

TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY

Summer 2017
Psychology 305-IS
ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
Instructor: Lisa Barker, M.A.

Semester Hours: 3

Class-time: Asynchronous Online

Instructor e-mail: lisaanne.barker@gmail.com

Pre-requisites: PSYCH 105, 106, 301 plus 3 additional semester hours of Psychology

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a broad survey of what is considered to be abnormal behavior. Emphasis is placed on a scientific empirical view. The primary focus of the course is on description of various symptoms, syndromes and illnesses. Research and theories on causality of psychopathological and behavioural problems will also be considered as well as treatments of abnormal behavior.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will develop:

1. A basic understanding of how abnormal behaviour is defined based on a continuum model of functioning.
2. Knowledge of clinical assessment strategies, theoretical perspectives, classification of behaviours, and treatment modalities.
3. A practical application of knowledge of specific psychopathological disorders.
4. A personal appreciation of mental health issues (lifestyle changes, effects on individuals, families and society etc.) and a curiosity regarding the biopsychosocial-spiritual dimensions of mental health.

REQUIRED TEXT

Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach, 4th Canadian Edition (2015) Barlow, D.H., Durand, V.M., Stewart, S.H. & Lumiere, M.L. Nelson Education, Toronto, ON

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Weekly Forum Postings (online discussions in the virtual class)	25%
Research Paper (details to be provided)	40%
Comprehensive Exam (administered online)	35%

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to revision)

Week of:	Topic	Reading
May 8	Introduction	Ch. 1
May 15	Integrative Approach	Ch. 2
May 22	Assessment & Diagnosis	Ch. 3
May 29	Anxiety Disorders	Ch. 5
June 5	Mood Disorders	Ch. 7
June 12	Dissociative Disorders	Ch. 6
June 19	Eating & Sleep-Wake Disorders	Ch. 8
June 26	Sexual Dysfunction – Gender Dysphoria	Ch. 10
July 3	Substance-Use, Impulse Control Disorders	Ch. 11
July 10	Personality Disorder	Ch. 12
July 17	Schizophrenia	Ch. 13
July 24	Final Exam	Paper Due July 30

COURSE POLICIES

1. WRITING

All coursework is expected to demonstrate college level writing and follow APA 6th edition format (typed, double-spaced, 1" margins, 12-point standard font and correct APA format for citing references in the body of the paper and in the Reference list).

2. DEADLINES

Deadlines in this course are firm; extensions are not granted. A penalty of 3% per day late is applied and includes weekends and holidays. After 7 days, late assignments will not be accepted and a grade of 0 will be assigned. If you find yourself facing extraordinary circumstances, beyond your control (such as hospitalization), you must contact the instructor as soon as possible to negotiate a possible extension, preferably **72 hours in advance of any deadline**. Medical documentation is required. A cold or flu, computer problems, printer breaking, work schedule, car troubles, too many papers due, etc. etc. are not grounds for an extension.

3. COMMUNICATION

Because this is an online course, it is imperative that communication via email is consistently available. Please ensure that you use the TWU email account assigned to you for the duration of this course or that you have provided the instructor with a reliable alternative that you regularly check. If you are having any technical issues with your email or the online course please contact esupport@twu.ca or call 604-882-HELP. Students are responsible for knowing about course-related information that is emailed and/or posted to the Course Announcement link on the course site.

4. COURSE GRADING SYSTEM

This course uses the following grade cut-offs set by the Psychology Department.

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
%	94-	90-	86-	82-	78-	74-	70-	66-	62-	58-	54-	50-	0-
Range	100	93	89	85	81	77	73	69	65	61	57	53	49

5. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND AVOIDING PLAGERISM

Academic integrity is a core value of the entire TWU community. Students are invited into this scholarly culture and required to abide by the principles of sound academic scholarship at TWU. This includes, but is not limited to, avoiding all forms of plagiarism and cheating in scholarly work. TWU has a strict policy on plagiarism (see Academic Calendar at www.twu.ca). Learning what constitutes plagiarism and avoiding it is the student's responsibility. An excellent resource describing plagiarism and how to avoid it has been prepared by TWU Librarian William Badke and is freely available for download (PPT file) or used as flash (self running) tutorials of varying lengths from:

<http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/plgiarism.ppt>

<http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/Plagiarism.swf> (14 minute flash tutorial)

http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/Plagiarism_Short.swf (8 minute flash tutorial)

6. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Equity of Access Office to discuss their specific needs. Within the first two weeks of the course, students must discuss with the instructor any accommodations appropriate to their needs for this course.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

You may wish to consult some of these resources for your term paper.

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association.

Frances, A. (2013). *Essentials of psychiatric diagnosis: Responding to the challenge of DSM-5*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press.

Jeeves, M. & Brown, W.S. (2009). *Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion*. West Conshohocken, PN: Templeton Foundation Press.

Koenig, H.G. (2005). *Faith & Mental Health: Religious Resources for Healing*. West Conshohocken, PN: Templeton Foundation Press.

Lilienfeld, S. (1995). *Seeing both sides: Classic controversies in abnormal psychology*. New York, NY: Brooks/Cole.

Spitzer, R. L., Gibbon, M., Skodol, A. E., Williams, J. B., & First, M. B. (Eds.). (1994). *Case book*. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association.

Sperry, L. (2003). *Handbook of diagnosis and treatment of DSM-IV-TR personality disorders* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Brunner-Routledge.

Vitkus, J. (1999). *Casebook in abnormal psychology*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.

Wedding, D. (2005). *Movies and mental illness: Using films to understand psychopathology*. Hogrefe and Huber, Publishers.

Wolz, B. (2005). *E-Motion picture magic*. Centennial, CO: Glenbride Publishing.

Useful websites you may wish to consult for information on Assessment tools.

<http://www.cci.health.wa.gov.au> Center for Clinical Interventions for assessment tools useful in psychotherapy

<http://www.psychotherapybrownbag.com> Psychotherapy Brown Bag which introduces numerous tools for assessment of psychological disorders