

**University of Illinois at Chicago**  
**Abnormal Psychology (Spring 2022)**  
**PSCH 270- CRN: 26077**

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**Class Meetings:** Thurs 9:30- 10:45am; lecture center D5

\*note- *The first two weeks of the semester will be done remotely via Collaborate Ultra. There are also a couple of more classes later in the semester that will be done remotely. Please look at the class schedule for the specific dates*

**Prerequisite:** PSCH 100

**Required Textbook:**

Nolen-Hoeksema, S. (2020). *Abnormal Psychology, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition*. McGraw Hill Education.

ISBN-13: 978-1260500189

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to fundamental concepts and scientific principles underlying atypical human behavior. The course is designed to introduce students to various clinical presentations of psychopathology that may occur throughout human development. The course will provide an overview of specific psychiatric disorders (e.g., anxiety, mood, psychotic disorders, etc.) as well as disorder- specific etiological (or causal) considerations, associated clinical features, defining characteristics, and diagnostic criteria.

Current empirically-based psychotherapeutic interventions will also be reviewed, but will not be emphasized.

The course will be structured to facilitate learning about psychopathological behavior, which will be explored from various theoretical frameworks, including psychological, biological, and sociocultural perspectives. Psychiatric disorders will be discussed according to *DSM-V* diagnostic nosology with special attention paid to etiological considerations, disorder-specific descriptions, and theories underlying classification.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- 1) To acquire a better understanding of abnormal behavior patterns, and thereby learn to distinguish abnormal behavior from normal.
- 2) Review psychological, biological, and sociocultural theoretical perspectives of abnormal behavior
- 3) To increase sensitivity to the struggles of people dealing with these types of problems, by putting a human face on the study of abnormal psychology
- 4) To better understand how new research informs our understanding of abnormal behavior
- 5) To better understand how psychological disorders are classified and treated
- 6) To become more familiar with the DSM-V

### **Discussion and Community Guidelines**

**Respect, tone, and civility:** It is important that we maintain a supportive learning community where everyone feels safe and where people can communicate amicably. Remember that sarcasm doesn't always come across. Treat your instructor and fellow students with respect at all times, and in all communications. Most importantly, this class aims to foster an inclusive learning environment that promotes and values respect for others and their viewpoints. The topics we'll learn about in this course can create passionate debates and are relevant to everyday life, making students inclined to share their own anecdotes and experiences. I welcome and encourage that – indeed, that's one of the most exciting and unique aspects of this class. But as such, it is imperative that students behave in a respectful and considerate way to their fellow classmates during the discussions. **Inappropriate, disruptive, or offensive interpersonal behavior is not acceptable.** This is a space where we value diverse identities, ideas, and experiences. I encourage active, deep conversations about the material in the course and the social and historical events that it applies to, but I do not condone hateful speech, prejudicial remarks, or debates that question the rights and personhood of people of various identities. **Discriminatory behavior will NOT be tolerated!**

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

### ***A. Exams (50 points per exam, + 5 extra credit questions= 55 possible points)***

***(50 pts x 3 exams = 150 pts; 5 extra credit questions x 3 exams = 15 possible extra points)***

There will be 3 exams and no final exam. The exams will be done on Blackboard. Exams will be 50 questions (**I will add five extra questions for extra credit on each exam, total of 55 points**). The exams will be true/false and multiple choice. **If you have accommodations, make sure you let me know ahead of time.** For all exams:

- You will have access to the exam for an extended block of time (check syllabus for day)
- You will have 90 minutes to take the exam (unless you have an LOA)
- Once you start the exam, you **must** complete it, you **cannot** save it and come back to it later.
- Once the 90 minutes are up the exam will be submitted automatically
- You will get your score immediately

### ***B. Paper Assignment (50 pts)***

#### **Culture Bound Syndrome Paper**

You are to write a 4-5-page paper (not including cover or reference page) on a culture bound syndrome and compare it to a western/modern day diagnosis. In many cultures, there are mental illnesses that are unique to that culture, and thus are known as culture bound syndromes. Many of these syndromes share similar symptoms to western society's mental illnesses.

Specifically, you are to:

- a) Provide a detailed explanation of the syndrome: origin/history of it, characteristics and symptoms, what country/countries is this syndrome found, does it affect men or women, age it occurs, how it is treated or cured
- b) Case study/example of someone who experienced the culture bound syndrome (include age/gender of the person, what happened to him/her and were they able to be treated/cured)
- c) You are to then compare the syndrome to one of the mental illnesses in your textbook. In other words, based on the symptoms of the cultural bound syndrome, which diagnosis does it resemble the most? Provide similarities and differences
- d) include an introduction and conclusion paragraph

Papers will be written using APA style. All papers should be typed, double spaced, 12-inch font, pages numbered and include a cover and reference page. Also, you need to cite throughout the entire paper. You need at least three references. A handout with more information along with a grading rubric will be provided.

