

Psychology 300A – Behaviour Disorders
Section 901
Winter 2007/08 – Term 1

Instructor

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Text

Butcher, Mineka & Hooley (2007). *Abnormal Psychology* (13th Ed.) Pearson Education.

Class Location and Meeting Times

The class meets Mondays from 5:00 pm to 7:20 pm in Buchanan A204.
The first class is Monday September 10, 2007.

Course Overview

This course provides an overview of adult psychopathology. It will examine the main classifications of mental disorders from an evidence-based and biopsychosocial perspective. Coverage will span a range of topics including signs and symptoms of psychopathology, methods of assessment and diagnosis, etiological theories, psychotherapy and psychotropic medications.

NOTE: At least 50% of material covered in the assigned readings will not be presented in the lectures. For examination purposes, you are responsible for knowing material at the level of detail covered in the readings.

Prerequisites

The prerequisite for this course is Psychology 100, or 101 and 102, or 6 credits of second year Psychology. It is assumed that students taking this course already have a basic understanding of psychology topics that are normally covered in a first or second year Psychology course.

Evaluation of Performance

Evaluation will be based on performance on two examinations – one midterm and the final examination. The midterm will consist of 60 multiple-choice questions and is worth 40% of the course grade. The final examination will consist of 80 multiple-choice questions and is worth 60% of the course grade. The final examination is non-cumulative.

Course Policies

Examinations will be given on designated dates only. Students who miss the midterm examination and have documentation of a valid medical excuse will have the scoring of the final examination adjusted to account for 100% of the course grade. If the final examination is missed, students must present with documentation of a valid medical excuse to the office of the Dean of their faculty and request a deferred standing for the course. Students granted a deferred standing must then write the final examination for the course during an alternate writing period scheduled by the Registrar's Office.

Topics, Assigned Readings and Exam Dates

The Midterm Examination covers –

Topics:

Definitions and Classification of Mental Disorders
Causal Factors and Theories
Assessment and Diagnosis
Biological and Psychological Therapies

Lecture material from:

Sept 10
Sept 17
Sept 24
Oct 1

Note: No class on Oct. 8 – University Closed – Thanksgiving Day

Readings:

Ch. 1
Ch. 3
Ch. 4
Ch. 17

The Midterm Exam is on Monday October 15 (starts at 5pm; 90 minutes in length)

The Final Examination covers –

Topics:

Anxiety Disorders
Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders
Mood Disorders
Psychotic Disorders
Personality Disorders

Lecture material from:

Oct 22
Oct 29
Nov 5

Note: No class on Nov. 12 – University Closed – holiday in lieu of Remembrance Day

Nov 19
Nov 26

Readings:

Ch. 6
Pgs. 157-175 (in Ch. 5)
Ch. 8
Ch. 7
Ch. 14
Ch. 11

***The Final Exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office during the Exam Period
(December 5 to 19 inclusive; exam is 120 minutes in length)***

Department of Psychology 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 4.5 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. 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>) and read the University's Policy 69 (available at <http://www.universitycounsel.ubc.ca/policies/policy69.html>).

Department of Psychology Grade Distribution Requirement

Faculties, departments and schools reserve the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to university, faculty, department or school norms. Students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed by the faculty, department or school. The Head of the Psychology Department has informed all instructors that a normal grade distribution is required. For a 300-level Psychology course, instructors are expected to have a class average of approximately 68% and designated percentages of A's, B's, C's, D's and F's. Failure of the instructor to submit grades meeting these criteria will result in the scaling of grades by the Psychology Department to conform to these standards. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.