

**SYLLABUS: INTRODUCTION TO ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGY 2312, Spring 2016**

Meetings: Tuesdays, 6:00PM to 8:50PM, Education Building Room 313

Instructor: Donna Nesbit-Veltri, Ph.D., Telephone 915-867-4644, DAVeltri@Utep.edu
Since I work full time, and do not have an office at UTEP, I will not have office hours during the week. I can meet by appointment on weekends, but my Teaching Assistant will also have regular office hours.

Text: Ronald J. Comer (2015). *Abnormal Psychology* (9th edition. DSM-5 Update Edition). New York: Worth Publishers. (ISBN-13 978-1-4641—7170-3) (ISBN-10: 1-4641-7170-X)

Class Schedule – Any changes will be announced in class or by email

January 19, Introduction to Course, Review of Syllabus, Chapter 1, Abnormal Psychology P&P

January 26, Chapter 4, Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment

February 2, Chapter 5, Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders

February 9, Chapter 6, Disorders of Trauma and Stress

February 16, Chapters 7, Depressive and Bipolar Disorders and 8, Treatments for Depressive and Bipolar Disorder

February 23, Chapter 9, Suicide

March 1, MIDTERM EXAM, Chapter 11, Eating Disorders

SPRING BREAK

March 15, Chapter 10, Disorders Featuring Somatic Symptoms

March 22, Chapters 12, Substance Abuse and Addictive Disorders, Chapter 14, Schizophrenia

March 29, Chapter 15, Treatments for Schizophrenia and Other Severe Mental Disorders, In class activity

April 5, Chapter 16, Personality Disorders

April 12, In class activity, Chapter 13, Disorders of Sex and Gender

April 19, Chapter 17, Disorders Common Among Children and Adolescents

April 26, Chapter 18, Disorders of Aging and Cognition

May 3, Chapter 19, Law, Society and the Mental Health Profession

Course Objectives:

Students will understand and be able to identify:

1. The fundamental **definitions of abnormal behavior**
2. The format and underlying logic of the **DSM-IV diagnostic classification system**
3. Defining **features of major DSM-IV disorders**
4. The **causes or proposed causes** of selected disorders according to the leading theoretical models
5. Methods of **treatment, intervention, and assessment** of psychological disorders
6. Role of the **scientific method** in understanding and treating psychological disorders

Attainment of these objectives will be assessed through quizzes and midterm and final examinations.

Grading:

1. There will be 12 **quizzes**. You may miss or drop two of these. Together the remaining 10 quizzes will count for 50% of your total grade. Students who arrive more than five minutes after the beginning of a quiz (a) will not be allowed to take it, and (b) will be considered to have missed the quiz.
2. There will be a **midterm exam** on March 1, during the regular class time. It will cover everything studied in the course up until that date. Most questions will be about the readings, but some will be from lectures. The midterm will count for 25% of your grade.
3. There will be a **final exam** as scheduled on finals week by UTEP. It will cover everything studied in the course after the midterm. The final will count for 25% of your grade.

Students who arrive more than ten minutes after the beginning of the midterm or the final will not be allowed to take the test and will be considered to have missed it.

- a. There are no **make-up exams** for the midterm or final without prior arrangement. If you will miss the midterm or final, you must make arrangements BEFORE it is given. If you miss it without making prior arrangements, you will receive a failing grade for that test.
4. **Helpful hint:** The quizzes are intended to keep you up-to-date on the readings, and to help prepare you for the exams. They will cover the lecture and readings from the previous week. The Midterm and Final will cover a combination of material from the readings as well as material that may have been covered in class lectures.

The quizzes, midterm and the final are multiple choice, and students must bring their own scantrons (green) and a number 2 pencil to class.

5. If you want to get in touch with me or set an appointment, the best way is to send me an e-mail at daveltri@utep.edu. I will only be able to set appointment on weekends, as I do not have an office at UTEP and I work full time during the week. My Teaching Assistant will have office hours, to be announced, to assist you.
6. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass

