



Department of Psychology
Psychology 431 (L01) – Current Issues in Psychopathology
Fall 2011 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Dr. Tavis Campbell	Lecture Location:	SH 288
Phone:	403-210-8606	Lecture Days/Time:	TR 14:00-15:15
Email:	t.s.campbell@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	A 256		
Office Hours:	By appointment		

Course Description and Goals

Discussion of current developments and controversies in the assessment, etiology and treatment of psychopathology. Emphasis will be on encouraging students to strengthen their critical thinking skills using controversial issues in the fields of abnormal and clinical psychology as a basis for discussion and debate. Course format will involve engage formal presentations/debates.

Prerequisites

Psyc 312 – Experimental Design and Quantitative Methods for Psychology
Psyc 385 – Abnormal Psychology

Required Text

Halgin, R. P. (2011). Taking sides: Clashing views in abnormal psychology (Sixth edition). MacGraw Hill, Iowa. The text is available for purchase at the U of C bookstore.

Evaluation

In-Class Attendance and Participation:

- **10%** of final grade
- Regular attendance and participation in class discussion is required and will be recorded each class.

Exams

- Exam content will be based on the assigned readings from the textbook, and on any topic covered during lecture,

In-Class Debates (2):

- **30%** of final grade (15% per debate)
- A team of 2 people will debate another team of 2 people on a contentious issue in abnormal or clinical psychology. Detailed information on the debate format and expectations will be discussed in class.
- An individual's absence from a scheduled debate will result in a 0% grade on that debate, unless a doctor's note is provided. If a group needs to switch dates, it is their responsibility to communicate with the other groups to find a date that works and

contact the instructor to approve the switch.

Midterm Exam (November 1, 2011):

- **30%** of final grade
- The material you will be responsible for includes; text chapters, readings, lecture materials (including class presentations by your peers.)

Final Exam (Scheduled by the registrar):

- **30%** of final grade
- The material you will be responsible for includes; text chapters, readings, lecture materials (including class presentations by your peers.)

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
T Sep 13	<i>Lecture begins.</i> Course overview and discussion of debate topics and debate format
R Sep 15	Round 1: Choosing of debate teams and topics. Lecture
T Sep 20	Lecture
R Sep 22	Lecture
F Sep 23	<i>Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.</i>
M Sep 26	<i>Last day for registration/change of registration.</i>
T Sep 27	Debate 1
R Sep 29	Debate 2
T Oct 4	Class Cancelled
R Oct 6	Debate 3
T Oct 11	Debate 4
R Oct 13	Debate 5
T Oct 18	Debate 6
R Oct 20	Debate 7
T Oct 25	Debate 8
R Oct 27	Round 2: Choosing of debate teams and topics

	Midterm Prep
T Nov 1	Midterm Exam
R Nov 3	Debate 9
T Nov 8	Debate 10
R Nov 10	<i>Reading Days. No lecture.</i>
T Nov 15	Debate 11
R Nov 17	Debate 12
T Nov 22	Debate 13
R Nov 24	Debate 14
T Nov 29	Debate 15
R Dec 1	Debate 16
T Dec 6	Debate 17
R Dec 8	<i>Lectures end.</i> Final Exam Prep
F Dec 9	<i>Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits.</i> <i>Last day to withdraw.</i>

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic

accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Dec 9th, 2011**.

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialsciirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no “W” notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Sep 23rd, 2011**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Sep 26th, 2011**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Dec 9th, 2011**.