

PSYC 3140 (N) – Abnormal Psychology
Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
York University, Winter 2013

COURSE OBJECTIVES/DESCRIPTION

This survey course is designed to provide an introduction to psychopathology and the study of abnormal behaviour. Clinical psychologists are concerned with maladaptive behaviour of all sorts, severity and duration. This course will review the major forms of mental and emotional disorders and the scientist-practitioners who have made important contributions and discoveries in the field. Lectures will be supplemented by assigned text readings, films, discussions and individual case study materials.

Prerequisite: Psyc 1010 6.0 with a minimum grade of C

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor:	Dr. Joel Goldberg	133a BSB
Instructor Office Hours:	By appointment	jgoldber@yorku.ca (note: no final 'g')

Teaching Assistants:

Students with last names beginning with A to Ma	Natalie Michel	nmichel@yorku.ca
Students with last names beginning with Mc to Z	Rebecca Young	becca36@yorku.ca

Teaching Assistant Office Hours: By appointment

Lectures: Tuesdays 2:30 – 5:30 Accolade West – ACW-206

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND COURSE READINGS

Nolen-Hoeksema & Rector. Abnormal Psychology (2nd Canadian Edition), McGraw Hill, 2011.

CLASS FORMAT AND EVALUATION

The course will consist of lectures and textbook readings. The final mark will be based on 10 non-cumulative quizzes, three non-cumulative tests and a cumulative final exam.

Quizzes will be based on textbook material only.

For **tests** and the final exam, you will be responsible for material covered in lectures as well as assigned text readings. There will be some overlap between the material presented in the text and in the lectures. However, there will also be specific material that will only be presented in the lectures. Therefore, in order to ensure your success in the course, you are encouraged to do the assigned text readings, attend lectures, ask questions, and participate in class discussions.

Evaluation:	Weighting towards final grade:	
Top 10 of 12 Quizzes		10 %
Test 1: (Jan 29):		20 %
Test 2: (Feb 26):		20 %
Test 3: (Mar 19):		20 %
Final Exam: (during Apr exam period)		30 %
Clicker – participation	Bonus	3%

The above course requirements and weights are final and will not be adjusted. Requests for special consideration should be directed to the course instructor, not to the teaching assistant. Exceptions **may** be made for missed tests in extenuating circumstances, provided the student presents **legitimate** and **documented** reasons for failing to complete stated course requirements. Final marks are final, and will not be adjusted in order to “boost” students’ marks into the next letter grade.

Quizzes

Students are required to complete weekly quizzes on-line. Questions will be based on assigned textbook chapters only, and not on lecture material. Quizzes will be available online for 6 days (typically from Tuesday evening after lectures to Monday evenings prior to lectures), and will consist of 5 questions to be completed in 5 minutes. Although students may refer to their textbook to answer questions, students are encouraged to review textbook material beforehand so as to be able to answer questions correctly in the time allotted.

Students who fail to complete a quiz will be given a mark of 0%. Students are given 6 days to complete each quiz, and so if a quiz is missed due to illness, browser or computer problems, or other extenuating circumstances, there will be no opportunity to complete the quiz at a later time. However, only the top 10 of 12 quizzes count towards the total quiz mark of 10%. Therefore, students may miss or skip up to two quizzes and not be penalized, as their lowest two quiz marks will not count towards their final grade. Students who complete all 12 quizzes, will have their lowest two marks dropped from their final grade.

Students are responsible for completing the Practice quiz by January 14th at 11:59 PM. Although this quiz will not count towards your grade, it is essential that students familiarize themselves with the format of the Moodle quizzing tool and ensure that any problems relating to connectivity, browser set up, etc., are resolved before Quiz 1.

Instructions for completing Quizzes

1. Login to your Moodle account at <http://moodle.yorku.ca/>
2. Select the assigned quiz.
3. **Click “save without submitting” after each question.**
4. **Click “submit all and finish” when finished the quiz.**

Important tips when completing Moodle quizzes

- The timer may run overtop the questions, so open a big enough window in order to clearly view the questions.
- Leaving the quiz does not stop the timer!
- Make sure that your browser is set to the recommended browser settings. For more information on browser settings, see: <http://moodle.yorku.ca/students/>
- If possible, use a cable connection, rather than wireless to reduce the likelihood of interruption while answering a question.
- Please be sure to allow enough time to complete each quiz. If you leave a quiz that has already started, you will not be able to log in at a later time to complete it.

Tests and Final Exam:

The format of the three tests and the final exam will be multiple-choice. You are required to write all tests and the exam on the scheduled dates. Special tests will be granted only on religious, medical, or compassionate grounds **with supporting documentation provided before or within 48 hours of the test date.**

Approximately one-third of the test questions will be based on material that was covered in both lectures and text readings. Approximately one-third of the test questions will be based on material that was only covered in the lectures and approximately one-third of the test questions will be based on material that was only covered in the text readings. Generally, the more something was discussed in class, or the more prominent it was in the readings, the more likely it is to appear on the tests.

