

Rutgers University
Course Syllabus
Abnormal Psychology
01: 830: 340H6 Summer 3rd Session 2015

Date & Time: Monday and Wednesday – 6:00PM- 9:40PM
Location: Tillett bldg. room 253 Livingston Campus
Instructor: Stevie M. McKenna MA
E-Mail: steviemc@rci.rutgers.edu
Office Hours: by appt. Livingston campus Tillett #333

Please Note: In past summer sessions there have been bogus notes posted on the doors of classrooms stating that the assigned classroom has been reassigned to a different location. *Please ignore these notes.* They are posted by some very disturbed or drunk students who have nothing better to do then to try to confuse us. **You will receive an email from myself or the psychology department if any changes in classroom assignment are made.**

Course Objectives

This course will introduce you to the fascinating study of abnormal behavior. We will examine such factors as: cultural norms, situational circumstances, cognitive, biological, social variables and how they interact to produce aberrant behavior.

.We will compare various current theories of the development of behavioral and cognitive disorders as defined by the *Diagnostic Statistical Manual V* (DSM-V) as well as the efficacy of various treatment modalities including pharmacological interventions. As a result, you will be able to better recognize and define abnormal behavior from behavior that is considered to be within the normal range.

Through small group discussions, you with your fellow students, itwill critically analyze current psychologically based topics. As you discuss these topics with students in your group, your understanding of the topic will deepen and your appreciation for the viewpoints of others will be enhanced.

Required Texts:

Abnormal Psychology 13e Kring (THIS IS AN ONLINE TEXT BOOK)

ISBN – 978 111 899 3576

WileyPLUS reg card (course materials are being offered digitally only) Just log on to Wileyplus.com

Net price: \$84.50

Date	Topics	Assigned Chapters
July 6 M	Getting acquainted / course requirements (syllabus)	Chapter 1 Chapter 2
	Representative from CAPS	
July 8	Diagnostic and Assessment Mood Disorders / Suicide <i>Small group discussion</i>	Chapter 3 Chapter 5
July 13 M	Review for Exam I	Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 5
July 15 EXAM I	- Anxiety Disorders Speaker - DVD	Chapter 6
July 20 M	Obsessive Compulsive Related – Trauma Related Disorders Dissociative Disorders and Somatic Symptom Related Disorders DVD	Chapter 7 Chapter 8
July 22	Schizophrenia <i>Small groups work</i>	Chapter 9
	Speaker Substance Use Disorders	Chapter 10
July 27 M	REVIEW FOR EXAM II	- Chapters 6, 7, 8, and 9
July 29	EXAM II - Eating Disorders DVD Speaker	Chapter 11
Aug. 3 M	Sexual Disorders - DVD asexuality Late life and Neurocognitive Disorders	Chapter 12 Chapter 13
Aug. 5	Personality Disorders Legal and Ethical Issues	Chapter 15

PAPERS ARE DUE Aug. 5 – late papers will be docked 1 pt.

Aug. 10 REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM

Aug. 12 FINAL EXAM (the final exam is *not* cumulative)

Grading: Your course grade will be based on 100 points valued as follows:

First Exam	30 Possible Points (30%)
Midterm Exam	30 Possible Points (30%)
Final Exam	30 Possible Points (30%)
Paper	10 Possible Points (10%)

In class lecture notes:

- Lecture (skeleton) notes will be provided for you on the **Sakai** website (resource section). These notes are not intended to be the only source of information for the exams.
- Please note that you will need your online text book for this course. Since DVDs will be shown periodically during the course, so you will **be expected to take adequate notes as some material from the dvds will appear on the exams.**
- *Some* dvds that will be shown will not be available through the media center, so attendance is important. **If you are not able to attend class on the day of the dvd, you will need to obtain notes from another student via chat room.**

Study guides: Study guides for each exam will be provided and posted on the **Sakai** website (resource section). These guides are to be used to prepare for each exam. Questions on the exams will, but not necessarily exclusively, reflect information given on the study guides.

Small groups work – On days where we will be covering specific chapters, we will be breaking up into small groups to discuss relevant topics during a portion of the class time.

Term paper (worth up to 10pt)

Your term paper should explore a recognized DSM-V disorder. Some disorders that appear in childhood should be avoided as this courses focus is on **adulthood** psychopathology. *See list.*

****Please post your paper via Assignments section of Sakai class site.**

Your paper should address the following:

A definitive clinical picture of the disorder you are researching. (Short description). Each of the following bulleted components are 1 point each. You should include the following in 1 to 2

paragraphs each:

