

Psy 3604 Abnormal Psychology (3 cr.) (call # 12480) Fall 2003
Class Meetings: 2:30-3:45 p.m. TTh, 325 Science Classroom Building

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Teaching Staff

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Course Description

This course will provide a broad survey of various aspects of abnormal behavior. Emphasis will be placed on an empirical view. The bulk of the course will cover the various categories of adult and child psychopathology. The lectures will focus primarily on a description of various forms of psychopathology. While assessment and treatment will be considered as they relate to specific disorders, those with primary interests in treatment should take other offerings (Psy 3607, Survey of Clinical Intervention Methods), likewise for assessment, treatment, and other issues in clinical psychology (Psy 3617, Introduction to Clinical Psychology).

Text

V. M. Durand & D. H. Barlow. *Abnormal Psychology: An Introduction (2nd ed.)*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole, 2000.

Note: Helpful study aids can be found at the web site devoted to this book
<http://psychstudy.wadsworth.com/book/durandbarlowintro2e/index.html>

ClassWeb site

The class web site (URL will be <http://www.psych.umn.edu/psycourses/GroveW>, but this may not be set up as of this writing) contains this syllabus in its most current form, the instructor's notes, overheads, and handouts for each lecture, and other noteworthy information. If you experience problems with the web site (e.g., server down, broken links, missing content), please contact the instructor or his designated T.A. (to be named).

Exams and Grading

There will be three NON-CUMULATIVE exams, each worth 50 points. Each exam will cover all material covered up to the date of that exam, including readings and lectures. The exams will be multiple choice, about 2/3 based on readings and 1/3 on lecture. You will not do well on the exams if you do not study very carefully. ALL questions regarding the exams (including content, scheduling, make-up exams, missed exams, concerns about scores, and grading) should be addressed to course T.A.s Any questions you may have about the grading of your exam **MUST** be brought up within two weeks of the date of its administration. All tests are copyrighted and are the property of the instructor. **DO NOT** take tests from the classroom.

Your letter grade will be determined as follows: The 3 students with the highest total scores on the 3 exams will have their scores averaged. This average will then be treated as a "perfect" score, and given a percentage score of 100%. Students will receive a percentage score based on their raw score, by comparing it to the "perfect" score.

85% (of perfect score) and above = A
75-84% = B
65-74% = C
55-64% = D
below 55% = F

For example, suppose that the 3 exams (totaling 180 possible points) yielded scores such that the top three students' total scores averaged 162. 85% of 162 is 137.7, and therefore all students receiving test totals of 137.7 or above would receive an A. (This is an example, not a guarantee; the exact numbers will vary from term to term, depending

on top students' performances.) Hence, you are NOT being graded on a curve; it is possible for every student to get an A. Students who take the course S-N must earn a grade of "C" to pass the course. Minus and plus grades (e.g., B+, C-) will not be given in this class. There is no extra credit of any kind. The instructor reserves the right to adjust the cutpoints given above, but only so as to improve student grades.

Difficulties; Withdrawing from the Course

By itself, a poor exam score will NOT get you permission to drop the course. If you choose to withdraw, do so before the date on which the instructor's signature is required (see University Course Schedule for deadline). Incompletes ("I" grades), followed by retaking the course during another term to finish, will NOT be given except under the most unusual of circumstances. If you are experiencing difficulties in the course, talk to a T.A. as soon as you realize it, and if at all possible BEFORE you get a low test score.

Missed Classes and Exams

You are encouraged but not required to attend lectures. In the unfortunate event that you have to miss a class, you will have to borrow notes from another class member; don't ask the instructor or T.A. to copy notes/overheads or e-mail them. There are FEW acceptable reasons for missing an exam. Make-up exams will be offered only to those who obtain permission IN ADVANCE from the T.A., who have a significant illness documented by a letter from a physician (or D.O.), who have an extremely serious family problem (e.g., death of a family member), or who have another very serious impediment (e.g., jury duty, delivery of a baby, National Guard call-up, etc.). Students who miss an exam without satisfying one of these conditions will receive a ZERO for that exam. Arrangements to take a missed exam MUST be made within ONE WEEK of the exam date. Any make-up exams offered may be of a different format than the in-class exam, e.g., they may have oral or essay questions. Missed make-up exams will be graded as ZERO, and will NOT be rescheduled. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE POLICIES STATED HERE.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	September 3 September 5	Introduction; Theories Theories/Classification	Chapter 1, Chapter 2 Chapter 2, Ch. 3 (pp. 61–84)
2	September 10 September 12	Classification Anxiety Disorders I	Chapter 3 (pp. 61–84) Chapter 4
3	September 17 September 19	Anxiety Disorders II Somatoform Disorders	Chapter 4 Chapter 5 (through p. 156)
4	September 24 September 26	Dissociative Disorders Personality Disorders I	Chapter 5 (pp. 158–end) Chapter 11
5	October 1 October 3	Personality Disorders II Personality Disorders III/Review	Chapter 11 Chapter 11
6	October 8 October 10	Exam 1 Schizophrenia I	Chapter 12
7	October 15 October 17	Schizophrenia II Schizophrenia III	Chapter 12 Chapter 12
8	October 22 October 24	Mood Disorders I Mood Disorders II	Chapter 6 Chapter 6
9	October 29 October 31	Mood Disorders III Substance-Related Disorders I	Chapter 6 Chapter 10
10	November 5 November 7	Substance-Related Disorders II Substance-Related Disorders III	Chapter 10 Chapter 10
11	November 12 November 14	Exam 2 Sleep Disorders	Chapter 8 (pp. 262–275)
12	November 19 November 21	Sleep Disorders/Eating Disorders Eating Disorders	Chapter 8 (see above/below) Chapter 8 (pp. 246–262)
13	November 26 <i>November 28</i>	Cognitive Disorders <i>HOLIDAY — No class</i>	Chapter 13 (pp. 430–451)
14	December 3 December 5	Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders Childhood Disorders I	Chapter 9 Chapter 13 (through p. 430)
15	December 10 December 12	Childhood Disorders II Catch up day, review day, or both	Chapter 13 (through p. 430) Nothing additional
	December 19	FINAL EXAM, 10:30am-12:30pm	

Note that not all chapters of the text will be covered. Note that this is a TENTATIVE schedule of topics. A specific week's or day's topics may change, and it is the student's responsibility to become informed of any changes, as well as any other announcements or information disseminated in class.