

**Abnormal Psychology (Psyc 2141)**

**Fall 2006 Points: 3**

**Time:** T,Th 9:10-10:25AM **Location:** Mil 405

**Instructor:** Jennifer Cina

**Phone:** 212-854-9035 **Email:** tba

**Office:** Milbank 415M **Office hours:** Tue 10:30-12:30

**Course overview and objectives:** this course offers an introduction to the study of pathological and maladaptive behaviors and conditions such as anxiety, depression, schizophrenia, eating disorders, and childhood disorders. The focus will be on scientific, philosophical and socio-cultural issues in the study of abnormal behavior and the relationship between diagnosis and treatment strategy.

This course will provide you with a broad overview of several theories in the field of psychopathology. During this course I will a) explain the bases of contemporary theories of major psychological disorders, b) encourage empathy for people suffering from mental illness, c) inform students, as future policy-makers and citizens, about societal implications of mental disorders, d) promulgate preventive information, and e) prepare students for further graduate-level training in psychopathology.

**Required Texts:** (Available to purchase at Labyrinth Books or online, at [www.ablongman.com](http://www.ablongman.com))  
Two copies are on reserve in Barnard's library.

- Butcher, Mineka & Hooley, 13<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2007. Abnormal Psychology. ([www.ablongman.com](http://www.ablongman.com))
- Oltmanns, Martin, Neale, & Davidson, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2007. Case Studies in Abnormal Psychology. ([www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com))

I will frequently refer to the cases in the Case studies book. Please bring it with you to class.

**Special needs:** Students who may require accommodation for a specific disability must notify the [Office of Disability Services](#) and the instructor as soon as possible, but in no case later than the third week of classes (Sep. 19<sup>th</sup>).

**Exams:** Three exams (during class time) and a cumulative final (during finals week) will be given. The exams will primarily use multiple-choice format. The 3 exams during the semester will be short, approximately 30 questions each. The cumulative final will be longer, approximately 60 questions.

**Assignments:** There will be several assignments that I will hand out in class. (Right now there are four planned – I may add one or drop one). They are intended to enrich the material, providing additional viewpoints from the popular media or from film. Take notes on them, but do not submit them to me unless I ask you to. Usually, these assignments are not graded as such. Instead, references to them will be made in exams – so make sure to review them before the midterms and final.

**Office Hours:** I will be available Tuesday after class. Please contact me in advance if you wish to meet at a different time.

**Grading:** Your final grade will be based on your scores from two of the three exams (the two highest grades) plus the final exam. Here are the details: **Everyone must take the final**, and your score on the final will be worth 1/3 (34%) of your grade. Each of the other three exams will be worth 1/3 (33%) of your grade, but only two of these grades will be figured into your final grade (33% + 33% + 34% = 100%); one of the three exam grades will be dropped. Unlike the lowest of the three exam grades, your final exam grade cannot be dropped.

If you need to miss an additional exam, or the final exam, please tell me as soon as you know. If I judge that you have a well-documented reason for missing an additional exam, then I will give a make-up exam. There will be one make-up exam time scheduled at the end of the semester. Make-up exams will not be given on an individual basis. Make-up exams will be in short answer format. If you miss an additional exam or the final exam, and you have not told me ahead of time, you will receive a zero on that exam and it will be figured into your final grade.

I use the following grading scale: A = 93 – 100; A- = 90 - 92.9; B+ = 87 - 89.9; B = 83 - 86.9; B- = 80 - 82.9; C+ = 77 - 79.9; C = 73 - 76.9; C- = 70 - 72.9; D+ = 67 - 69.9; D = 60 - 66.9; F = 59.9 and below.

Once your final grade has been assigned there will be no changes made except in the case of clerical error. Incompletes will not be given to students who are not passing the course.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>Assign.</b>	<b>Exams</b>
1	9/5 9/7	Introduction History	1 2		1	
2	9/12 9/14	Causal Factors Diagnosis/assessment	3 4		2	
3	9/19 9/21	Schizophrenia	14	10 11		
4	9/26 9/28	Stress and Anxiety	5	3		9/26 Exam 1
5	10/3 10/5	Panic and Anxiety	6	2 1		
6	10/10 10/12	Mood disorders	7	7		
7	10/17 10/19	Mood continued Suicide		8	3	
8	10/24 10/26	Somatic/Dissociative disorders	8	6 9		
9	10/31 11/2	Eating disorders	9	16 17		10/31 Exam 2
10	11/7 11/9	No class Personality disorders	11	18		
11	11/14 11/16	Personality Addiction disorders	12	19 12		
12	11/21 11/23	Sexual disorders No Class	13	13, 14	4	
13	11/28 11/30	Childhood disorders Legal, ethical, & Social issues	16 18	21		11/28 Exam 3
14	12/5 12/7	Therapy Review	17			
<b>Final</b>						<b>Final</b>