

The University of British Columbia:
Faculty of Arts, Department of Psychology

Course Syllabus: Behaviour Disorders

PSYC300A / Section 921

Summer 2008 / Term 1

Instructor	Bahman Najarian, PhD
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Class Location and Time: Buchanan A102; Monday and Wednesday 18:00-20:30. PSYC 300A/921 begins June 16th, and the last day of classes will be July 23rd.

Course Prerequisites: Either (a) PSYC 100, or (b) all of PSYC 101, 102, or (c) six credits of 200-level Psychology (but not 205 or 263).

Course Objectives: The course is aimed at reviewing the definition, history, and scope of deviant behaviour, with emphasis on the psychological factors that contribute to its etiology and treatment.

Course Description: The course begins with various definitions of adaptive and maladaptive behaviour, historical background of abnormal psychology, and theoretical perspectives on maladaptive behaviour. Then, various therapeutic strategies will be briefly introduced, and major classification and assessment methods of behaviour disorders will be reviewed. Through the following weeks, a wide range of maladaptive patterns of behaviour including anxiety disorders, mood disorders, personality disorders, schizophrenia, and disorders of childhood and adolescence will be surveyed.

Attendance: It is highly recommended that students attend all lectures regularly, particularly because lectures will consist of additional material drawn from sources and texts other than the assigned textbook.

Evaluation Plan: Midterm and final exams will cover material from the assigned textbook, and will include multiple-choice and true/false questions. The final examination is not cumulative (does not cover material before the midterm exam). The grade breakdown for this course will be as follows: Midterm exam (50%) and final exam (50%). The final exam will account for 100% of the final score in the course only for students who miss the midterm exam for justified reasons (e.g., valid medical excuses; documentation will be required). In any case, opportunity to re-write the midterm exam won't be granted to students. If the final examination is missed, students must present with documentation of a valid medical excuse before an opportunity for a re-write is granted. Students granted a deferred standing will write the final examination for the course during an alternate writing period scheduled by the Registrar's Office.

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>).

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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.

Required Reading: Sarason, I.G. and Sarason, B.R. (2006). *Abnormal Psychology: The Problem of Maladaptive Behaviour* (11th edition). Prentice-Hall: NJ.

Suggested Readings: DiClementi, J.C. (2005). *Abnormal Psychology's Study Guide*. Pearson Prentice-Hall: NJ.

Kring, A.M., Davidson, G. C., Neale, J. M., & Johnson, S.L. (2007). *Abnormal Psychology* (10th Edition). Wiley: NY.

Schedule:

Chapter	Topic
1	Behaviour disorders: Definitions and historical background
2	Theoretical perspectives on maladaptive behaviour
3	Therapies
4	Classification and assessment of maladaptive behaviour
5	Stress and coping
6	Bodily maladaptations
-	Midterm Exam (July 7 th)
7	Disorders of bodily preoccupation
8	Anxiety disorders
10	Personality disorders
11	Mood disorders
12	Psychotic Disorders
15	Disorders of childhood and adolescence
Final Exam: July 23rd	