

Abnormal Psychology (Psyc 300A 003)

Jan – April 2019

Psychology 300A (003)

Location: Buch A 104

M W F (3:00 – 3:50)

Professor: Dr. P. L. Hewitt

Office: 3404 Kenny

Office hours: TBA

Teaching Assistant: Ariel Ko (arielko@psych.ubc.ca)

Office: Kenny 1001

Office hours: By appointment

Required Text: Flett, Kokovski, Davison, & Neale (2017) **Abnormal Psychology** 6th Canadian Edition

Course Website: <http://hewittlab.psych.ubc.ca/> Slides are available. Go to “Courses”, “PSYC 300A”, enter password given in class.

General Course Outline: The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the current state of knowledge in various areas of abnormal psychology. In meeting this objective, the course will examine: (1) methods of gaining information about disordered behaviour; (2) the major theoretical orientations that enhance our understanding of deviant behaviour; and (3) the findings and concepts that have accumulated with the application of these methods and using these theoretical orientations.

Evaluation: Grades will be determined by 2 midterms each worth 30% and a final that is worth 40%. The midterms will be 50 minutes in length and the final will be approximately 2 hours in length. Each midterm will be noncumulative meaning that each test covers only material as indicated on timetable (see next page). The final will cover all material in the course but will focus mainly on material covered after the second test. The tests and final will be composed of multiple choice items, short answers (one or two paragraphs) and one long answer that will cover information from lectures, films, discussions, demonstrations, and textbook readings. Students may be required to present their student card when writing tests or exams. Not all material in the text will be discussed in the lectures and not all lecture material is covered in the text.

Psychology Department’s Policy on Grade Distributions and Scaling: In order to reduce grade inflation and maintain equity across multiple course sections, all psychology courses are required to comply with departmental norms regarding grade distributions. According to departmental norms, the mean grade in a 300-level class is 70 for a good class, 68 for an average class, and 66 for a weak class, with a standard deviation of 13. The corresponding figures for 100- and 200-level Psychology courses are 67, 65, and 63, with a standard deviation of 14. **Scaling** is likely to be used in order to comply with these norms; grades may be scaled up or down as necessary by the professor or department.

Make ups: Students unable to write a test or exam at the designated time will receive a score of **ZERO** unless:

1. He or she was unable to attend due to things such as serious medical problems (not such things as a cold, sore stomach, headache, sore back), court appearance, or death in immediate family.
2. He or she provides the TA with a letter from the appropriate professional (on letterhead with the name, address, and phone number of the letter writer) that states: "Due to [reason], [your name] could not write the test scheduled for [test time and date]." In the case of medical reason, the statement: "In my opinion, the medical problem was so severe that [your name] would have been incapable of writing the test" and the signature of the physician should appear on the letter. The UBC Health Services will not provide letters so the student should use his or her private physician.
3. He or she notifies the TA in writing before the test or no later than 2 working days after the date of the test or exam. All correspondence regarding the make-up must be made in writing to the TA who will forward information to the professor.
4. If it is determined that a student had a legitimate reason for missing the test, he or she will be required to write a make-up test or paper.

Cheating: Cheating in any form will not be tolerated in any way. This includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct at tests (i.e., unauthorized use of books, notes, or other aids, communicating with others for purposes of obtaining information, copying from the work of others, and purposefully exposing or conveying

information to other students taking the test), changing test answers once tests are marked, and handing in papers with sections prepared by others. Please review the UBC Calendar "Academic regulations" for the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. Also visit www.arts.ubc.ca and go to the students' section for useful information on avoiding plagiarism and on correct documentation. Please see attached statement of the Psychology Department's Policy on Academic Dishonesty.

Marking: If you have what you perceive to be an error in marking on your test, you may apply within two days from the day the test was handed back in writing for a re-marking of your entire test. You must explain clearly, in your written request, why it is you believe the test should be re-marked and submit it to the TA. Dr. Hewitt will determine whether the test will be graded again.

Class Attendance: Class attendance is critical, although there will be no roll call. If you miss class, you will miss important material that you are likely to be tested on. It is important to remember that material in lectures will not necessarily be contained in the textbook and vice versa.

Preliminary and Tentative Course Schedule

Section I

Introduction; Paradigms; Classification; Formulation

Test # 1 (Jan. 28th).....Chapters: 1, 2, 3, & Shedler article

Section II

Anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive, Somatic, Dissociative, & Mood Disorders

Test # 2 (March 4th).....Chapters: 5, 6, 7, 8 (No treatment related questions)

Section III

Stress Disorders, Eating Disorders, Schizophrenia, & Personality Disorders

**Final (TBA).....Chapters 9, 10, 11, 13 (No treatment related questions)
25% of final will be questions from Section I & II above**

Psychology Department's Position on Academic Misconduct

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct are very serious concerns of the University, and the Department of Psychology has taken steps to alleviate them. In the first place, the Department has implemented software that can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams by analyzing the patterns of students' responses. In addition, the Department subscribes to *TurnItIn*--a service designed to detect and deter plagiarism. All materials (term papers, lab reports, etc.) that students submit for grading will be scanned and compared to over 5 billion pages of content located on the Internet or in TurnItIn's own proprietary databases. The results of these comparisons are compiled into customized "Originality Reports" containing several, sensitive measures of plagiarism; instructors receive copies of these reports for every student in their class.

In all cases of suspected academic misconduct, the parties involved will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by the guidelines of the University. Strong evidence of cheating or plagiarism may result in a zero credit for the work in question. According to the University Act (section 61), the President of UBC has the right to impose harsher penalties including (but not limited to) a failing grade for the course, suspension from the University, cancellation of scholarships, or a notation added to a student's transcript.

All graded work in this course, unless otherwise specified, is to be original work done independently by individuals. Do **not** use Google/Yahoo/MSN Search/etc. to find articles for assignments in this course. **Do** use any of the indexes and databases listed under Indexes and Databases, Subject Resources, OneSearch or Metasearch on the Library's website at <http://www.library.ubc.ca>. (Not sure which index to use? Click HELP on the library homepage at www.library.ubc.ca or try Subject Resources.)

If you have any questions as to whether or not what you are doing is even a borderline case of academic misconduct, please consult your instructor. For details on pertinent University policies and procedures, please see Chapter 5 in the UBC Calendar (<http://students.ubc.ca/calendar>).