

PSYC 385		Psychopathology		Fall 2023	
Instructor:	Guy Pelletier	Lecture Location:	TI Forum		
Phone:		Lecture Days/Time:	R 18:00 – 20:45		
Email:	gpelletier@ucalgary.ca	TA:	TBA		
Office:	Sessional office				
Office Hours:	R 14:00 – 16:00				

Course Description

The major objective of this course is to survey the field of adult psychopathology. The course will start with an introductory group of lectures during which we will review of the concept of abnormal behavior, followed by the study of possible causes (etiology) of abnormal behavior, the classification of mental disorders, and assessment issues. The main core of lectures will consist in reviews of the psychological aspects of various diagnostic categories of adult psychopathology. Students should keep in mind that this is a survey course indented to provide basic, wide-ranging knowledge of psychopathology. This is an ambitious endeavor that will require the learning and understanding of a considerable amount of information. The course will follow the textbook relatively closely, although not exclusively. Students interested in more detailed discussions of various disorders and other related subjects will be encouraged to consider higher-level, more advanced courses.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Identify and describe biological, psychological, and socio-cultural bases of adult psychopathology.	Multiple choice exams	1	I
Describe how the understanding and classification of mental disorders evolved over time	Multiple choice exams	1	I
Identify and describe different mental disorders including their classification, causes, symptoms, and diagnostic criteria	Multiple choice exams, written assignment	1,2,4,7	C
Identify and discuss legal and ethical (e.g., stigma, stereotypes etc.) issues related to mental health/disorders	Multiple choice exams, Written assignment	1,6	I
Identify issues and methods related to the prevention and treatment of mental health problems	Multiple choice exams, written term assignment	1,2,4,7	I
Identify and compare similarities and differences between disorders and/or disorder subtypes within/between different diagnostic classifications	Multiple choice exams	1,2	C

Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles in a diverse world, 7 = apply psychological

knowledge and skills, 8 = Demonstrate multicultural competence and awareness of issues related to equity, diversity,* and inclusion. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

Course Format

This is an in-person class held on campus.

Prerequisites

Psyc 200-201 – Principles of Psychology I and II

Required Text

Dozois, D.J.A. (2022). *Perspectives in Psychopathology* 7th Ed.). Toronto: Pearson Canada.

The textbook is available from the U of C bookstore as an eBook only. This is the link to the course booklist: [https://shop.ucalgary.ca/CourseSearch/?course\[\]=UOC,F23,PSYC,PSYC385,01](https://shop.ucalgary.ca/CourseSearch/?course[]=UOC,F23,PSYC,PSYC385,01). Students have the choice between the perpetual option and 180-day option. You can either purchase the eBook from the bookstore website, or they will have cards on the shelf for students to purchase in-store. The textbook editor's website is: [Perspectives in Psychopathology \(pearson.com\)](https://www.pearson.com/canada/psychology/9780130457311/perspectives-in-psychopathology)

Assessment Methods

Multiple choice exam

Mid-term #1:

Thursday Oct 19, 2023 - 60 minutes – 18:00 PM to 19:00 PM

20% of final grade

Chapters 1,2,3,4,5,8 and corresponding lectures

Mid-term #2:

Multiple choice exam

Thursday November 9, 2023 – 60 minutes -18:00 to 19:00 PM

20% of final grade

Not cumulative-chapters 6,7,10,11,12, and corresponding lectures

Final exam:

Multiple choice exam – **Comprehensive** – with a strong emphasis on chapters 9,13,17, 18

To be scheduled by the Registrar

2.0 hours - **40%** of final grade

Cumulative, covering all readings and lecture material, with a greater emphasis on chapters 9,13,17,18 and corresponding lectures.

Written assignments:

Written assignment #1 due Thursday October 5, 2023; electronic copies in the D2L dropbox.

Written Assignment #2 due Thursday Nov 2, 2022; electronic copies in the D2L dropbox.

Overview

For **each** assignment, collect **two (2) pieces of popular media information published in the past 24 months**. The media examples you choose may include blog posts, newspaper/ magazine articles, advertisements, web pages, comic strips, photographs, advice columns, songs, TV shows, movies, or anything else that strikes you as relevant. **Note:** these should not be media examples described in the textbook, you should find them yourself. The material chosen must be directly relevant to **adult psychopathology and to concepts and ideas covered in the course (textbook, classes)**. Students may decide to choose material on topics not yet covered in class or not directly covered in class or in the textbook, which means that they may have to read ahead and/or do some extra research. **If you are not sure of the relevance of your material, please ask.**

The material chosen **must** be included with the papers. If students choose audio-visual material (movies, videos, TV shows episodes, etc.), they must include a sufficient summary or description of the material for the marker to appreciate its relevance. **1.5/10 marks will be taken off for each piece of information not included. Materials chosen from online sources must be printed and included with the papers. If only the URLs are given, it will be the marker's choice whether to look up the material or not.**

Using course material:

1) Carefully explain how each media item relates to one specific concept in psychopathology (for example; notions of what constitutes mental health and/or mental disorders, statistics on mental health, opinion pieces on mental health and its importance for individuals and society, reports on specific mental disorders, public attitudes toward mental health, treatment of mental disorders, etc.). For each item that you have collected, describe and define the concept(s) represented by the item in your own words; do not use any direct quotes, but always reference/cite where the material is coming from - **using material without proper citation is plagiarism.**

2) Discuss your media item in terms of recent research in abnormal or clinical psychology on the concept. For each media item you must also cite at least one journal article published within the past 15 years (ideally, these will be empirical studies rather than review or theoretical articles). You may NOT reference lectures directly, but you can reference material presented in lectures, just reference the direct source of the lecture material (either the textbook or journal article, **[when in doubt, ask]**). You should cover a variety of concepts. It will be best to choose media items that relate to one specific concept, idea, disorder, treatment, etc.

