

**SYLLABUS: INTRODUCTION TO ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGY 2312, Spring 2014 (CRN 22184)**

Meetings: Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:00-10:20 a.m., in UGLC 346

Instructor: Dr. James Wood, Psychology Bldg., Room 203
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Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 7:15-8:45 a.m. or by appointment

Text: Ronald J. Comer (2014). *Abnormal Psychology* (8th edition. DSM-5 Update Edition). New York: Worth Publishers. (ISBN-13 978-1-4641-3719-8) (ISBN-10: 1-4641-3719-6)

Readings must be completed before class on the dates listed below.

(Note: Class meets *every* Monday and Wednesday, not just on the dates listed below)

Wednesday, January 29	Chapter 1: Abnormal Behavior: Past and Present Chapter 3: Models of Abnormality QUIZ TODAY ON CHAPTERS 1 AND 3
Monday, February 3	Chapter 4: Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment
Wednesday, February 5	Chapter 14: Schizophrenia
Monday, February 10	Chapter 15: Treatments for Schizophrenia and Other Severe Mental Disorders
Monday, February 17	Chapter 5: Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive, and Related Disorders Chapter 6: Stress Disorders
Monday, February 24	Chapter 8: Disorders of Mood
Wednesday, February 26	Chapter 9: Treatments for Mood Disorders
Monday, March 3	Chapter 10: Suicide
Wednesday, March 5	MIDTERM EXAMINATION
Wednesday, March 19	Chapter 7: Disorders focusing on Somatic and Dissociative Symptoms
Monday, March 24	Chapter 11: Eating disorders
Wednesday, March 26	Chapter 12: Substance Use and Addictive Disorders
Monday, April 7	Chapter 13: Disorders of Sex and Gender
Monday, April 14	Chapter 16: Personality Disorders
Monday, April 21	Chapter 17: Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence
Wednesday, April 23	Chapter 18: Disorders of Aging and Cognition
Wednesday, April 30	Chapter 4: Testing (Re-read pages 83-98)
Monday, May 5	Chapter 19: Law, Society and the Mental Health Profession
Wednesday, May 7	LAST DAY OF CLASS.
Wednesday, May 14	Final from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in UGLC 346

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 pop quizzes and midterm and final examinations.

Grading:

1. There will be **eight pop quizzes**. You may miss or drop two of these. Each of the remaining six pop quizzes will count for 10% of your grade. In other words, the pop quizzes count for 60% of your total grade. There are no make-ups of any kind for pop quizzes. Normally, I will NOT announce beforehand when the pop quizzes will be given. However, there is one exception: ***The first pop quiz for this course will be Wednesday, January 29, and will cover chapters 1 and 3*** (Chapter 2 will not be on the first quiz).

Students who arrive more than five minutes after the beginning of a pop 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 Wednesday, March 5, 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 20% of your grade. Following the mid-term, I will inform you of your grade in the course *up to that point*.

3. There will be a **final exam** on Wednesday, May 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. It will cover everything studied in the course after the midterm. About 25% of the questions on the final will come from lectures. The final will count for 20% 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.

You will be able to access your **final grade** for this course electronically, via the Goldmine System, Touchtone Telephone, and/or UTEP student e-mails, probably around May 25. If you want to know your grade before that, send me an e-mail during finals week and I will e-mail your grade to you early.

4. 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.

5. **Helpful hint:** The pop quizzes are intended to keep you up-to-date on the readings. For example, I might give you a pop quiz on February 5 to see if you have read Chapter 14, as assigned. You would be responsible for Chapter 14 *whether or not* I had already discussed this chapter in lecture.

All quizzes, the midterm and the final are multiple choice, and students must bring their own scantrons (green) and a number 2 pencil to class. Quizzes always cover the readings that are assigned for the day of the quiz, unless the instructor announces otherwise in class beforehand.

6. During the semester, you may be asked to participate in two or three **in-class experiments**. Experimental participation is a *requirement* of the class. However, if you do not wish to participate in these experiments, you may make arrangements with the instructor to participate in other experiments, or submit a short written term-paper instead.

7. There are no opportunities for "extra credit" in this class. Your grade depends entirely on your performance on the quizzes and exams.

8. If you want to get in touch with me or set an appointment, the best way is to send me an e-mail at **jawood@utep.edu** (please don't use Blackboard to send me messages). You are also welcome to drop by during my office hours.

9. **Blackboard** for this course (on MyUTEP.edu) provides helpful information, including a copy of this syllabus, copies of the quizzes (after the quizzes have been given), advice for students who are thinking about graduate school and a career in mental health, and links to the website for your textbook. Be sure to visit Blackboard for this class regularly.

10. The textbook for this course, and copies of some videos shown in class, are available for your use at the Reserve desk of the UTEP library. Please feel free to check them out.

11. 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