COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course provides an overview of the etiology, symptomology, and treatment of the major clinical disorders. Students will be asked to consider the historically and socially constructed nature of mental illness. The examination of mood, psychotic, and personality disorders, as well as developmental and neurological problems will also be covered. Additionally, identity problems, anxiety conditions, and learned (phobias, substance abuse, cultural deprivation, etc.) patterns of abnormal behaviour will be studied. Overall, this course is designed to provide you with an introduction to adult psychopathology and to develop your ability to think critically about issues pertaining to mental health.

Course Director: Jennifer Lewin
Office: 142 Behavioural Sciences Building
Office Hour: Wednesdays 5-6pm
Email: jlewin@yorku.ca
Course website: moodle.yorku.ca
Teaching Assistants: James Watson Gaze & Linda Moradzadeh

Accessing the course website:
You will need a Passport York account to access the course website. When you type in “moodle.yorku.ca”, you will be asked immediately for your username and password information (Passport York account information) in the top right hand side of the page. After entering this information, your list of courses that use moodle will appear, click on “HH/PSYC3140 Q - Abnormal Psychology (Winter 2012-2013)”. You will then be logged into the psyc3140Q course website.

How to reach your instructor or teaching assistant

The method for contacting teaching assistants to ask questions about the textbook material is to post your questions on the public forum on the course website. When posting questions regarding textbook material, please be specific and provide page numbers. The TAs will be able to provide better answers if you are specific with your questions. This is a public forum for students to post questions and obtain answers from teaching assistants regarding class material. Your posted questions will be answered within a 24-hour period.

The best method to contact the instructor is via email (jlewin@yorku.ca). Please limit the content of these emails to personal issues (e.g., indicating you will be missing a test due to illness or death in family, requests to use alternate exam centre, etc.) or
administrative issues (e.g., not enrolled in course, difficulty logging onto course website, etc.).

**Prerequisites:** Psyc 1010 6.0 with a minimum grade of C.


---

**COURSE FORMAT AND EVALUATION**

This correspondence course will consist of three non-cumulative tests based solely on textbook readings.

**Evaluation:**
1) Test 1: Sunday, February 10, 6 to 8:50pm, location TBA 30%
2) Test 2: Sunday, March 17, 6 to 8:50pm, location TBA 35%
3) Test 3: TBA, during exam period: April 10 to April 26, 2013 35%

The above course requirements and weights are final and will not be adjusted. Final marks are final and will not be adjusted in order to “boost” students into the next letter grade.

**TESTS**

Both tests will have a similar format, consisting of multiple choice, short answer (e.g., fill in the blank), and short essay (i.e., 2 to 3 paragraph answers) questions. Tests will be comprised of 60 to 70 multiple-choice questions, 10 to 15 short answer, and 2 to 3 short essay questions, which will be based solely on assigned textbook readings. Students will be given 170 minutes to complete tests. Some sample multiple-choice questions will be posted on the course website before Test 1 only, 1 week before Test 1. As there is no lecture component, it is easy to get behind in this course. It is imperative that all students keep up with course content, and be prepared to write exams on time. Students are required to write all tests on the scheduled dates. Special, makeup test dates will be granted only on religious, medical, or compassionate grounds (e.g., death in the family) with appropriate documentation provided. Please see the “Religious Observance Policy” and/or “Policy for Missed Tests and Examinations” sections for more information regarding protocol and documentation requirements. Tests will not be
returned to students. Tests can be viewed by making an appointment with the course director. Cheating will not be tolerated; please see the note on the avoidance of academic offences near the end of this syllabus.

Test 1 will be held on Sunday, February 10, 2013 from 6pm to 8:50pm, location to be announced (TBA).

**SENATE POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY**

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 (www.arts.yorku.ca/honesty/index.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. In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer’s words or ideas. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgments necessary in academic papers: in using another writer’s words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer; in adopting another writer’s ideas, you must acknowledge that they are his/hers. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate, consult your TA. A claim that “you didn’t know it was wrong” will not be accepted as an excuse.

Any case of suspected academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accord with the procedures and regulations set down by the University Senate. The definition of dishonesty and the penalties and procedures for judging cases are described in the Calendar.