- **symptoms and prevalence rates**
- **Cultural variables** – You should list what world cultures your disorder is found in and if it presents with the same symptom picture as seen in the US. You should also include subcultures of the US (e.g. African American, Native American, Hispanic).
- **Age of onset and Gender features** - What is the average age when symptoms appear that lead to a diagnosis? **For Gender features:** ex. Bipolar is equally common among men and women, major depression is seen 2X more in women than in men etc.
- **Etiology** - Describe the biology and genetics behind the disorder you are researching. E.g. What neurotransmitter systems and subcortical structures of the brain are effected in the disorder you are researching. Is it mainly due to biology e.g. schizophrenia, bipolar, or genetic, or is it trauma based or a combination? Is this highly genetic? Does it run in families such as with depression?
- **Course and Prognosis** - Will it be a lifelong chronic course e.g. schizophrenia or relatively short episodes e.g. depression?)
For Prognosis: What is the end result you expect to see with regard to the symptom picture? E.g. What would the symptom picture look like when the person is 70. E.g. Would the client still have to be on medication? Would they still exhibit the symptoms of the disorder or would most of the symptoms abate?
- **Current treatment** - What is the most effective treatment for your chosen disorder? Explain the main underlying theory of the treatment most used.
- **A differential diagnosis** – You should compare and contrast another disorder which is similar and how to differentiate it from the main disorder you have chosen to research. In what ways is it similar and in what ways is it dissimilar? E.g. major depression vs Persistent Depressive Disorder.
- **APA style** – for title page and reference pages only.

Must be double spaced (12pt type and Times New Roman)

Must have **within text** citations. **THIS IS A MUST**

Articles, the DSM-V, books, and online sources are fine (org more preferable but .com is fine with discretion). **Try to use empirical sources when possible. E.g. Journal of Abnormal Psychology**

NO WIKAPEDIA.

*** **Do not use the text book or myself as an instructor as a source.**

*****No longer than 10 pages including title and reference pages.**
DUE AUGUST 5 - late papers will be docked 1 pt.

*** Minimum page length 7 pages including the title and reference pages.

*Note: Pay particular attention to the **genetic/biological in the etiology section**. Most disorders have a strong biological component.*

List of Acceptable Disorders for Paper: Choose any one disorder under the heading. **DO NOT ATTEMPT A CATEGORY.**

- **Anxiety disorders**

- Panic attacks
- Panic disorder
- Agoraphobia
- Specific phobia
- Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD)
- Social phobia
- Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD)
- Body Dysmorphic disorder (BDD)
- Body Integrity Identity disorder (BIID)
- Hoarding Disorder
- Excoriation (skin picking)
- Tricholliomania (hair pulling)

- **Personality disorders**

- **Cluster A**
 - Paranoid
 - Schizoid
 - Schizotypal
- **Cluster B**
 - Antisocial
 - Borderline
 - Histrionic
 - Narcissistic (currently not included in the DSM-V)
- **Cluster C**
 - Avoidant
 - Dependent
 - Obsessive Compulsive

- **Mood disorders**

- Major Depression
- Persistent Depressive Disorder (previously known as Dysthymia)

Comment [Sm1]:

- Double depression
- Seasonal Affective disorder (SAD)
- Bipolar I
- Bipolar II
- Cyclothymia
- Rapid Cycling Bipolar

- **Psychotic Disorders**

- Schizophrenia
- Schizophreniform
- Schizoaffective disorder
- Schizotypal disorder
- Delusional disorder
- Brief Psychotic Disorder

- **Intellectual disability (formerly called mental retardation MR)**

- Fragile X
- Down syndrome

Please focus on the adult presentation not children.

- **Eating disorders**

- Binge eating disorder (BED)
- Anorexia nervosa
- Bulimia nervosa

- **Substance abuse disorders**

Choose any type of addictive substance such as cocaine, alcohol, heroin etc.

- Abuse
- Dependence
- Gambling disorder

- **Cognitive disorders**

- Delirium
- Dementia
 - Alzheimer's Type
 - Vascular Dementia

- **Dissociative Disorders**

- Dissociative Identity Disorder (formerly Multiple Personality Disorder)
- Dissociative Fugue
- Dissociative amnesia

- **Somataform disorders**

- Conversion disorder
- Hypochondriasis
- Somatization disorder

- **Sexual disorders**
 - Gender Dysphoria disorder
 - Paraphilic disorders

Attendance

In-class participation is critical and expected. Regular communication with the professor and your fellow classmates is encouraged as well as being prepared to provide needed input on critical psychological issues. ***You are responsible for any missed class presentation material.*** Please ask fellow students via chat room for any information you may have missed due to absence from class. *****Doctors notes** or other **specific documentation** are necessary for missing an exam and taking the make-up. The **make-up exam** will be more multiple choice questions and will include an essay questions section.

Disability Statement

If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, or if you need assistance in the event of an emergency evacuation, please contact the professor as soon as possible.

Plagiarism: This is the practice of using information from a source ***without citing*** the source and author in your text (Do not use papers from other courses to submit in this course. It is not acceptable e.g. Atypical Child and Adolescent psychology paper submitted to this course). This is a problem in some courses and will result in an F for the course. I will be using Turnitin for papers.

Cheating on Exams – Anyone caught cheating on any of the exams will receive an F for the course.

ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES ARE TO BE OUT or ON DURING EXAMS.