Experiential Education (EE) – Pilot Learning Project:

As part of our classroom learning, we will be reviewing case studies and engaging in other experiential education. Specifically, to enhance student participation in the learning process, we will be using electronic ‘clickers’ which will allow us to ‘poll the class.’ If you already own a ‘clicker,’ please inform us of your ‘clicker’ ID code by emailing the bar code number to your TA and bring your clicker to the first class. For those who do not own a clicker or have not purchased one, we have a limited number of clickers to loan to students for the duration of the term. These will be distributed during the first class. Students will be responsible for returning these ‘loaner’ clickers at the end of the term. All students can earn up to 3% bonus marks, based on ‘clicker’ in-class participation. For more information about using your clicker in class, check the website: <http://www.yorku.ca/prs/students/useclicker.htm>

In addition, as part of the evaluation of the EE learning, you may be surveyed about your opinion of the process. What you say about the EE learning in these surveys will be submitted directly to the Faculty office and kept anonymous. Your opinion will not affect your grade.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

Important information for students regarding the Ethics Review process, Access/Disability, Academic Honesty/Integrity, Student conduct, and Religious Observance Days is available on the CCAS webpage:

POLICY REGARDING ILLNESS

Students may request to reschedule a test or to extend a deadline only if they have legitimate medical, religious, or compassionate reasons. However, it is the student's responsibility to:

- inform the instructor of their situation prior to, or on, the test date.
- arrange a timely makeup
- provide acceptable documentation to support a medical, compassionate or religious claim.

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that you anticipate will interfere, or that is currently interfering, with your work on a regular basis, you are encouraged to contact the Faculty of Arts Advising Centre (www.arts.yorku.ca/advising). They will document the issue and discuss possible arrangements that may be of assistance to you.

Petitions submitted on medical grounds must include a York University *Attending Physician's Statement* form. This form is to be completed and signed by your physician. The Attending Physician's Statement must give the full name, mailing address and telephone number of the attending physician. Note: The Physician's office may be contacted to verify that the forms were in fact completed by the physician. Only original medical documentation will be accepted.

POLICY REGARDING PLAGERISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of, and avoiding the occurrence of, plagiarism and other academic offenses. Students are urged to read the section on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty in the Academic Calendar at <http://www.psych.yorku.ca/cal/acadDishon.html>.

Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it was submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate, consult your instructor or TA. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" will not be accepted as an excuse.

LETTER GRADE DESCRIPTIONS:

A⁺ Exceptional	(90 and above)	Exceptional knowledge and mastery of concepts in satisfying the requirements of the course.
A Excellent	(80 – 89)	Thorough knowledge
B⁺ Very Good	(75 – 79)	Very good knowledge
B Good	(70 – 74)	Good level of knowledge
C⁺ Competent	(65 – 69)	Acceptable level
C Fairly Competent	(60 – 64)	Adequate level of knowledge
D⁺ Passing	(55 – 59)	Slightly better than minimal knowledge
D Barely Passing	(50 – 54)	Minimum knowledge
E Marginally Failing	(40 – 49)	
F Failing	(below 40)	

LECTURE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Chapter	Quiz
Jan 8	Overview Abnormality, Psychopathology Research	1, 2, 3	Practice Quiz Due Jan 14, 11:59 PM
Jan 15	Diagnosis-Classification	4	Quiz 1: Ch. 1, 2 Due Jan 21, 11:59 PM
Jan 22	Clinical Assessment	4	Quiz 2: Ch. 4 Due Jan 28, 11:59 PM
Jan 29	Test Stress-Burnout	6	Quiz 3: Ch. 6 Due Feb 4, 11:59 PM
Feb 5	Somatoform Disorders/Anxiety Disorders	7, 8	Quiz 4: Ch. 7 Due Feb 11, 11:59 PM
Feb 12	Mood Disorders/Eating Disorders	9, 15	Quiz 5: Ch. 8 Due Feb 25, 11:59 PM
Feb 19	Reading Week – no class		Quiz 6: Ch. 9 Due Feb 25, 11:59 PM
Feb 26	Test Schizophrenia	11	Quiz 7: Ch. 15 Due Mar 4, 11:59 PM
Mar 5	Schizophrenia (cont)	11	Quiz 8: Ch. 11 Due Mar 11, 11:59 PM
Mar 12	Interventions	5	Quiz 9 : Ch. 5 Due Mar 18, 11:59 PM
Mar 15	Last day to drop the course without receiving a grade		
Mar 19	Test Personality Disorders	12	Quiz 10 : Ch. 12 Due Mar 25, 11:59 PM
Mar 26	Child Psychopathology	13	Quiz 11 : Ch. 13 Due Apr 1, 11:59 PM
Apr 2	Addictions	17	Quiz 12 : Ch. 17 Due Apr 8, 11:59 PM
Apr 6 – 23	Final exam period (There will be a final exam in this course)		