

# **PSYCHOLOGY 300A**

## **Behaviour Disorders**

Spring 2013

Monday evenings 6:00pm – 8:30pm

Location: Buch A102

**Instructor:** Julia Ting, Ph.D., R. Psych.  
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The best way to contact the course instructor and TA is via email. Students can expect emails to be answered **WITHIN 48 HOURS**. If students do not receive a response within this time, please assume that we did not receive the email and be sure to email again.

### **Course Objective**

The objective of this class is to expose students to a wide range of human behaviours, both ordinary and disordered. We will examine the etiology (cause and origin), symptoms, assessment, and treatment of psychopathology. The course officially begins on Monday, January 7, 2013 and ends on Wednesday, April 24, 2012.

### **Required Text**

Understanding Abnormal Behavior, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Authors: Sue, Sue, and Sue  
ISBN 13: 978-1-111-83459-3

### **Prerequisites**

Prerequisites for this course are Psychology 100, Psychology 101 and 102, or six credits of 200-level psychology.

### **Grading**

#### **Grade Breakdown**

2 exams:

Midterm – 40% of final grade

Final – 60% of final grade

### **Lecture Notes**

Lecture outlines will be available on the course website at least 24 hours before each lecture. Please note that students are expected to take notes during lectures to supplement the lecture

outlines provided on the course website. The outlines alone do not provide sufficient information to help students do well on exams.

### **Exams**

The midterm and final exams will consist of multiple-choice and short answer questions. The final exam is not cumulative though it will require knowledge of basic material learned in the first half of the semester.

Exam questions will be derived from both textbook and lecture material. Please note that a large portion of material covered in the exam will not be discussed in the lectures. Students are responsible for learning ALL lecture and textbook material for exams, even if the material is not specifically discussed in the lecture portion of this course.

**Challenges:** The exams are carefully designed to have only one best answer. However, there may occasionally be a question that is open to more than one interpretation. If so, students may submit a challenge via email. The challenge must be submitted within one week (7 days) after the exam is returned to the class and must explain how the alternate answer is as correct as the original answer. The instructor will respond with a decision to the challenge within 7 days. The following must be included in challenges (if any of these components are missing, the challenge will automatically receive no credit):

- 1) Student name and email address
- 2) The correct answer (according to the instructor)
- 3) The student's proposed correct answer
- 4) The student's justification for why his/her answer is as "correct" as the instructor's correct answer
  - Hint: Good challenges usually include citations from the text (including page numbers) or the lectures. Challenge points will not be given for arguments based on a student's own life experience, on the simple assertion that students know the alternate answer is correct, etc.

**Missed Exams:** Students who miss the midterm exam due to medical reasons or death in family will have their final exam grade adjusted to account for 100% of their final grade for this course. Please note that no make up midterm exam will be given under any circumstances.

Students who miss the final exam must contact the dean of the faculty in which the student is enrolled to request a deferred status for this course. If a deferred status is granted, students must write the deferred exam by the end of the next regular deferred examination period. Please see the UBC academic calendar's section on deferred exams for additional details.

### **Equal Access and Accommodations**

All students have the opportunity to participate fully in this course. If students have a disability or special circumstances that require additional arrangements please speak to the instructor as soon as possible. Please note that special accommodations will be provided only upon presentation of appropriate documentation of special needs (e.g. letter from doctor). Special accommodations will not be provided without adequate documentation.

**Psychology Department's Position on Academic Misconduct**

Cheating or plagiarism and other acts of academic misconduct will not be tolerated in this course. In all cases of suspected academic misconduct, the parties involved will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by the University guidelines. Strong evidence of cheating or plagiarism will result in a grade of zero 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 students' transcript. Please see Academic Regulations in the UBC Calendar for the university's policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic misconduct.

**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 14. Scaling will be used to comply with these departmental standards.

**COURSE SCHEDULE\*\***

<b>Date</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>WEEKLY READINGS</b>
Jan 7	Abnormal Behaviour Assessment and Classification of Abnormal Behaviour	Chapter 1 Chapter 3
Jan 14	Models of Abnormal Behaviour Scientific methods in abnormal psychology	Chapter 2 Chapter 4
Jan 21	Anxiety and Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders	Chapter 5
Jan 28	Eating Disorders	Chapter 10
Feb 4	MIDTERM EXAM	
Feb 11	<i>Family Day – no class</i>	
Feb 18	<i>Midterm break – no class</i>	
Feb 25	Childhood Disorders	Chapter 16
Mar 4	Substance-Use Disorders	Chapter 11
Mar 11	Depressive and Bipolar Disorders	Chapter 8
Mar 18	Personality Psychopathology Trauma	Chapter 15 Chapter 6 (pg.158 – 165 only)
Mar 25	Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders	Chapter 12
Apr 1	<i>Easter Monday – no class</i>	
	Final Exam – to be scheduled by Registrar's Office during the period of April 10 to April 24, 2013	

\*\* The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this course schedule as necessary.