**EXTRA CREDIT OPTION**

You can earn 1% extra credit by completing the academic integrity survey online (www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity). The Academic Integrity Tutorial is designed to help you learn about issues of academic integrity. It explores plagiarism and related matters with case examples and positive strategies you can use to improve your academic efforts. Once you have completed the tutorial and the self-test, please bring in a copy of your score sheet (100% on the test) to Test 1, Test 2, or Test 3, a 1% bonus will be given to your overall grade in the course. Your score sheet will not be accepted any other time or under any other circumstances, no exceptions!

**RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE POLICY**

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs of all members of the community and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for in-class examinations pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first two weeks of class to schedule alternate arrangements. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or
time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods, students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained from the Registrar’s Office (http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf).

POLICY FOR MISSED TESTS AND EXAMINATIONS
1. The student must contact the course director in-person or by e-mail within 48 hours of the missed test. Be sure to clearly state your name, student number, course, and indicate the best method to contact you (e.g., email address or phone number) regarding the official make-up date and time. Please refer to the course website as well.
2. Appropriate documentation verifying the circumstances for the missed examination must be provided at the MAKE-UP test. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of F for the missed test.
   a. Tests or examinations missed on the grounds of medical circumstances must be supported by an Attending Physician’s statement or a statement by a Psychologist or Counselor. The Physician’s statement must include: (i) full name, mailing address and telephone number of the physician on official letterhead; (ii) the nature of the illness and its duration (i.e., specific dates covered); and, (iii) indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have SERIOUSLY affected the student’s ability to study and perform over the period in question. Note: The physician’s office may be contacted to verify the information provided.
   b. Tests or examinations missed on the grounds of non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation (i.e., death certificates, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/train/bus ticket/receipts with date of booking on ticket, etc.). Airline/train/bus ticket/receipts for emergency travel must indicate destination, departure and return dates.
3. In the case of a make-up test/exam, the student must be prepared to write within one week following the missed test. It is the student’s responsibility to check with the instructor as to the date/time of the make-up. The official make-up for Test 1 has been set for Sunday, February 24, 2013 from 6 to 8:50pm location TBA. A conflict with another course during the time of the make-up is not an acceptable reason for missing the make-up. If a student misses the set make-up test date on reasonable grounds (see points a and b above) then the student needs to obtain additional appropriate documentation. Also, you need to contact the course director/instructor within 48 hours of missing the make-up test to have the opportunity to reschedule. Missed make-ups must be supported by appropriate documentation (see points A and B above). Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of F on the missed test. For those students that miss Test 2 – the same procedure needs to be followed to be able to write the makeup for test 2. Those students that miss Test 2 will write during the scheduled make-up test date. The official makeup for Test 2 will be on Sunday, March 24 from 6-8:50pm in TBA.

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, you should contact the Faculty of Arts Advising Centre (http://www.arts.yorku.ca/advising/). Problems may then be documented and possible
arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis.

TENTATIVE ASSIGNED READINGS and IMPORTANT DATES

Week of January 7:   Chapter 1: Abnormal Behaviour in Historical Context

Week of January 14: Chapter 2: An Integrative Approach to Psychopathology

Week of January 21: Chapter 3: Clinical Assessment & Diagnosis  
Part of Chapter 4: pg. 104-115: Research Methods

Week of January 28: Chapter 5: Anxiety Disorders

Sunday, February 10: Test 1, 6-8:50pm : Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 (pgs. 104-115) & 5

Week of February 11: Chapter 6: Somatoform & Dissociative Disorders

Week of February 16: ******* Reading Week *******

Week of February 25: Chapter 7: Mood Disorders

Week of March 4: Part of Chapter 8: pg. 268-293: Eating & Sleep Disorders  
Chapter 10: Sexual Disorders & Gender Identity Disorder

Friday, March 15: Last day to drop course without receiving a grade***

Sunday, March 17: Test 2, 6-8:50pm: Chapters 6, 7, 8 (pg. 268-293), & 10

Week of March 18: Chapter 11: Substance-related Disorders

Week of March 25: Chapter 12: Personality Disorders

Week of April 1: Chapter 13: Schizophrenia & Other Psychotic Disorders  
Part of Chapter 14: (pg. 512-532): Developmental Disorders

April 10-26: Test 3: Chapters 11, 12, 13, & 14 (pg. 512-532)

NOTE: The exam schedule for the winter term should be released near the end of February. As soon as I know, I will post the final exam date, time, and location on the course website.