

Psychology 385
Abnormal Psychology
Winter 2022

Instructor:	Dr. Keith Dobson	Lecture Location:	ICT 121
Phone:	403- 220- 5096	Lecture Days/Time:	Tuesday/ Thursday 3:30- 4:50 pm
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Office Hours:	Tuesdays 2:00- 3:15, or by appointment	Marking TA:	Jenney Zhu

Course Description

This course will provide an overview of the field of psychopathology, including a historical perspective, current classification and diagnostic systems as well as theory, research and treatment methods. Some of the topics covered will include anxiety and mood disorders, somatoform, schizophrenia and psychotic disorders as well as personality disorders. The format of the class will be primarily lectures and discussion, although video presentations will also be utilized. Discussion regarding attitudes towards mental disorders, as well as current mental health ethics and legislation in Canada will take place. A student successfully completing this course will gain an understanding of the major forms of mental disorders, as well as psychological theories, research and treatment related to these areas.

Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. This table lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see <https://live-arts.ucalgary.ca/psychology/about#program-learning-outcomes>), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Identify similarities and differences between disorders and/or disorder subtypes within/between different diagnostic categories.	Examinations	1, 2	C
Describe how the conceptualization and classification of mental disorders has evolved and continues to evolve over time.	Examinations	1,2	C
Identify and describe the biological, psychological, and socio-cultural factors contributing to the development, maintenance and understanding of adult psychopathology.	Examinations, assignments	1, 8	I
Identify and describe different mental illnesses including their classification, causes, symptoms, and diagnostic criteria.	Examinations, assignments	1,2,4,7	C

Consider and discuss ethical and social issues (e.g., stigma, stereotypes, etc.) related to mental health and illness.	Examinations, assignments	1, 4, 6	I
Demonstrate knowledge of methods related to the prevention and treatment of mental health problems	Examinations	1,2,4,7	I

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.

Course Format

This is an in-person class held on campus.

Prerequisites

PSYC 200 (Principles of Psychology I) and PSYC 201 (Principles of Psychology II), or PSYC 205—Principles of Psychology

Required Text

Abnormal Psychology: Perspectives (Sixth Edition) (2019). by David J.A. Dozois, published by Pearson Canada Inc. This text is available in the University Bookstore, or can be obtained in electronic format at <https://www.pearson.com/store/p/abnormal-psychology-perspectives>.

Assessment Methods

Movie assignment (25%): Due Monday, January 31, 2022: Students will select a movie from the list below, and write a brief review (a maximum of 2 double-spaced pages). Students will: 1) briefly summarize the plot, name the character(s) with mental illness, and identify the suspected disorder(s); 2) comment on how accurately the disorder(s) is/are depicted, highlighting correct and incorrect aspects of the portrayal; 3) identify biological, psychological and social factors present in the film that may have contributed to the development and/or maintenance of the disorder(s), or speculate on these if they are absent from the movie. Students may make other observations they feel are relevant. The completed assignment is to be submitted to the designated D2L Dropbox on or before Monday, January 31, 2022, 11:59pm. Without instructor approval, late assignments will be penalized 10% per day, including weekends. Assignments more than 6 days late will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

Students may choose from the list of movies listed below. These were chosen as they reflect different disorders, so that you can choose the topic of your own interest. If you find other ways to access these films that may be free, do let me know and I will share it with other students.

- Silver Linings Playbook (2012), available on Netflix
- The Aviator (2004), available through the University of Calgary Library
- A Beautiful Mind (2001), available at the Calgary Public Library
- Concussion (2015), available on Netflix
- Still Alice (2015), available on Amazon Prime, or rent on YouTube
- The Skeleton Twins (2014), available on Amazon Prime, Hulu

Midterm (25%): February 17, 2022: The midterm will cover content from all lectures and assigned readings (Chapters 1- 8 and 19) up until the day of the midterm. Lectures may include content that is not found in the textbook, and similarly the textbook may include sections that are not covered in lectures. The midterm exam will consist of a combination of 50 multiple-choice questions, as well as 20 short answer questions (limited to a few words). 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.

