

PSYC 414, Section 001 Behavioral Disorders of Childhood

Instructor: John D. Wasserman, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.,
4:30 to 5:30 p.m., or by appointment

Dates and Times:

This course will be taught every Tuesday from 7:20 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. from August 29 through December 5.

Location: Robinson A, Room 210

Description of Course:

Behavioral Disorders of Childhood is an introduction to child psychopathology, with an emphasis on clinical characteristics, classification and diagnosis, epidemiology, etiology, theories, research methods, assessments, and treatments. It will emphasize the developmental context of various disorders, risk and resiliency factors, and environmental and biological contributions.

Dates and Readings:

August 29	Introduction
August 29	Introduction; Course Outline (Chapter 1)
September 5	Theories and Causes (Chapter 2)
September 12	Research Methods (Chapter 3)
September 19	Assessment and Diagnosis (Chapter 4)
September 26	30 minute Quiz; ADHD (Chapter 5)
October 3	ADHD continued
October 10	No Class – Columbus Day Recess
October 17	Conduct Disorder and Oppositional Defiant Disorder (Chapter 6)
October 24	Anxiety Disorders (Chapter 7)
October 31	Midterm Examination (multiple choice)
November 7	Mood Disorders (Chapter 8)
November 14	Mood Disorders continued
November 21	Mental Retardation (Chapter 9)
November 28	Autism and Schizophrenia (Chapter 10)
December 5	30 minute Quiz; Learning Disorders (Chapter 11)
December 12	Final Examination (multiple choice): 7:30-10:15 p.m.

Prerequisites:

PSYC 313 and 325 or Permission of Instructor

Required Texts:

Mash, E.J., & Wolfe, D.A. (2005). *Abnormal child psychology (3rd ed.)*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth.

This course will include lectures and classroom demonstrations, video presentations, and powerpoint presentations.

Grades:

Grades are based upon results from a midterm and final examination, with two 30-minute quizzes. The quizzes together count toward 33.3% of your grade, with the midterm exam counting 33.3% and the final exam counting 33.3%. Exams and quizzes are based upon classroom lectures and readings. Classroom participation is a plus and will be considered if you are on the borderline between grades. There are NO MAKEUP EXAMS.

Extra Credit Option: One way to understand disorders of childhood is to read written narratives, watch movies or documentaries, or study artistic depictions. For any of the behavior disorders covered in this course, write a 5 page typed double-spaced review of any book, story, movie, or documentary depicting disorders of childhood. The review should include a complete citation (name, date, source, etc.) and should discuss the depiction of the disorder relative to the information you have learned in the textbook or lecture. For example, you might note that several of the characteristics presented in a movie are not typical characteristics of schizophrenia. You can also find 10 pieces of art, print out pictures of the art, and write a one-page description for each addressing the depiction of mental disorders. Turn in a hard copy in class on **December 5**. This Extra Credit Option can add up to 5 percent to your grade.

University Honor Code:

Each student is responsible for knowing the rules, regulations, requirements, and academic policies of the university. This course requires students to follow the university honor code.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance for all classroom sessions is mandatory. The last day to add this course is September 12, 2006. The last day to drop is September 29, 2006.

Students with Disabilities:

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at (703) 993-2472. All academic accommodations must be arranged through this office.