



Department of Psychology
Psychology 385 (L02) – Abnormal Psychology
Winter 2011 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Dr. K. von Ranson	Lecture Location:	MFH 164
Phone:	403-220-7085	Lecture Days/Time:	MW 8:00-9:15
Email:	kvonrans@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	Administration 257A		
Office Hours:	MW 9:15-10:00 and by appt.		

Course description and goals

This course surveys the field of adult psychopathology. It reviews the concept of abnormal behaviour, followed by the study of possible causes (etiology), classification, assessment, and treatment of major forms of abnormal behavior. The format of the class will be predominantly lectures, supplemented with class discussion, group activities, guest speakers, and videos. By the end of this course, you should be able to discuss the characteristic symptoms of each major mental disorder, as well as relevant psychological theories, research findings, and treatment strategies.

Prerequisite

Psyc 205 – Principles of Psychology

Required text

Barlow, D. H., Durand, M. V., & Stewart, S. H. (2009). *Abnormal psychology: An integrative approach* (2nd Canadian ed.). Toronto, ON: Nelson Education (available in the University Bookstore).

Evaluation

Exam	Text Content	Length	Date	% of Grade
Exam 1	Ch 1-4, 14	75 min.	February 7	30%
Exam 2	Ch 5-7, 12	75 min.	March 21	30%
Final exam	Cumulative; emphasis on Ch 8-12, 15	120 min.	Scheduled by Registrar	40%

Exams consist of factual and applied multiple-choice questions, based upon textbook and class material (including videos, guest speakers, etc.). The first two exams are noncumulative; the final exam is cumulative for all reading and lecture material. Any student who fails to complete one or more exams will receive a failing course grade.

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%

As stated in the University Calendar, 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. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A, but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings
M Jan 10	Introduction; Abnormal Behaviour in Historical Context	Chapter 1
W Jan 12	Abnormal Behaviour in Historical Context	Chapter 1
M Jan 17	An Integrative Approach to Psychopathology	Chapter 2
W Jan 19	Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis	Chapter 3
F Jan 21	Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.	
M Jan 24	Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis Last day for registration/change of registration.	Chapter 3
W Jan 26	Research Methods	Chapter 4
M Jan 31	Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders – Dr. Goghari	Chapter 13
W Feb 2	Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders – Dr. Goghari	Chapter 13
M Feb 7	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4, 13)	
W Feb 9	<i>Guest speaker – Schizophrenia Society</i>	
M Feb 14	Anxiety Disorders	Chapter 5
W Feb 16	Anxiety Disorders	Chapter 5
M Feb 21	Reading days. No lecture.	
W Feb 23	Reading days. No lecture.	
M Feb 28	Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders	Chapter 6
W Mar 2	Mood Disorders	Chapter 7
M Mar 7	Mood Disorders	Chapter 7
W Mar 9	<i>Guest speaker – Canadian Mental Health Association</i>	
M Mar 14	Personality Disorders	Chapter 12
W Mar 16	Personality Disorders	Chapter 12
M Mar 21	Exam 2 (Chapters 5-7, 12)	
W Mar 23	<i>Guest speaker – Ms. Amber Cannon</i>	
M Mar 28	Eating and Sleeping Disorders	Chapter 8
W Mar 30	Eating and Sleeping Disorders	Chapter 8
M Apr 4	Physical Disorders and Health Psychology	Chapter 9
W Apr 6	Sexual Disorders and Gender Identity Disorder	Chapter 10
M Apr 11	Substance-Related Disorders	Chapter 11
W Apr 13	Cognitive Disorders	Chapter 15
R Apr 14	Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits.	

F Apr 15	Last day to withdraw.	
Apr 18-29	Final exam to be scheduled by Registrar (cumulative; emphasis on Chapters 8-10, 15)	

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence from a Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form

and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

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 **Apr 14th, 2011**.

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombuds provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

Safewalk

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund is Jan 21st, 2011**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Jan 24th, 2011**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 15th, 2011**.