

**Abnormal Psychology**  
**Psyc 3318 Section 001**  
**Summer II 2009**  
**Monday-Thursday 10:30 am-12:30 pm**  
**Life Science Building Room 102**

**Instructor:** Jennifer Jones, M.S.

**Office:** LS 405

**Office Hours:** Monday & Tuesday 12:30 – 1:00 or by appointment

**Email:** [jrjones@uta.edu](mailto:jrjones@uta.edu)

**Required text:** *Durand, V. Mark and Barlow, David H. (2010). Essentials of Abnormal Psychology, 5th Edition. Belmont, CA: Thomson-Wadsworth*

**Prerequisite:** Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 1315)

**Description of Course Content and Student Learning Outcomes:**

The process of diagnostic assessment, major forms of psychopathology, classification, etiology, and treatment of major disorders

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Become familiar with diagnostic criteria for major mental disorders.
2. Understand the limitations of diagnostic assessment.
3. Develop an understanding of the biopsychosocial model of psychopathology.

**Attendance:**

Not mandatory. However, regular class attendance is expected in this course. Attendance will be taken randomly throughout the course and if you are present those days I take attendance than you will receive 2 additional points on your final letter grade. Students will be accountable for all lecture material, and each examination will contain questions from the class readings and classroom lectures; therefore, it will be imperative that you not miss class.

**Exams and Grading Policy:**

Two exams will be given throughout the semester. Each exam will be worth 100 points. The exams will be structured with a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. Exam questions will be taken from class lectures and assigned readings. The midterm exam will be a take-home and the final will be given in class. Make-up exams will only be administered if the student provides a **University approved excuse** (see Catalog) or any *documented* catastrophic events. If students miss an examination due to a **university-approved** absence or any *documented* catastrophic events of which they provide **written** approval to the instructor, they will be given an equivalent make-up exam at a time approved by the instructor (i.e., *not* during class time). If students miss an exam due to unapproved reasons, **they will not be able to make up the examination and will receive a zero on the examination missed.**

**Diagnostic Descriptions**

Students will also write one Diagnostic Description based on a case study that I will provide. Each case study will describe a person with a psychological disorder. Students will identify the disorder using evidence from the case study and information from respected sources (e.g., text, websites such as the NIMH, other books). The descriptions should discuss the biopsychosocial factors which have a bearing on the person either in creating the disorder or maintaining the disorder. Each paper should include the

following: Title page, hypothesized diagnosis, factors and interactions of factors using a biopsychosocial approach to diagnosis, and reference page. **NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

**The Diagnostic Description will be worth 100 points and will be evaluated on the following:**

1. Application of biopsychosocial approach to diagnosis – 40 points
2. Evidence supporting diagnosis – 35 points
3. Clarity and organization of paper – 15 points
4. APA style and grammatical correctness – 10 points

**Total available points 300**

A = 300-270 points 100%-90%

B = 269-240 points 89%-80%

C = 239-210 points 79%-70%

D = 209-180 points 69%-60%

F = 59-0 points 59% and below

**Grade Distribution**

Diagnostic Description 100 points

Midterm (take-home) 100 points

Final Exam (in-class) 100 points

**Drop for non-payment of tuition:**

If you are dropped from this class for non-payment of tuition, you may secure an Enrollment Loan through the Bursar's Office. You may not continue to attend class until your Enrollment Loan has been applied to outstanding tuition fees. Academic Resources: Resources are available for students who need extra help with study skills, time management, or note taking. The UTA Counseling Services (272-3671) and SOAR (272-3684) not only offer seminars to improve note taking and study skills but also to develop time management skills.

**Academic Dishonesty:**

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. Any form of academic dishonesty will be reported. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or material that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22) All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

**E-Culture Policy:**

The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email. All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at [www.uta.edu/email](http://www.uta.edu/email). New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly. I will only use your UTA email account when sending you information.

**Drop Policy:**

Students who drop this course must do so in accordance with the University of Texas at Arlington drop policy which can be found in the undergraduate catalog (<http://www.uta.edu/catalog/>). The last day to drop is:

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):**

If you are a student who requires accommodations in compliance with the ADA, please consult with me at the beginning of the semester. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide *reasonable accommodation* to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Your responsibility is to inform me of documentation authorizing the specific accommodation. Student services at UTA include the Office for Students with Disabilities (located in the lower level of the University Center), which is responsible for verifying and implementing accommodations to ensure equal opportunity in all programs and activities.

**Student Support Services:**

The University supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. They include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

**Bomb Threats:**

If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will attempt to trace the phone call and prosecute all responsible parties. Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations/tests caused by the bomb threat. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these classes. Your instructor will make you aware of alternate class sites in the event that your classroom is not available.

**Tentative Lecture/Topic Schedule:**

Chapter 1-Abnormal Behavior in Historical Context

Chapter 2- An Integrative Approach to Psychopathology

Chapter 3-Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis

Chapter 4-Anxiety Disorders

Chapter 6-Mood Disorders & Suicide

Chapter 8-Eating & Sleep Disorders

Chapter 9-Sexual & Gender Identity Disorders

Chapter 10-Substance-Related & Impulse-Control Disorders

Chapter 11-I/O Personality Disorders

Chapter 12-Schizophrenia & Other Psychotic Disorders

Chapter 13-Developmental & Cognitive Disorders

**Take home exam due: Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Case study due: Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**FINAL: Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>**