

PSYC 325.002: Abnormal Psychology  
TR 10:30-11:45, Lecture Hall 3

Instructor: Katie Whittaker

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Office: Psyc clinic, directions to be given in class

Phone: (703) 359-2885

Office Hours: TR 12:30-1:30, or by appointment

Required Text: Butcher, J.M., Mineka, S., & Hooley, J. (2004). *Abnormal Psychology* (12th Ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Other readings may be assigned during the semester

**Course Goals:**

- To understand what abnormal psychology is
- To learn about common psychiatric diagnoses
- To understand causes and treatments of psychiatric disorders

**Policies:**

- Attendance is very important; material discussed in class that is not in the text may be on the exams.
- Readings are expected to be completed PRIOR to class.
- No make-up exams will be allowed, one exam grade will be dropped, so if you miss an exam that will be the one that is dropped. EVERYONE MUST take the final exam; the final grade will not be dropped.

**Honor Code:**

STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE FAMILIAR WITH AND TO FOLLOW THE **GMU HONOR POLICY**. All work should be your own and should be cited properly using APA format. Students should be advised that the honor code specifically applies to and has enforced disciplinary procedures for:

- Plagiarism
- Lying (to administration or faculty) or falsifying documents
- Cheating or attempted cheating
- Stealing

Please review the honor code: <http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm>

**DISABILITIES RESOURCES:**

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at

703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

### **Exams**

Exams will cover both in class lectures/ videos and readings from the text. Exams 1-3 will cover the chapters denoted in the class-by-class outline below. The final exam will focus mainly on material from the last fourth of the course, but will have some cumulative information on it. Each exam will consist of multiple choice questions, short answer and essay-type questions. Each exam is worth 100 points. Your lowest exam grade will be dropped. The final exam grade may not be dropped.

### **Presentation**

Each student will participate in a group presentation that is worth 50 points. The presentation group will be assigned the second week of class. Each group will be assigned a specific psychiatric diagnosis to present to the class. Grading criteria for the presentation is posted on webct. Each group is expected to describe:

- Diagnostic criteria for the disorder
- Possible causes for the disorder
- What age/ gender/ race/ SES the disorder is most often observed in
- Examples of treatments used

### **Quizzes**

Five quizzes are located on webct at <https://webct41.gmu.edu>. These quizzes are to be completed and submitted on-line. Each quiz is worth 10 points. The quizzes cover material found in the text. You may use your textbook for the quizzes; HOWEVER, they should be completed individually. You may complete each quiz at your own pace (i.e. do all 5 at the beginning of the semester), but they must be completed by the dates noted on the class-by-class outline below.

### **Extra Credit**

You can earn up to 5 points of extra credit by participating in psychological research or attending any seminar/ lecture/ presentation that relates to abnormal psychology.

### **Final Grade Determination:**

Your final grade in this class will be determined by the following:

- 4 exams (100points each), lowest grade dropped

300 points (exams) + 50 points (presentation) + 50 points (quizzes) = 400 points

A (360 points-400 points)

- B (320 points-359 points)
- C (280 points-319 points)
- D (240 points-279 points)
- F (239 points and below)

<b>Date</b>	<b>In-Class</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
Tues 1/24	Introduction, Syllabus	Read Ch. 1 & 3
Thurs 1/26	Research	
Tues 1/31	Causal Factors and Viewpoints	Read Ch. 4
Thurs 2/2	Classification and Diagnosis	
Tues 2/7 <i>*Last Day to Add*</i>	Classification and Diagnosis	
Thurs 2/9	Assessment	<b>Last Day to submit Quiz 1</b>
Tues 2/14	Assessment	
Thurs 2/16	<b>EXAM 1 (Ch 1, 3-4)</b>	Read Ch. 13
Tues 2/21	Sexual Disorders & Dysfunctions, Gender Identity <b>Group 1 Presentation</b>	Read Ch. 5
Thurs 2/23 <i>*Last Day to Drop is (2/24)*</i>	Stress, PTSD, and Adjustment Disorders <b>Group 2 Presentation</b>	Read Ch. 6
Tues 2/28	Anxiety Disorders <b>Group 3 Presentation</b>	
Thurs 3/2	Anxiety Disorders <b>Group 4 Presentation</b>	Read Ch. 8 <b>Last Day to Submit Quiz 2</b>
Tues 3/7	Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders <b>Group 5 Presentation</b>	
Thurs 3/9	<b>EXAM 2 (Ch 5-6, 8, 13)</b>	
Tues 3/14	SPRING BREAK!	
Thurs 3/16	SPRING BREAK!	Read Ch. 9
Tues 3/21	Eating Disorders <b>Group 6 Presentation</b>	Read Ch. 7
Thurs 3/23	Mood Disorders and Suicide <b>Group 7 Presentation</b>	<b>Last Day to Submit Quiz 3</b>
Tues 3/28	Mood Disorders and Suicide <b>Group 8 Presentation</b>	
Thurs 3/30	Mood Disorders and Suicide <b>Group 9 Presentation</b>	Read Ch. 14
Tues 4/4	Schizophrenia <b>Group 10 Presentation</b>	
Thurs 4/6	Schizophrenia <b>Group 11 Presentation</b>	Read Ch. 11
Tues 4/11	Personality Disorders <b>Group 12 Presentation</b>	
Thurs 4/13	Personality Disorders	<b>Last Day to Submit Quiz 4</b>

	<b>Group 13 Presentation</b>	
Tues 4/18	<b>EXAM 3 (Ch 7, 9, 11, 14)</b>	Read Ch. 18
Thurs 4/20	Forensic and Social Policy Issues	Read Ch. 12
Tues 4/25	Substance Use Disorders <b>Group 14 Presentation</b>	
Thurs 4/27	Substance Use Disorders <b>Group 15 Presentation</b>	Read Ch. 17
Tues 5/2	Treatment	
Thurs 5/4	Treatment	<b>Last Day to Submit Quiz 5</b>
Thurs 5/11	<b>FINAL EXAM 10:30</b>	