**\*\*\*No Late papers will be graded, absolutely no exceptions.\*\*\***

Here is a list of cultural bound syndromes to choose from: (you may choose one that is not on the list, but it needs to be approved by Dr. Ochoa-Galindo)

- Amok
- Ataque de nervios
- Boufee delirante
- Dhat
- Ghost sickness
- Shenkui or Shen-k'uei
- Hwa-byung
- Koro
- Mal de ojo
- Pibloktoq
- Rootwork
- Shenjing Shuairuo
- Zar
- Susto
- Taijin kyofusho
- Hikikomori
- Hmong Sudden Death Syndrome

Papers will be written using APA style. All papers should be typed, double spaced, 12-inch font, pages numbered and include a cover and reference page.

Also, **you need to cite throughout the entire paper**

Your paper will be graded by the following TA based on your last name (please email that TA specifically for any questions/support related to this assignment):

- Steve will grade papers of students with last names starting from A-O
- Marie will grade papers of students with last names starting from P to Z

***C. Homework Assignments (20 pts each x 5 = 100 pts)***

You will have five homework assignments to do. Look at the schedule to see what weeks they are due. Each assignment will have specific instructions to follow. All assignments are **due Saturday at the end of the day (11:59 pm)** of that week.

Homework Assignments will be graded as followed:

- ✓ **Content of HW: 15 pts**
- ✓ **\*APA style/mechanics: 5 pts**
- ✓ **Total pts: 20 pts**

\*this includes having cover/reference page, pages numbered, citations, writing style, content etc.

**No Late Homework Assignments will be graded, NO Exceptions!**

***D. Minute Papers/In Class Assignments (80 points)***

Even though the class is fairly large, class participation and attendance is expected. During lecture there will be times where you will take 15-20 minutes to write 2-3 paragraphs about a topic-relevant issue (you will respond to a thought question, no special preparation beyond reading that week's chapter will be necessary). **These papers will be offered nine times during the semester.** The purpose of these papers is two-fold. First, these papers will give you an opportunity to think and write about the course material. Second, these papers **can only** be completed during class, will not be announced in advance, and there will be no make-up opportunity for minute papers. I understand that things come up and you may have to miss class, but **regardless of the reason**, minute papers **CANNOT** be made up. Please **DO NOT** email me or talk to me about why you missed class and asking if you can make up the minute paper you missed. If you do, I will tell you that the answer is in your syllabus. It is not the end of the world if you miss a minute paper, **YOU will be OK.** **I will drop one of your minute papers**, so if you miss one that's the one that will be dropped. If you come in late to class and the minute paper was already given, you **CANNOT** make it up (again, no excuses!)

Some minute papers will be done in groups, as well as either in the beginning, middle, or end of class. As stated previously, I will drop one of your minute papers. **Minute papers will be worth up to 10 points.** If you are present when a paper is assigned and write 2-3 paragraphs and it is something thoughtful you will receive full credit. **If you turn something in that is only a few sentences with poor content, you will get partial credit, 5 points.**

There are two exceptions to this:

- you need to write your **first and last name** on the minute paper, otherwise you will not get credit for it. I've had students who think they are on a first name basis, or forget to write their name. There are 150 students enrolled in this course. Please make things easier for the TAs who are grading these by writing your complete name legibly. Also, your response should be legibly, we can't grade it if we can't read it
- Minute Papers will **only be accepted** in standard notebook size paper (8.5 x 11). You will get a 0 for your minute paper if you turn it in anything smaller than this, **no exceptions!** If you need a sheet of paper, please ask professor Ochoa-Galindo or a fellow classmate for one. Please do not use the excuse of "I was in class but my classmate didn't have a sheet of paper and I didn't have another one so I cut mine in half". Very nice of you but now you both have a 0 for the minute paper. Just raise your hand and you will be given a sheet of paper. You won't get yelled at for raising your hand. If you forget this rule and turn in your minute paper in anything less than what is stated here, you will still get a 0.

***E. Final Grade***

The total number of possible points for this course is 370. Here is the breakdown:

3 exams (50 x 3 = **150 pts**) + Paper (**50 pts**) + HW Assign. (4 x 25=**100 pts**) + Minute Papers (7 x 10 = **80 pts**) Total = **380 pts**

## **Technology Requirements**

### **Computer/Technology Requirements**

For any remote sessions, students will need regular access to a personal computer that runs on a broadband Internet connection.

### **Blackboard Learning Management System**

For all technical questions about Blackboard, email ACCC-Learning Technology Solutions at LTS@uic.edu

## **Miscellaneous**

### **Academic Year Holidays and Religious Days of Special Observance**

Please 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://oe.uic.edu/docs/ReligiousHolidaysAY20162018.pdf>

### **Cheating & Plagiarism**

Plagiarism occurs when you use someone else's text or ideas in your writing without citing that person as a reference. **No form of cheating will be tolerated.** If you cheat on any exam or assignment in this class, you will fail the entire class and I will file official judicial charges against you immediately with the Dean of Students, who will place a notice about the incident in your permanent record. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: copying or giving others test answers, plagiarism which includes copying the words of a fellow student or any other author in your papers, copying even short phrases from written work that you are using as a reference (even if you cite it properly), handing in work that you have handed in for another class, handing in papers you've gotten from the internet or from other students, etc., and copying others' discussion posts. All violations of student conduct or academic integrity will be handled according to UIC's student conduct policy: . I encourage all students to take a look at this excellent infographic on what plagiarism is and how to avoid it:

<http://bit.ly/1Ksb2pv>.

### **Accommodations for disabilities**

I will make accommodations for disabilities as indicated by the Disability Resource Center.

**Please email me a copy of your LOA within the first two weeks of the semester.** In keeping with the university policy: “Students with disabilities must provide the instructor in writing the need for accommodations and what they are. Those who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be registered with the Disability Resource Center. Please contact ODS at 312/413-2183 (voice) or 312/413-0123 (TTY).”

### **Course Communication Guidelines (Netiquette)**

**Emails and writing style:** Email etiquette is important in life. When emailing and completing writing assignments, please be sure to write using good grammar, spelling, and punctuation. You should address me as Dr. Ochoa, Dr. Galindo, Dr. Ochoa-Galindo, or Professor in email communications. Please refrain from using all CAPITAL LETTERS, as this is often interpreted as shouting

Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. As previously mentioned, it is important that we maintain a supportive learning community where everyone feels safe and where people can communicate amicably. Much of our communication in this course will take place in the forums and through email. Here are some guidelines for online communication in this course:

- Be sensitive to different cultural and linguistic backgrounds, as well as different political and religious beliefs.
- Be respectful of others’ views and opinions. Avoid “flaming” (publicly attacking or insulting) others.
- In emails, always identify yourself and what class and section you are in. It is a good practice to put your course and section in the subject line. This helps your instructor identify course related emails.

### **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](mailto:usc@uic.edu).

**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 50 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](http://www.uic.edu/depts/engl/writing) for more information.

**Counseling Services** are available for all UIC students. You may seek free and confidential services from the Counseling Center ([www.counseling.uic.edu](http://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.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE**

The course schedule, including topics and readings, is *subject to change*. Additional readings and videos may be assigned throughout the course. Changes will be announced on Blackboard.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Activity Due</b>
<b>1</b> Jan 11/13 <b>(remote via collaborate)</b>	Looking at Abnormality	Chapter 1	
<b>2</b> Jan 18/20 <b>(remote via collaborate)</b>	Theories & Treatment of Abnormality	Chapter 2	
<b>3</b> Jan 25/27	Assessing & Diagnosing Abnormality	Chapter 3	<b>Homework #1 due by 1/29 @ midnight</b>
<b>4</b> Feb 1/3	Trauma, Anxiety, OCD & Related D/O	Chapter 5	
<b>5</b> Feb. 8  Feb. 10 <b>(remote via collaborate)</b>	<b>Exam 1 (chapters 1-3; 5)</b>  <b>Culture Bound Syndromes</b>	Exam will be taken on Blackboard  PowerPoint	



<b>6</b> Feb. 15/17	Mood D/O & Suicide	Chapter 7	<b>Homework #2 due by 2/19 @ midnight</b>
<b>7</b> Feb. 22/24	Schizophrenia Spectrum & Other Psychotic D/O	Chapter 8	
<b>8</b> Mar. 1/3	Personality Disorders	Chapter 9	
<b>9</b> Mar. 8/10	Neurodevelopmental & Neurocognitive D/O	Chapter 10	<b>Culture Bound Syndrome Paper due Tuesday March 8 via Blackboard by Midnight</b>
<b>10</b> Mar. 15  Mar. 17	<b>Exam 2 (Chapters 7-10)</b>  <b>Video</b>	Exam will be taken on blackboard	<b>Homework #3 due by Mar. 19 @ midnight</b>
<b>11</b> Mar. 22/24	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>  <b>***NO CLASS***</b>		
<b>12</b> Mar.29/31	Disruptive, Impulse-Control, & Conduct D/O	Chapter 11	<b>Homework #4 Due by April 2<sup>nd</sup> @ midnight</b>
<b>13</b> Apr. 5/7	Eating D/O	Chapter 12	
<b>14</b> Apr. 12/14	Substance Use & Gambling D/O	Chapter 14	<b>Homework #5 Due by April 16 @ midnight</b>
<b>15</b> Apr. 19/21	Health Psychology	Chapter 15	
<b>16</b>			

Apr. 26 <b>(remote via collaborate)</b>	Review for Exam 3		
Apr. 28	<b>EXAM 3 (CH 11-12; 14-15)</b>	Exam will be taken on blackboard	
17	<b>NO FINAL</b>		