

PSCH 270 – ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

Instructor: Nancy Dassoff, Ph.D.

Class Location: 145 BSB

Off Hours: 9:00-9:30 T, 10:45-11:30 R, and by appt

Contact Info: email via ndassoff@uic.edu; 413-8709; mailbox in 1009BSB

Term: Spring, 2014 (#26077)

Time: 9:30-10:45 T R

Office Location: 3008 BSB

Teaching Assistants:

Alex Jendrusina and Josephina Frankovich (see Blackboard-Tools-Contact for contact information)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will cover 1) psychological disorders - their diagnostic criteria and other relevant information; 2) general assessment and research strategies used for psychological disorders; 3) a multidimensional model of understanding and treating psychological disorders; and 4) some of the difficulties associated with assessment, research and treatment of psychological disorders, including legal and ethical issues.

The **prerequisite** for this course is **Psch 100**. Please note that LAS does not allow students to earn credit for courses they have taken out of sequence, so if students remain in the class, they may lose the credits earned even if they successfully complete the class.

TEXT: *Abnormal Psychology in a Changing World* by Nevid, Rathus & Greene (2014)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS consist of the following (284 points maximum):

- 1) **i>clickers** will be used in most class sessions, **starting week 3**, to encourage, identify and credit **CLASS PARTICIPATION**. See i>clicker document on Blackboard-Course Information for description of registration process for i>clicker and other details. (46 pts)
- 2) Three non-cumulative **EXAMS**, 50 points each, covering lecture and text material (see following Week/Topic section for dates). One *cumulative* exam, also 50 points, will be offered during final exams week as a required make-up exam for any one missed exam **or** (optional) to substitute for any one lower exam score. Exams will have both multiple-choice and short-answer question formats. Practice questions in the same format will be provided the week before each exam, and answers will be posted shortly after exams, both on Blackboard-Exams. Put phones/computers/hats away during exams, and keep eyes on own papers; cheating will not be excused. (3 X 50 = 150 pts)
- 3) **RESEARCH REVIEW PAPER**, which meets the UIC writing requirement, **due 3/20**. See assignment and related documents on Blackboard-Assignments for more information. This assignment must be submitted to Safe Assignment **and** be handed in with a paper copy. (60 pts)
- 4) **GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PAPER**, which meets (in part) the UIC general education requirement, **due 4/15**. See assignment description on Blackboard-Assignments. (28 pts)

GRADING POLICY:

Final grades are determined by the total points (300??, maximum) obtained on the course requirements listed above, and by a standard scale, i.e., 90% (270 or more points) = A, 80% (240-69 points) = B, 70% (210-239 points) = C, etc. Grades will **not** be changed because your total points

place you one or two points below a higher letter grade. Extra credit is not offered for this course since drafts of papers may be turned in early for feedback and one make-up exam is offered.

COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance Policy: As indicated above under Course Requirements/Class Participation, attendance contributes to your grades (and facilitates learning this material). Inform me via email if you are unable to attend a class due to illness, etc. Be prepared to provide a doctor's note, etc. for absences to be excused.

Academic Year Holidays and Religious Days of Special Observance: Inform me via email if you miss class or need to reschedule an exam due to observance of a religious holiday. See the following website for the University's list of holidays/religious days:

<http://www.uic.edu/depts/oea/docs/ReligiousHolidaysFY20122014.pdf>

Academic Integrity Policy: A student who submits work, at any stage of the writing process, which in whole or part has been written by someone else or which contains passages quoted or paraphrased from another's work without acknowledgment (quotation marks, citation, etc.) has plagiarized. Maintain your integrity when completing assignments and be overzealous to give credit where it is due. If you are ever unsure about what constitutes plagiarism, ask me or the teaching assistants. Students who are found to have plagiarized work may be subject to various disciplinary actions, including a failing grade on a particular assignment, failure of the entire course, and possible expulsion from the university. In cases of academic dishonesty, the policy is to file a complaint with the Office of the Dean of Students. For more information about violating academic integrity and its consequences, consult the website of the UIC Office of the Dean of Students at <http://www.uic.edu/depts/dos/studentconduct.html>.

Academic Deadlines: See the following website for academic deadlines for the current year: <http://grad.uic.edu/cms/?pid=1000222>

Course Drop Deadlines: Undergraduate students may drop classes during the first two weeks of the semester without prior approval and with no academic penalty. Thereafter, students may drop classes between the 3rd and end of the 10th week for a total of four times over their entire UIC enrollment. Students must see an LAS advisor on the 3rd floor of UH or by appointment (996-3366) to process a drop between the 3rd and 10th weeks.

Disability Accommodations: Information about reasonable accommodations is found at http://www.uic.edu/depts/oea/disability_resources/faq/accommodations.html.

Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome but must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), and the instructor must be provided with DRC documentation *prior* to the exams or papers, etc. needing accommodations. DRC can be contacted at 312-413-2183 (v) or 312-413-0123 (TTY). If during the semester, an unanticipated serious medical emergency or traumatic event occurs, such as a death in the immediate family or being a victim of an assault, and interferes with your ability to attend class

or perform academic tasks, it is recommended that you contact the DRC right away as well.

Blackboard: Information about this course will be posted on Blackboard. This includes instructor/TA contact information, assignments, lecture slides, announcements, test information, and grades, etc. Check Blackboard regularly for any announcements regarding the class throughout the semester.

WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE:

Topics covered and corresponding text reading assignments are listed below by week. You will get the most out of lectures if you complete relevant reading assignments *before* lectures. Powerpoint lecture outlines will be posted on Blackboard-Content the week prior to each lecture. Classroom lectures will not come solely out of the text, i.e., different examples and supplemental material such as video/DVD segments will also be covered. If you miss a lecture, be sure to look at lecture outlines on Blackboard to at least get the main ideas and/or get notes from a classmate.

Week	Topic	Assigned Reading
1	Introduction – historical & current overview	Chapter 1 (pp. 2-19)
2	Contemporary Perspectives - Review of paper assignments on Tuesday, 9/4 -	Chapter 2
3	-i> clicker participation credit starts- Methods of Research	Chapter 1 (pp. 20-32)
4	Classification and Assessment	Chapter 3
5	Stress! and Related disorders	Chapter 4 Chapter 6 (pp. 229-239)
6	- Exam 1 on Tuesday, 2/18 (covering weeks 1-5) - Anxiety disorders	Chapter 5
7	Anxiety disorders (cont.)	Chapter 5
8	Dissociative and Somatoform disorders Mood disorders	Chapter 6 (pp. 199-229) Chapter 7
9	Mood disorders (cont.) Substance disorders - Research review paper due Thursday, 3/20 -	Chapter 7 Chapter 8
10	Eating disorders Sex and Gender-related disorders	Chapter 9 (pp. 334-350) Chapter 10

- NO CLASSES week of 3/24 –
Enjoy your Spring Break (but review for exam)!

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| 11 | - Exam 2 on Tuesday, 4/1 (covering weeks 6-10) -
Schizophrenic disorders | Chapter 11 |
| 12 | Schizophrenic disorders (cont.)
Personality disorders | Chapter 11
Chapter 13 (pp. 439-472) |
| 13 | Developmental disorders
- Gen Ed Assessment paper due Tuesday, 4/15 - | Chapter 13 |
| 14 | Developmental disorders (cont.)
Dementias and other Cognitive disorders | Chapter 13
Chapter 14 |
| 15 | Legal and ethical issues (Tuesday)
- Exam 3 on Thursday, 5/1 (covering weeks 11-15) - | Chapter 15 |
| 16 | - Cumulative make-up <i>or</i> optional exam – tbd, week of 5/5 – | |

UIC RESOURCES:

If you find yourself having difficulty with the course material or any other difficulties related to this course, please come talk with the instructor at any time and preferably early on (i.e., before an exam date or paper due date). If you are having difficulty about an issue beyond this course, please contact your college advisors, or get help from any number of other support services on campus. You can get a referral to the right place, or help on the spot, from an advisor in the Undergraduate Success Center (USC) at 111 Stevenson Hall or usc@uic.edu.

See also:

The Writing Center, located in Grant Hall 105, offers one-on-one consultation with student writers who need help developing ideas, or need advice, guidance or additional instruction on any aspects of writing in any class. Tutors are prepared to spend fifty minutes per appointment, and there is no limit to the number of tutoring sessions you can have each semester. Make an appointment and be on time! Bring the paper on which you're working, as well as any related drafts or notes, and information about the assignment. For an appointment, call the Writing Center at (312) 413-2206, or stop by room 105 of Grant Hall. Visit the Writing Center website at www.uic.edu/depts/engl/writing for more information.

Public Computer Labs are available throughout campus where you may write and/or print out your work. For a list of labs and the hours they're open, go to <www.accc.uic.edu/pclabs>. NOTE: Do not wait until the last minute to print out papers. Sometimes labs have long lines of students waiting for access.

The Academic Center for Excellence at 2981 SSB can help if you feel you need more individualized instruction in reading and/or writing, study skills, time management, etc. Phone: (312) 413-0031.

Counseling Services are available for all UIC students. You may seek free and confidential services from the Counseling Center <www.counseling.uic.edu>. The Counseling Center is located on the 2nd floor in the Student Services Building or you may contact them at (312) 996-3490. In addition to offering counseling services, the Counseling Center also operates the InTouch Crisis Hotline from 6:00 p.m.-10:30 p.m. They offer support and referrals to callers, as well as telephone crisis interventions; please call (312) 996-5535 to contact InTouch.