

PSYCHOLOGY 152
ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
FALL 2007

CLASS INFORMATION

Psychology 152/3 Credits
Dates: August 29 - December 5, 2007
Day: Wednesdays
Time: 4:40-7:30 PM
Location: La Fayette 210

Instructor: O. Dicle Turkoglu
Office: 310 John Dewey Hall
Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-4
or by appointment
Email: dicle.turkoglu@uvm.edu

REQUIRED TEXT

Nolen-Hoeksema, S. (2007). *Abnormal Psychology* (4th Edition). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.

Textbook is available at UVM Campus Bookstore.

COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to provide students with a broad overview of abnormal human behavior. We will cover historical perspectives on abnormality and current models of abnormal behavior as well as issues related to defining, diagnosing, assessing, and treating psychopathology. We will survey contemporary research regarding a wide range of emotional and behavioral problems, using case studies and examples to highlight the very real suffering of individuals with mental illness. We will also critically examine the way abnormal psychology is viewed in today's society and the media. Ethical and legal issues in the assessment and treatment of mental illness will also be discussed.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

EXAMS: There will be two exams during the semester. Exams will consist of multiple choice questions and will cover material from the readings and lectures. The midterm is scheduled for October 17th during the regular class time. The final exam is not cumulative. It will be held in our classroom, on Monday, December 10th at 11:45. (100 points each)

Students should make every reasonable effort to attend the exams. It is the student's responsibility to obtain documentation for missing an exam (e.g., doctor's note; note

from the dean) in case of an emergency. It is also the student's responsibility to contact the instructor immediately (or in advance, if possible) to arrange a make-up exam. Students who cannot provide documentation for missing an exam will receive a score of zero points for that exam. Make-up exams may be different in their formats and may consist of essay questions.

READINGS and THOUGHT QUESTIONS: Assigned chapters are listed on the course schedule. You should complete your reading assignment prior to class to be able to successfully follow the lectures. Before each class, compose three questions or comments that came up for you after doing the readings. These questions or comments should show me that you've done the readings. They should be thoughtful and encourage discussion or further reading. You are required to submit these questions at the beginning of class and might occasionally be asked to share them with your peers. (30 points)

CLASS PRESENTATION: During the first class, each student will choose a DSM -IV-TR mental illness as the basis for their project. This project will include a presentation and a written outline. The project should contain only a brief description of your chosen mental illness and rather focus on more specific questions, such as etiology or treatment of the disorder, controversial issues related to your topic, a case study of a famous person, etc.

For this project, you will be required to utilize 3 research articles from peer-reviewed journals (2 of the articles must be published no earlier than 2004) that empirically investigate some element of the disorder you are presenting on. In addition to the research articles, you may choose to use a memoir of a person who experienced this mental illness. You are also encouraged to use other resources such as high quality newspaper articles, high quality television shows, magazine articles, and documentaries.

Each person will be required to do a power-point presentation of their project. The presentation should last 30 minutes. At the end of the presentation you will be required to facilitate a 10-minute discussion about your presentation. You may want to assign the class some readings to help facilitate their learning. You may bring in some form of art that aids in our discussion, such as a segment from a movie, a poem, a painting, etc. Get creative.

A written outline that can act as a guideline to your presentation, that contains the key points and questions of your presentation, with your references, as well as discussion questions is also due on the day of your presentation. (100 points)

ATTENDANCE: In order to truly learn in this class, you need to come to class. You are expected to come to every class prepared and on time. I realize that there will be times where you can't make it to class for some reason. Therefore, you will be allowed 1 absence throughout the semester. If you miss more than 1 class, I will begin to deduct points from your final grade, specifically 10 points per missed class. Since I believe developing good

listening and note taking skills is an important part of college learning, and also as not to encourage absence from class, as a policy, I do not share my lecture notes. (40 points)

CLASS PARTICIPATION: To make this course a valuable learning experience requires your participation. I expect you to participate (e.g. respond to a question, pose a question, or make a comment) every week. Since it will be hard for me to keep track of this, I will ask you at the end of the semester how many points you think you deserve for your participation. I trust that you will be honest with your ratings. (30 points)

GRADING

Grades will be based on the two exams (200 points), the presentation (100), thought questions (30), attendance (40 points), and participation (30 points). The final grade will be based on the total number of points obtained out of a possible 400 points.

The following table shows you the points needed to obtain each grade level.

Grade	Point Range	Percentage
A+	390-400	98-100%
A	370-389	93-97%
A-	358-369	90-92%
B+	346-357	87-89%
B	330-345	83-86%
B-	318-329	80-82%
C+	306-317	77-79%
C	290-305	73-76%
C-	278-289	70-72%
D+	266-277	67-69%
D	250-265	63-66%
D-	238-249	60-62%
F	0-237	0-59%

POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY

In this class, as in others, it is important to uphold the University of Vermont's Policy on Academic Honesty. Do not use other people's ideas or words without giving them proper credit. Do not cheat on the exams. Any violation of this policy will result in a failing grade for the specific assessment and I will report to the appropriate authorities. Specific guidelines of this policy and consequences for academic dishonesty can be viewed at :

http://www.uvm.edu/cses/code_ai.html