

SYLLABUS: ADVANCED ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY, PSY4312 CRN 1876
Thursdays, 6:00PM -8:00PM, LART 205

Instructor: Donna Nesbit-Veltri, Ph.D., Telephone 915-867-4644

If you want to get in touch with me or set an appointment, the best way is to send a text message to my personal telephone number as noted above. If the communication is not urgent, please e-mail at daveltri@utep.edu. The best time to meet would be just prior to class or if brief, after class. My Teaching Assistant will have office hours, to be announced, to assist you.

****TEACHING ASSISTANT, TO BE ANNOUNCED***

TEXTBOOKS: Psychopathology: History, Diagnosis and Empirical Foundations, Second Edition, Craighead, W.E., Miklowitz, D.J., Craighead, L.W. (2013) John Wiley and Sons, ISBN: 978 -1-118-10677-8 (cloth)

Desk Reference to the Diagnostic Criteria from DSM-5™ (2013), American Psychiatric Association, ISBN: 978-0-890-42556-5

Class Schedule – (tentative)

The Chapters associated with the topics should be read prior to class and you should arrive ready for discussion. Material covered in class will not be restricted to book chapters but if additional reading is required you will be notified.

August 25: Review Syllabus and course requirements, Introduction to course.
September 1: Issues in Diagnosis (Chapter 1) Drawing for presentations
September 8: Mood Disorders (Chapters 8, 9, Major Depressive Disorder, PDD)
September 15: Mood Disorders (Chapter 10, Bipolar) Presentations begin
September 22: Mood Disorders, In class documentary (Essay Exam#1)
September 29: Anxiety Disorders Reflection paper due on documentary (Chapter 3 OCD)
October 6: Anxiety Disorders (Chapters 4 and 6, GAD and Panic Disorder)
October 1: Stressor related Disorders and PTSD (Chapter 7)
October 20: Stressor related Disorders and PTSD (In class materials on the use of PTSD as a legal defense)

October 2: Reflection paper due on PTSD as a legal defense, Schizophrenia and Psychosis Spectrum (Chapter 11)

November 3: Schizophrenia and Psychosis Spectrum (Chapter 11)

November 10: Essay Exam #2, Personality Disorders (Chapters 14 and 16)

November 17: Personality Disorders (Chapters 14 and 16)

December 1: Papers due today. Personality Disorders (Chapters 14 and 16)

Finals week: Final Essay Exam on scheduled finals day will cover Personality Disorders.

Course Objectives:

This course is an honors course, and as such, involves activities which require a deeper understanding and analysis of the material than an introductory course. By the end of the course you will achieve the following objectives:

- An in-depth, complex understanding of the presentation of the disorders covered, and subtleties of differential diagnosis.
- Knowledge of current empirical research regarding evidence-based treatments for the diagnoses covered.
- A thoughtful and critical understanding of the importance of being able to understand, challenge and analyze information regarding these disorders in everyday life, rather than just accepting what the popular media presents.
- To have an understanding of the material appropriate at an honors program course level to focus on possible directions for future research.
- An ability to express the above understanding verbally and writing.

Grading:

Your grade will be based on the following evaluation opportunities:

1. Class presentation: Each student will present a journal article which will be associated with a class topic. There will be 25 possible points for this presentation. The time allotted for each presentation will be approximately 15 to 20 minutes. You will be evaluated on your presentation on a number of variables, which will be communicated to you in advance, including demonstrating your understanding of the article, effective communication, and how well you relate it to the class topic. You may include video clips or other digital media to assist your presentation, but this should not take up most of your presentation time. The dates and topics will be drawn randomly.

Final paper: This paper will cover a disorder of your choice, for 50 points. You may choose any disorder, and it is suggested that you cover a disorder that we do not cover in class. This will

give you an opportunity to learn more about an area of interest that will not be covered, however, disorders covered in class will not be prohibited. The paper will be due December 1, but you must propose and have the topic cleared by me by October 27. You will need to use at least 5 book or journal references that are not already covered in the textbooks' bibliography. The paper should be between 8 and 10 pages long, double spaced, American Psychological Association format. For more information on the proper usage of the APA format, refer to: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>. Papers that do not follow the APA format will not be accepted.

2. Essay Exams: As scheduled above, 25 points each. You will be provided three questions and will be allowed to choose two of the three to answer. Scheduled as noted, any changes will be communicated. These will require information from assigned readings, as well as class discussions. They will require you to integrate information and demonstrate an understanding of readings and other presented material.
3. Reflection papers: There will be two (2) reflection papers required on material covered in class. These will be two page papers in which you demonstrate an understanding of material covered in class and explain your viewpoint regarding the material. The information and class period upon which they will be based will be announced in advance. These will count for 25 points each, for a total of 50 points. They will be due the following week after the covered class material. You will be provided information on the recommended structure of a reflection paper, and what I will be looking for in these papers.

ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED :

Make-ups for any in class assignments and examinations will not be given, with the exception of absences which are documented emergencies, at my discretion.

The four opportunities for being evaluated will add up to 200 points. Your grade will be based on what percent of the 200 points you obtain, based on the following scale:

A=90%-100%; B=80-89%, C=70-79% and D=60-69%. Anything less than 60% is an F.

This class has been designated as a Liberal Arts Honors Program [LAHP] course. It has received this designation because it features at least five of the Honors course criteria, which include student leadership, advanced readings and/or reviews, opportunities for intensive writing, opportunities for intensive research, opportunities to utilize technology, opportunities to make extensive use of campus resources, community-based experiences, pre-professional opportunities, and development of critical thinking. In broader terms, this course is honors-designated because of its creativity and/or intellectual rigor, both of which are integral components of the Liberal Arts Honors Program. No additional coursework is necessary for this course to count towards the LAHP Honors minor. If you are not a member of the LAHP, and are interested in the program, please visit the LAHP website at <http://academics.utep.edu/lahp>.

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

**Please follow all aspects of the UTEP policy regarding academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty which can be viewed in detail at <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/> . It is suggested you review the policy thoroughly to ensure you uphold these principles. Any finding of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, cheating or collusion, will be taken very seriously. **