Your grade will be based on coherence, accuracy, completeness, and conciseness of your description of how each item is related to concepts in adult psychopathology. The written assignments should be no more than **4 pages in length (excluding references and title page)** and formatted according to APA guidelines. **Material over 4 pages will not be read, and the paper will be graded accordingly.**

In these assignments students will demonstrate their understanding of topics in psychopathology and their ability to apply this material in thinking about a current or possibly new problem. The information in the textbook or discussed in class represents the building blocks students should use to write their papers. Students are expected to read more deeply about each of the topics they have chosen. It is crucial that students cite a reasonable amount of information from their research to support their arguments in each paper. Students should use the papers to demonstrate that they have understood

concepts in psychopathology, read about the concepts on their own, and gained skills in applying the material.

Specific instructions for term papers:

- The completed assignment will be in essay format with clear introductory and concluding paragraphs.
- Essays must be double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 font, 1 inch margins.
- Length will be approximately 1000 words (4 double-spaced pages, approx. 250 words per page)
- APA style should be used for citations and reference list
- Proofread your paper for spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Your paper will be graded on style as well as content. It must be grammatical and clearly organized.
- **Include a title page with the title of the essay, your name, course name, instructor's name, and due date** (title page and reference page are not included in the number of pages and word count).
- Submit copies of, links to, or clear summaries of the **media material in an appendix** so markers can peruse or see the items you are discussing – do not use media that you cannot submit or easily describe, preferably in a short paragraph.
 - There are **two essays** due on **October 5 and November 2**, respectively. Electronic copies are due in the appropriate D2L box by **6:10 PM** on the due date or prior. **LATE PAPERS WILL RECEIVE A 10% PENALTY PER DAY INCLUDING WEEKENDS.**

Each assignment is worth **10%** of the final grade for a total of **20%**

Exams in this course are closed book. The use of resources, including class notes, the textbook, online resources, and calculators is prohibited during the exams in this course. Students may not communicate with others about course material or the exam either in person or electronically during exams.

Once approved by the course instructor, and at their discretion, alternative arrangements for missed assessments may be considered <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-2.html>. Students may be asked for documentation <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity.

Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional code of conduct and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary's reputation of excellence. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have read and are familiar with the student academic misconduct policy:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf>.

Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology course instructors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance*. An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance*. Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

B Range: *Good Performance*. Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

C Range: *Satisfactory Performance*. Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

D range: *Marginally meets standards*. Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

F grade: *Course standards not met*. Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

It is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

In this course there will be no rounding up of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation.

Tentative Lecture Schedule (including exam dates and due dates for assignments)

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
T Sep 5	First day of lectures
R Sep 7	Introduction and definitions of abnormality; Theoretical perspectives on abnormal behavior, etiology Chap 1,2
R Sep 14	Last day to drop a class without financial penalty. Theoretical perspectives on abnormal behavior, etiology Chap 2
F Sep 15	Last day to add or swap a course
R Sep 21	Classification, assessment of mental disorders, research methods Chap. 3,4
F Sep 22	Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.

R Sep 28	Mood disorders and suicide	Chap 8
S Sep 30	UNIVERSITY CLOSED National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	
R Oct 5	Anxiety, obsessive-compulsive, and trauma related disorders Written assignment #1 due	Chap. 5
M Oct 9	UNIVERSITY CLOSED Thanksgiving Day	
R Oct 12	Anxiety, obsessive- compulsive, and trauma related disorders	Chap.5
	Dissociative disorders	Chap 6
R Oct 19	Mid-term #1 Somatic symptoms and related disorders Psychological factors affecting medical conditions	Chap.6 Chap 7
R Oct 26	Psychological factors affecting medical conditions Eating disorders	Chap 7 Chap 10
R Nov 2	Substance-related and addictive disorders Personality disorders	Chap 11 Chap
	12 Written assignment #2 due	
R Nov 9	Mid-term exam #2 Sexual dysfunction: sexual disorders	Chap. 13
S Nov 11	UNIVERSITY CLOSED Remembrance Day (Observed Monday Nov 13).	
Nov 12-18	Term Break No Classes	
R Nov 23	Sexual dysfunctions: paraphilic disorders, gender dysphoria Schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders	Chap 13 Chap 9
R Nov 30	Therapies (psychological treatment of mental disorders) Prevention and mental health promotion in the community	Chap 17 Chap.18
T Dec 5	Fall Term Lectures End.	
W Dec 6	Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.	
Dec 9-20	Fall Final Exam Period	

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Dec 9, 2023**.

Seating During Exams

Instructors and exam invigilators are free to ask students to move seats before an exam begins or even during an exam. Students must comply with this request and refusal to do so may warrant a charge of academic misconduct

Absence From Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-1.html> At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

Travel During Exams

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam [Deferred Final Exams | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#) Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology psyugrd@ucalgary.ca

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed, or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without

permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright

(https://library.ucalgary.ca/services/copyright?_gl=1*bcjlpn*_ga*OTY1ODc0Njg0LjE2NjkxNTA1NTM.*_ga_X4GN9Y4W7D*MTY3Nzc5MjM3Ni4xNy4xLjE2Nzc3OTI4MDYuMC4wLjA) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

Student Support and Resources

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Thursday, September 14th, 2023**. Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, September 15th, 2023**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Wednesday, December 6th, 2023**.