

**YORK UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
FACULTY OF HEALTH
HH/Psyc 3140 3.0 A: ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
COURSE DIRECTOR: DR. STEPHEN FLEMING
FALL: 2011**

COURSE OUTLINE

Welcome to Abnormal Psychology!

Course Description:

The first section of this course will be concerned with defining abnormality, discussing clinical assessment and diagnosis, developmental disorders, mental retardation, physical disorders and health psychology, and substance abuse.

During the second half of the course, various syndromes including anxiety disorders, personality disorders, mood disorders, and the psychoses will be explored.

Prerequisite:

AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.0 with a minimum grade of C.

Course Instructor:

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Moodle: All of the required material (syllabus, exam dates, etc.) is on the course Moodle website. If you are enrolled make sure you've created a Moodle account

and joined the course.

Students often respond that this course is a particularly enjoyable one for the subject matter is intrinsically interesting. However, regardless of whether the format is the traditional lecture or distance teaching, the amount of material to be mastered may seem somewhat daunting. The sheer volume of information raises many questions and often contributes to increased anxiety. Hopefully the information contained in the Syllabus will allay some of your anxiety (if you want to read about anxiety disorders, see chapter 5).

As you may be aware, the text for the course is:

Barlow, D.H., Durand, V.M., & Stewart, S. (2009). Abnormal psychology: An integrative approach. (2nd Canadian Edition). Toronto: Nelson. ISBN 978-0-17-644151-7. **(Please note that an Abnormal Psychology text by Durand & Barlow is in print; do *not* purchase this text. The examinations will be based on the Barlow, Durand, & Stewart book (2nd edition)- do not purchase any other).**

Consulting the Course Outline and Reading List, you will see there are a series of weekly topics and, for each topic, required and recommended readings from the text. You will also notice three important dates. The first is the **orientation meeting** which will be held on the York campus, Friday, September 9, from 6-7 p.m., in ACE 001. At this time you will have the opportunity to meet the Course Director along with the teaching assistants and your fellow students. There are **three examinations**, one on Friday, September 30 from 7-9 p.m. and the second on Friday, November 11, from 7 - 9 p.m. Both of these examinations will be held in ACW 109. The final examination will be held during the examination period, December 8 - 22 (exact date, location, and time TBA).

All examinations will be composed of 100 multiple-choice questions drawn from the *required* readings only. Chapters designated as recommended are for your information and enrichment; this material will not appear on the examinations. The first exam will be based on readings to that point in time; similarly, for the final exam, you will be responsible only for those chapters assigned for the preceding five weeks. Each examination will be worth 1/3 of the final grade. Since computer-scoring sheets will be used, please bring a pencil and eraser, and remember that students are *required* to bring photo ID in the form of their York card to each exam.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING LIST

Week of September 7

Chapter 1

Friday, September 9	Orientation
Week of September 12	Chapter 2.
Week of September 19	Chapter 3 (Recommended, Chapter 4)
Week of September 26	Chapters 11 & 14
Friday, September 30	Examination #1 Ch. 1, 2, 3, 11, 14
Week of October 3	Chapter 8
<i>Week of October 10</i>	<i>Reading week</i>
Week of October 17	Chapter 9 & 15
Week of October 24	Chapter 10
Week of October 31	Chapter 12
Friday, November 4	Examination #2 Ch. 8, 9, 10, 12, & 15
Week of November 7	Chapter 5
Week of November 14	Chapter 6
Week of November 21	Chapter 7
Week of November 28	Chapters 13 & 16
December 6	Classes end
December 8 – 22	Final examination Ch. 5, 6, 7, 13, & 16

Missed Examinations:

According to University Policy, medical problems or exceptional circumstances are the only legitimate reasons for missing an exam. If this should occur, you must contact the teaching assistant or the course director within 48 hours. If you do not speak to a person directly you must leave a message. Clearly state your name, your student number, the name and number of the course, and a number/time at which you can be reached. If you are unable to contact someone during this 48-hour period, documentation accounting for the delay must be

provided. Documentation verifying the reason for the missed exam (see below) must be provided prior to sitting the make-up examination. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of 0 on the exam.

Examinations missed for medical reasons must be supported by an Attending Physician Statement or a Statement by a Psychiatrist/Psychologist or Counsellor. The Attending Physician Statement must include (i) the full name, mailing address and telephone number of the physician, (ii) the nature of the illness and its duration (i.e., specific dates covered), and (iii) an indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have seriously affected your ability to study and perform over the period in question.

Examinations missed for exceptional non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation, i.e., a death certificate, obituary notice, automobile accident report, airline/train/bus tickets/receipts for emergency travel (with date of booking on the ticket), etc. Receipts from emergency travel must indicate destination, departure and return dates.

In the case of a missed exam, you must be prepared to sit the make-up within two weeks of the original examination date. It is your responsibility to check with the course director or the TA as to the date/time of the make-up. A conflict in another course during the time of the make-up is not an acceptable reason for missing the make-up (unless there is an exam in that course at that time). In addition, students who miss a final examination need to complete the Final Exam/Assignment Deferred Standing Agreement (see the Resources tool on the Moodle website). Upon receipt of all documentation, a date for a deferred exam will be set.

Grading:

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.). (For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar).

Access/Disability:

Students with disabilities (whether physical, medical, systemic, learning or psychiatric) may need accommodation in teaching style, evaluation methods, and other course requirements. Students are encouraged to notify the Course Director of their needs in a timely manner to arrange for academic accommodation.

Student Conduct:

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available on the York website <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/harass.htm>

Religious Observance Days:

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices 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 tests or examinations pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should lab, practica, workshop, etc., assignments scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course Director immediately. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained on-line at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf

It is recommended that students consult the following websites and be familiar with the their content:

Academic integrity:

<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity>

Breach of academic honesty:

http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69#_Toc89156096

Aside from the orientation evening and the examinations, we will not have a chance to meet face-to-face. Nonetheless, I would encourage you to contact either the teaching assistants or myself as often as is necessary. Aside from the orientation evening and the examinations, we will not have a chance to meet face-to-face. Nonetheless, I would encourage you to contact either the teaching assistants or myself as often as necessary.