

PSYCH 435
Abnormal Psychology
Course Syllabus
Fall, 2009

Instructor: Ryan C. Martin, Ph.D.

Office: MAC C318

Office Hours:

Tuesday: 8:00-9:30

Wednesday: 9:00-12:00

Thursday: 12:30-2:00

*I will be happy to schedule time to meet with students if the above times don't work.

Phone: 465-2322

E-mail: martinr@uwgb.edu

Website: www.uwgb.edu/martinr/index.htm

Description of the Course:

This is an advanced undergraduate psychology course designed to expose students to the primary models for defining and evaluating normal and abnormal human behavior in American society. Students will be acquainted with the many ways in which biological, emotional, behavioral, and cognitive factors can contribute to distress or impairment, both to the individual and the people around him or her. Students will be exposed to models of how abnormal behavior can be defined, how it can be understood, and in a general sense, how it is usually treated.

The course is designed to meet the following Psychology learning outcomes:

1. Knowledge Base of Psychology
 - a. Students will demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.
2. Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology
 - a. Students will respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
3. Application of Psychology
 - a. Students will understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.
4. Values in Psychology
 - a. Students will be able to weigh evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect other values that are the underpinnings of psychology as a discipline.
5. Information and Technological Literacy
 - a. Students will demonstrate information competence and the ability to use computers and other technology for many purposes.
6. Personal Development
 - a. Students will develop insight into their own and others' behavior and mental processes and apply effective strategies for self-management and self-improvement.

Required Readings:

Kring, A. M., Johnson, S. L., Davison, G. C., & Neale, J. M. (2010). *Abnormal psychology (11th ed)*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

*Consult the reading guides on D2L for the specific sections to be read.

**Some additional readings will be assigned throughout the semester.

Course Requirements:

Assignments: There will be multiple in-class and take-home assignments throughout the semester (85 points). Although they are not listed on the schedule below, I'll announce in class when they are going to occur. Unless I indicate otherwise, all assignments are due at the start of class and must be turned in via the D2L dropbox. With regard to late assignments, every student will be allowed one freebie, with no questions asked (i.e., students may turn in one assignment late without providing an excuse). Your freebie must be made up within the week to get credit. Additional missed assignments will have points deducted each day they are late unless the lateness is excused.

D2L Quizzes: There will be seven D2L quizzes (10 points each). They will not be cumulative. Rather, they will cover the material (from the lectures and the textbook) that has been discussed since the last quiz. Regarding the textbook, you will be responsible for knowing the material outlined in the reading and study guide (posted on D2L) for each unit prior to starting that unit. Make-up quizzes will be administered only under special circumstances (e.g., illnesses, accidents, etc.). I will drop your lowest quiz score at the end of the semester.

Take-home Final Exams: There will be a take-home final exams (35 points). This exam will be cumulative. Take-home exams turned in late without my approval in advance will lose 5 points per day. Extra time will only be granted in extraordinary circumstances.

Class Expectations: My goal is to create a comfortable learning atmosphere for all students. Thus, you are expected to be polite, attentive, and not be a distraction to the instructor or any other students. This includes visiting with other students, reading, sleeping, surfing the internet, texting, etc. You are asked to please turn off cell phones and pagers so they don't go off during class. Additionally, I ask you to note the following class expectations.

- I allow students to use laptops in class for note taking. However, I reserve the right to change that policy if I find that students are abusing it (i.e., using it to surf the internet, checking E-mail, watching videos/listening to music, etc.).
- I take student punctuality very seriously and, in the past, have had problems with some students being frequently late to class. Those students who are consistently late to class will be spoken with about the problem and, ultimately, I reserve the right to start taking attendance if the problem continues.

Grading:

Assignment	Total Points	Grading Scale
Assignments	85	A 92%-100%
In-class quizzes	60	AB 88%-92%
Take-home Final	35	B 82%-88%
Total	180	BC 78%-82%
		C 70%-78%
		D 60%-70%
		F less than 60%

Tentative Semester Schedule

Date	Topic
<u>Week 1</u>	
9/3	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology
9/8	Diagnosis and Assessment
9/10	Diagnosis and Assessment (continued)
<u>Week 2</u>	
9/15	Diagnosis and Assessment (continued)
9/17 (Quiz 1)	
<u>Week 3</u>	
9/22	Anxiety Disorders
9/24	

<u>Week 4</u>	
9/29 10/1 (Quiz 2)	Anxiety Disorders (continued)
<u>Week 5</u>	
10/6 10/8	Mood Disorders
<u>Week 6</u>	
10/13 10/15 (Quiz 3)	Mood Disorders (continued)
<u>Week 7</u>	
10/20 10/22	Personality Disorders
<u>Week 8</u>	
10/27 10/29 (Quiz 4)	Psychotic Disorders
<u>Week 9</u>	
11/3 11/5	Psychotic Disorders (continued)
<u>Week 10</u>	
11/10 11/12 (Quiz 5)	Substance Related Disorders
<u>Week 11</u>	
11/17 11/19	Eating Disorders
<u>Week 12</u>	
11/24 (Take-home distributed) 11/26 (Quiz 6)	Disorders of Childhood
<u>Week 13</u>	
12/1 12/3	To Be Announced
<u>Week 14</u>	
12/8 12/10 (Quiz 7)	To Be Announced
<u>Final Exams Week</u>	
Take-home due 12/16 by 5:00	

Final Notes:

- Consistent with the federal law and the policies of the University of Wisconsin, it is the policy of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay to provide appropriate and necessary accommodations to students with documented physical and learning disabilities. If you anticipate requiring any auxiliary aids or services, you should contact me or the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities at 465-2849 as soon as possible to discuss your needs and arrange for the provision of services.
- Using someone else's ideas or phrasing and representing those ideas or phrasing as our own, either on purpose or through carelessness, is a serious offense known as plagiarism. "Ideas of phrasing" includes written or spoken material, of course – from whole papers and paragraphs to sentences, and, indeed, phrases – but it also includes statistics, lab results, art work, etc. "Someone else" can mean a professional source, such as a published writer or critic in a book, magazine, encyclopedia, or journal; an electronic resource such as material we discover on the World Wide Web; another student at our school or anywhere else; a paper-writing "service" (online or otherwise) which offers to sell written papers for a fee.