



Department of Psychology
Psychology 385 (L01) – Introduction to Abnormal Psychology
Fall 2008

Instructor:	Dr. Assen Alladin	Lecture Location:	MFH 164
Phone:	403 944-1340	Lecture Days/Time:	W 5-8 pm
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Office:	403 944-1340		
Office Hours:	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.		

Course Description and Goals

Welcome to one of the most fascinating and interesting undergraduate courses. This course offers a solid understanding of the nature and treatment of major psychiatric disorders. As the textbook covers detailed background information, the focus of the lectures will be on clinical explanation and description of various therapeutic techniques, illustrated by numerous cases. The purpose of the lectures is to make the course informative and interesting.

The students will have the opportunity to observe the induction of a hypnotic trance. By inducing different levels of trance, dissociative phenomena, and mind-body interaction will be demonstrated. Students will also have the opportunity to watch DVDs of various psychiatric disorders. A day in the life of a Psychiatric Unit at Foothills Medical Centre will be described to illustrate how theoretical and scientific knowledge are translated into clinical practice.

Required Text

Davison, GC, Neale, JM, Blankstein, KR, & Flett, GL (2008). *Abnormal Psychology: Third Canadian Edition*. John Wiley & Sons Canada, Ltd.

The text is available in the University bookstore.

Evaluation

Two exams: Midterm and Final. Each exam will be for 2 hours and it will consist of 100 multiple-choice questions. Each exam carries half (50%) of the final grade.

Midterm Exam – October 22, 2008. 2 hours (based on Chapters 1, 2, 6, 7 and 10).

Final Exam – to be scheduled by the Registrar's Office. 2 hours (based on Chapters 9, 11, 13, 14 and 15).

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. However, in this course there will be no rounding up of final grades,

especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via bonus credits.

Lecture Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	CHAPTER
Sept 10	Introduction	Chapter 1
Sept 19	Last day for registration and changes of registration. No fee refunds after this date.	
Sept 17	Anxiety Disorders (Shaylyn Cunningham, MEd., R.Psych.)	Chapter 6
Sept 24	Current Paradigms and the Role of Cultural Factors	Chapter 2
Oct 1	Mood Disorders	Chapter 10
Oct 8	Video/DVD on Mind Over Body; Demonstration of Hypnotic Phenomena	
Oct 15	Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders	Chapter 7
Oct 22	Midterm Exam	
Oct 29	Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders	Chapter 14
Nov 5	Schizophrenia	Chapter 11
Nov 12	Eating Disorders	Chapter 9
Nov 19	Disorders of Childhood	Chapter 15
Nov 26	A Day in the Life of a Psychiatric (Young Adult) Unit	
Dec 3	Personality Disorders	Chapter 13
Dec 4	Last day to allocate research participation bonus credit	
Dec 5	Fall Session lectures end. Last day to withdraw.	
Dec 8 - 17	Final Exam decided by Registrar	

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 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

Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. At the instructor's discretion, a make-up exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup exam is written within two (2) weeks of the missed exam. A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician Counselor Statement.

Course Credits for Research Participation

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 **December 4, 2008**.

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 220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and still receive a fee refund is **September 19, 2008**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 5, 2008**.