There will be no lecture on the midterm day, as class time will be taken for the midterm.

This timed assessment will be available on D2L at the beginning of class time on February 17, 2022 at 3:30 pm, and will be available for 24 hours. When you access the midterm, you will have a total of 90 minutes to complete and submit it (the length of the class plus 15 minutes to allow for technological issues). If you experience an issue that affects your ability to complete the assessment, which can include (but is not limited to) issues with technology, caregiving responsibilities, or distractions within your test-taking environment, please contact your instructor as soon as possible to arrange an alternate or (in the case of technical issues) extended time to write the assessment. If you have a formal accommodation, this will also automatically be taken into account when you access the examination, and your time will be adjusted accordingly.

Assignment 2: Due March 21, 2022: This assignment will involve reading one of two case studies provided by the instructor and responding to a series of questions regarding the case study you choose. Evaluation will be based on quality and comprehensiveness of responses to questions and evidence of critical thinking. The case studies, questions, and more detailed information regarding this assignment will be posted on D2L on or before Monday, February 21, 2022. The completed assignment is to be submitted to the designated D2L Dropbox on or before Monday, March 21, 2022, 11:59pm. Without prior instructor approval, late assignments will be penalized 10% per day, including weekends. Assignments more than 6 days late will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

Final exam (25%): Date and place assigned by Registrar: The final exam will cover content from all lectures and assigned readings (Chapters 9- 18) since the midterm; it is noncumulative. The final exam will consist of a combination of 50 multiple-choice questions, as well as 20 short answer questions (limited to a few words). 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.

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%

To determine final letter grades, 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 and Exam Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
T Jan 11	First day of lectures: Course overview and historical concepts of abnormality
R Jan 13	Theoretical perspectives of psychopathology
T Jan 18	Classification and diagnosis
R Jan 20	Mental disorders and the law Last day to drop a class without financial penalty
F Jan 21	Last day to add or swap a course
T Jan 25	Measurement and research in psychopathology
R Jan 27	Anxiety and related disorders
F Jan 28	Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.
M Jan 31	Assignment 1 due
T Feb 1	Anxiety and related disorders
R Feb 3	Dissociative, somatic and related disorders
T Feb 8	Psychological factors affecting health

R Feb 10	Mood disorders
T Feb 15	Mood disorders
R Feb 17	Midterm Day: Chapters 1 – 8; 19 and lectures
M Feb 21	Family Day no Classes
Feb 22-26	Term Break No Classes
T Mar 1	Psychotic disorders
R Mar 3	Eating disorders
T Mar 8	Substance- related and addictive disorders
R Mar 10	Personality disorders
T Mar 15	Sexual and gender identity disorders
R Mar 17	Neurodevelopmental disorders
M Mar 21	Assignment 2 Due
T Mar 22	Disorders of childhood and adolescence
R Mar 24	Disorders of childhood and adolescence
T Mar 29	Aging and mental health
R Mar 31	Treatment of mental disorders
T Apr 5	Treatment of mental disorders
R Apr 7	Prevention and mental health promotion
T Apr 12	Prevention and mental health promotion; review Last day of Lectures and last day to withdraw from a winter term half course Last Day to earn course credits for research participation
Ap 19-29	Final Exam Period; Final exam scheduled by the Registrar

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 **Tuesday, April 12, 2022**.

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/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Supporting Documentation

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/ documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, or a statutory declaration. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

A Statutory Declaration requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths (see ucalgary.ca/registrar). It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus, see ucalgary.ca/registrar. Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor. Students who miss a test/exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. It's the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up 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. 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

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. 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/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

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 (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) 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

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 City of Calgary is also home to the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta and Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

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, Thursday, January 20, 2022**. Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, January 21, 2022**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Tuesday, April 12, 2022**.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>