

# PSYC\*2020, Course Outline: Winter 2018

## General Information

**Course Title:** Abnormal Psychology

**Course Description:** This course is designed to provide an overview of abnormal psychology including a multidimensional conceptualization of mental health, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. Topics will include an introduction to the area incorporating historical perspectives and the modern integrative approach to psychopathology. Common psychological disorders will be explored with respect to etiology, assessment, current diagnosis and classification using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Fifth Edition (DSM-5; American Psychiatric Association 2013), as well as treatment. Knowledge from related fields of cognitive, developmental, and pediatric psychology as well as behavioural medicine will inform understanding of relevant topics. Case studies and examples of actual treatment programs will be used to illustrate concepts. Emphasis will be given to broad empirical research *and* to the experiences of individuals with these disorders.

**Credit Weight:** 0.5

**Academic Department (or campus):** Psychology

**Semester Offering:** Winter 2018

**Class Schedule and Location:** Tuesday/Thursday 5:30 – 6:50pm;  
Thornbrough Building, room 1200

## Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Kristel Thomassin, Ph.D., C.Psych.

Instructor Email: Kristel.Thomassin@uoguelph.ca (please put PSYC2020 in the subject line)

Office location and office hours: MacKinnon Extension #3016

Office hours by appointment

## GTA Information

GTA Name: Katie Cherry

GTA Email: kcherry@uoguelph.ca

GTA Name: Sarah Boyle

GTA Email: sboyle02@uoguelph.ca

GTA Name: Rita Abdel-Baki

GTA Email: rabdelba@uoguelph.ca

GTA office location and office hours: By appointment.

## Course Content

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

In completing this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Explain the conceptualization of abnormality and psychological disorders using an integrative framework.
- 2) Identify the key symptoms, etiology and related factors (biological, social, behavioural, emotional and cognitive), course, and correlates of common psychological disorders.
- 3) Discuss basic evidence-based assessment and treatment of major psychological disorders.
- 4) Apply diagnostic criteria and case formulations in the assessment of major psychological disorders.
- 5) Evaluate issues surrounding psychopathology (e.g., identify myths and stereotypes) and the portrayals of mental health and illness in the media.
- 6) Show concern for individuals with mental health issues in our society.
- 7) Demonstrate appropriate academic independence, personal organization, and time management in completing assigned course tasks.

### Lecture Content:

Week	Date	Topic	Reading
1	1/9	Overview of Syllabus and Course	
	1/11	Abnormal Behaviour in Historical Context	Ch. 1
2	1/16	Integrative Approach to Psychopathology	Ch. 2
	1/18		
3	1/23	Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis	Ch. 3
	1/25		
4	1/30	Anxiety, Trauma-Related and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders	Ch. 5
	2/1		
5	2/6	Anxiety Disorders (continued)	
	2/8	Mood Disorders and Suicide	Ch. 7
6	2/13		
	2/15	Panel: Professions in psychology	
7		<b>READING WEEK</b>	
8	2/27	Midterm Review	
	3/1	<b>MIDTERM – Take at home</b>	
9	3/6	<b>MIDTERM – In class</b>	
	3/8	Eating and Sleep-Wake Disorders (Pp. 254-277)	Ch. 8
10	3/13	Health Psychology	Ch. 9
	3/15	Personality Disorders	Ch. 12
11	3/20	Feedback on midterm	
	3/22	Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders	Ch. 13
12	3/27	Ethical and Legal Issues	Ch. 16
	3/29	Neurodevelopmental Disorders	Ch. 14
13	4/3		

	4/5	Final Exam Review	
	4/13	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	

\*\*There can be shifts in the schedule, depending on the pace of the course.

### Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Participation	Throughout the semester	20%	1-5, 7
Midterm Part 1 (take at home)	Between 2/28 at 12:01am and 3/04 at 11:59pm	20%	1-4, 7
Midterm Part 2 (in class)	March 6, 2018	20%	1-4, 6
Final Exam (cumulative)	April 13, 2018 19:00-21:00	40%	1-6

### Additional Notes:

Participation: Participation in the course will be assessed through student involvement in MindTap. As we progress through the text, MindTap assignments will be assigned such as videos, quizzes, brief writing tasks. For students to get the most out of these activities, deadlines will be assigned to complete each task. Late assignments will be subject to a 5% penalty immediately and for each 24hr period after that (including weekends). Late assignments will therefore impact your final participation mark and your final mark in the course.

Midterm and final exam overview: Exam content will be based on both the readings and the lecture material. To be familiar with all of the information required for the exams, you need to complete the readings and attend all the lectures. In other words, you are responsible for all of the material in the assigned text chapters even if not covered in class; you are also responsible for all material covered in class, even if it is not covered in the text. The exams will include both multiple choice and written parts (e.g., short and long answer questions on a clinical case). Case-based questions will also be used for the multiple choice. As indicated in the schedule, course time will be used to review the material and familiarize you with the types/structure of questions on the exams.

