later in a handout. Please note that all written assignments are to be handed in in class on the due date or earlier. **No late papers will be accepted.** No email papers will be accepted. Papers that have been plagiarized or “cut and pasted” will receive no credit, and the student will be contacted for disciplinary action. See me if you would like a handout on how to appropriately cite your sources.

Please note that exam questions are designed to promote critical inquiry skills above and beyond simple rote retention of information about the disorders. Becoming skillful in operating within the main paradigms of psychological thought will be essential. Problem-solving skills in all modes mentioned in the above section will be needed for all exams. Understanding the development of psychological thought will be a major focus. There are no additional extra-credit options available.

The grading scale is based on the idea of a “modified curve” in which the highest grade obtained on the exam is used as an anchor as if it were a “perfect” score. Of course, if a perfect score is obtained, there is no curve. Grades will be assigned at 90-100% = A; 80-89%= B; 70-79%=C; 60-69% = D; below 60=F. Scores, of course are cumulative. Exams will be 60 items, with the final being 100 questions.
NOTE: Your final course grade will be posted through the Registrar’s Office at the end of the semester. Exams will be handed back for brief review in class. The instructor will retain possession of the exams, but they will be available for more thorough review in my office.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ON SOME CLASSROOM POLICIES:
Although I will not call the roll often during the semester, your attendance in this course is expected. I expect you to be on time for this course, just as you expect me to be on time. If you are fatigued and need to sleep, please do not come to class. Please turn off all telephones and other electronic devices during class time. Please do not text message in class. Please do not use a laptop in class; many students find it distracting. It is distracting for others if students are focused on email or other messages. If you are expecting an emergency call, please sit in the front of the room and quietly go outside to take your call. Please consider the impact of your behavior on others.

As the four exams will make up almost your entire grade, it is important that you take each exam as scheduled. I will announce specific dates for the exams in class. I cannot give exact dates now as each class progresses at a unique pace. If you miss an exam, you will be able to take a make-up version of the test at the time of the final exam. I will administer the final and, after you have completed the final, I will administer the make-up exam. In order to use this option you must contact me immediately before or after the scheduled examination. Please be careful about missing exams as having to study for an additional exam during finals week should be avoided. Remember, you may make up only one exam this semester.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT
If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. Contact the Director of Services for Students with Disabilities (Walb Union, Room 113, telephone number 481-6658), as soon as possible to work out the details. Once the Director has provided you with a letter attesting to your needs for modification, bring the letter to me. For more information, please visit the web site for SSD at http://www.ipfw.edu/ssd/.

CAUTION REGARDING DISTRESSING CONTENT
Although it seems obvious that a course, especially in abnormal psychology would contain content that would be naturally distressing or perhaps prompt memories or emotions in individuals who have experienced certain conditions, it is important to remember that material can be distressing and be aware of the resources than can help students deal with emotional issues that might arise during the semester. A good place to start finding help might be the IPFW/Parkview Student Assistance Program. (260) 266-8060. Appointments may be scheduled free of charge.
## COURSE OUTLINE

Note: This is an approximate schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK OF:</th>
<th>TEXT TOPIC:</th>
<th>CHAPTER:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/20</td>
<td>Introduction and History of Diagnosis and Treatment</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/27</td>
<td>Models of Pathology and Treatment</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/3</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Classification (Practice Quiz)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Research Methods in Abnormal Psychology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>(EXAM 1 about here – covers chapters 1, 2, 3, 4)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17</td>
<td>Mood Disorders</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>9/24</td>
<td>Anxiety Disorders</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>10/1</td>
<td>OCD and Trauma-Related Disorders</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td><strong>(EXAM 2 about here – covers chapters 5, 6, 7)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/8, 10/15</td>
<td>Dissociative and Somatic Symptom Disorders (No class 10/16, Fall Break)</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>10/22</td>
<td>Personality Disorders</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>10/29</td>
<td>Substance-Related Disorders</td>
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<td><strong>(EXAM 3 about here – covers chapters 8, 15, 10)</strong></td>
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<td>11/5</td>
<td>Sexual Disorders</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>11/12</td>
<td>Sexual Disorders – Start Schizophrenia</td>
<td>12, 9</td>
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<td>11/19; 11/26</td>
<td>Schizophrenia (continued) Start Child (No class 11/22, Thanksgiving)</td>
<td>9, 13</td>
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<td>12/3</td>
<td>Child Disorders and Wrap Up</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/10</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAMINATION WEEK</strong></td>
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**FINAL FOR TR 10:30 AM CLASS is Tuesday, December 11.**
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
ALL EXAMS ARE HELD IN THE REGULAR CLASSROOM