Midterm Part 1: Part 1 of the midterm exam is worth 20% of your final mark and will cover material up to February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The midterm will be completed on Courselink at a time of your choice between February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 4<sup>th</sup>. There will not be a class meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> to allow you the time to complete the midterm. There will be no email communication about course content during this time period. While you can choose the time and date you wish to start your exam, once you login to Courselink and begin the exam, you will only have 70 minutes to complete the exam. You will not be able to attempt the exam multiple times. While

you can complete this exam “at home” and it can technically be an open-book exam, it is expected that you will work independently. There will be multiple versions of the test in order to reduce the likelihood of working with others. While you are allowed to access your notes and textbook, in order to use your time efficiently and prepare for the final exam, it is recommended that you do not plan to rely heavily on your notes.

Midterm Part 2: Part 2 of the midterm will be administered in class on March 6<sup>th</sup>. This part of the midterm will also be worth 20% of your final mark and will cover material up to February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The format of Midterm Part 2 will be short and long answer in response to clinical cases. An example of a clinical case will be offered during lecture prior to the midterm.

Final Exam: The final exam is cumulative (all material covered in the course is "fair game") but content from the second half of the semester will be emphasized. The final is worth 40% of your final mark. The final exam is a closed- book test; you will not be able to access the text, your notes, or other material during the final exam. The final exam will be very similar in structure to the Midterm and will include multiple choice as well as short and long answer questions. Please ensure that you have no conflicts in the scheduling of your various final exams.

**Final examination date and time:** April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018; 19:00 – 21:00.

**Final exam weighting:** 40%

**Missed Exams:** The only accepted reasons for missing the midterm and/or final exams are: a) medical reasons, b) compassionate reasons, and c) conflict with a religious holiday. If you miss an exam, you must provide an original copy of official documentation (e.g., a note from a doctor, program counsellor, funeral home) verifying why you were unable to write the exam within 5 calendar days of the exam or you will receive a 0% on that exam. The fact that you have several days to write the midterm exam, and can write it during a time you choose, should reduce the likelihood of missed exams. Students with documented absences for the final exam will have an opportunity to write the test during the University-wide re-write period. Make up exams are likely to be a different version.

## **Course Resources**

### **Required Texts:**

Nelson MindTap for Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach (5<sup>th</sup> Canadian edition) by David H. Barlow, V. Mark Durand, Stefan Hofmann, and Martin L. Lalumière.

The interactive platform MindTap (by Nelson) is required for this course. Participation assignments and quizzes will be administered using MindTap. When you purchase MindTap, you will be given access to a variety of resources, including an electronic version of the textbook. The hardcopy textbook is therefore not required. However, if you prefer to have a hardcopy of the text, you can bundle the textbook with MindTap. If you want to access a hardcopy version of the textbook (but don't want to purchase it), a copy of the textbook has

been placed on reserve in the library.

Previous versions of the textbook will not be sufficient in this course. Readings are to be completed before the lectures so you will derive maximum benefit and meaningfully contribute to discussion.

### **Recommended Text:**

American Psychiatric Association (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders DSM-5*. Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Publishing.

### **Other Resources:**

Courselink is used for this course. I will post an Adobe pdf file containing my draft presentation prior to class on Courselink. I will not post in any other format. The presentation outline that I post on Courselink will not include some of the slides/information that I will present in class (e.g., case studies, elaborations, questions, practical examples). It is in your best interest to attend class and take good notes. While there will be overlap between the readings and the lectures, there will also be information unique to both. Students typically report that the case examples and videos that we discuss in class are among the best parts of their learning experience in this course.

## **Course Policies**

### **Grading Policies**

Late Assignments. It is your responsibility to meet course deadlines. A degree of academic independence, as well as personal organization and time management are explicit learning outcomes of this course. Participation assignments on MindTap will have deadlines. If you are late, 5% will be deducted immediately and then for each 24 hours past the due date (this includes weekends). Please consider this policy as you develop a plan for completing the work in this course.

[Undergraduate Grading Procedures](#)

### **Course Policy on Group Work:**

All of the assignments in this course are to be completed independently.

### **Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:**

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

## **University Policies**

## **Academic Consideration**

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration:

[Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

## **Academic Misconduct**

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

[Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

## **Accessibility**

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email [accessibility@uoguelph.ca](mailto:accessibility@uoguelph.ca) or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

## **Course Evaluation Information**

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#) .

## **Drop date**

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is *Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>*. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#).

[Current Undergraduate Calendar](#)