

## PSYC 3700-001: Abnormal Behaviour in Adults

Tue and Thu, 1:00 pm to 2:15 pm  
Room 4L28, Lockhart Hall

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### Course Goals

The course catalogue entry for PSYC 3700 reads as:

This course will provide information important to the understanding of psychopathologies that occur in adulthood. Various perspectives (e.g., genetic/biological, social, etc.) and theories (e.g., behavioural, cognitive, psycho dynamic, etc.) of abnormal behaviour will be discussed. A major emphasis will be placed on current research in understanding psychopathology.

At minimum, I aim to provide an overview of the theory and research related to the development, description, and treatment of abnormal behaviour in human adults. At a higher level, I aim to introduce an integrative psychological approach to understanding abnormal human behaviour, one that includes disciplines such as genetics, pharmacology, personality and cognitive psychology, learning theory, sociology, and history.

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- describe the primary characteristics, and recognize some of the current diagnostic criteria, of some common psychological disorders
- describe some biological and psychosocial models of the development and maintenance of some common psychological disorders
- identify current best practices in psychological and biological treatments of some psychological disorders

To achieve these objectives, students will read a chapter in the required text each week and attend lectures (see sections on *Required Text* and *Grading*, below). Students will be evaluated by way of in-class tests every couple of weeks, as well as a final examination (see sections on *Grading* and *Tests*, below).

### Prerequisites for this Course

This course is open to students who have successfully completed PSYC 2102: Introduction to Research Methods. PSYC 2102 is required because the textbook draws heavily on current psychological research. **Without PSYC 2102, students are less prepared to appreciate the emphasis on the scientist-practitioner model endorsed by the authors and the instructor.**

### Required Text

The required text for this course is:

Barlow, D. H., Durand, V. M., Hofmann, S. G., & Lumière, M.L. (2017). *Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach*, Fifth Canadian Edition. Nelson: Canada.

One reason I use this text is that I am a clinical psychologist trained in the scientist-practitioner model: I value state-of-the-science research. This textbook provides excellent coverage of current research on psychological disorders, especially from a Canadian perspective. **Reading the textbook is the foundation for maximally benefitting from the lectures.** Another reason I use this text: it emphasizes an integrative approach to understanding abnormal human behaviour. It recognizes that a useful understanding of psychological disorders requires consideration of biological, psychological, social, and historical factors.

Students sometimes wonder whether it is necessary to acquire the current edition, or whether an earlier edition will suffice. To help you decide, you should find a copy of the current edition and take a look at the section in the preface that describes the changes and updates made from previous editions. My main concern would be that the multiple choice test items are drawn primarily from the text (see *Grading*, below). If you decide to use a previous edition, please be aware that the instructor will not be responsible if you miss marks on multiple choice questions due to differences between the previous and current editions. **If you opt to use an earlier edition, it will be at your own risk.**

## Class Schedule

The schedule is a guide only. Depending on time and student interest, the topics or timeline may be adjusted.

5 Sep 17	Orientation to PSYC 3700 & Ch 1: Historical Context	24 Oct 17	Ch 5: Anxiety, Trauma- and Stressor-Related, and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders
7 Sep 17	Ch 1: Historical Context	26 Oct 17	Ch 5: Anxiety, Trauma- and Stressor-Related, and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders
12 Sep 17	Ch 2: An Integrative Approach	31 Oct 17	Test III
14 Sep 17	Ch 2: An Integrative Approach	2 Nov 17	Ch 8: Eating and Sleep-Wake Disorders
19 Sep 17	Test I	7 Nov 17	Ch 8: Eating and Sleep-Wake Disorders
21 Sep 17	Ch 15: Neurocognitive Disorders	9 Nov 17 <sup>a</sup>	Ch 10: Sexual Dysfunctions, Paraphilic Disorders, and Gender Dysphoria
26 Sep 17	Ch 15: Neurocognitive Disorders	14 Nov 17	Ch 10: Sexual Dysfunctions, Paraphilic Disorders, and Gender Dysphoria
28 Sep 17	Ch 13: Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders	16 Nov 17	Test IV
3 Oct 17	Ch 13: Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders	21 Nov 17	Ch 11: Substance-Related, Addictive, and Impulse-Control Disorders
5 Oct 17	Test II	23 Nov 17	Ch 11: Substance-Related, Addictive, and Impulse-Control Disorders
10 Oct 17	Reading week – NO LECTURE	28 Nov 17	Ch 12: Personality Disorders
12 Oct 17	Reading week – NO LECTURE	30 Nov 17	Ch 12: Personality Disorders
17 Oct 17	Ch 7: Mood Disorders and Suicide	19 Dec 17	Test V at <b>9:00 am</b> in 4L28
19 Oct 17	Ch 7: Mood Disorders and Suicide		

<sup>a</sup> 10 Nov 17 is the last date to withdraw without academic penalty from this course.

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make-up work and/or examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at: <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>

Sometimes, such as when I have to be away or when I know an expert who is willing to lecture, I bring in guest speakers. If I anticipate a scheduling conflict, I will let you know as much in advance as possible.

## Grading

Grades in this course will be calculated as follows:

As 100% of grades will be based on test performance, work submitted for evaluation need not be text processed. The tentative letter grade cut-offs will be: A+ = 90.0-100.0, A = 85.0-89.9, A- = 80.0-84.9, B+ = 75.0-79.9, B = 70.0-74.9, C+ = 67.0-72.9, C = 59.0-66.9, D = 50.0-60.9, F = 00.0-49.9. All grades are tentative until approved, and can be adjusted by the Instructor, the Departmental Review Committee, or Senate.

Test I	20%
Test II	20%
Test III	20%
Test IV	20%
Test V	20%
Total	100%

## Tests

The tests will be multiple choice. **Multiple choice questions are typically drawn from the textbook.** The tests will not be cumulative. Electronic devices are neither required nor permitted. Test V is scheduled during the exam period. Students should bring photo identification with them to tests. Documented medical or compassionate reasons to reschedule tests may be considered if the instructor is notified in sufficient time prior to the test date.

## Accessibility Services

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or [accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca) to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential. <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>.

## Learning Environment

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at [www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect).

We ask that you please be respectful of the needs of classmates and instructors/professors by avoiding the use of unnecessary scented products while attending lectures. Exposure to scented products can trigger serious health reactions in persons with asthma, allergies, migraines or chemical sensitivities. Please consider using unscented necessary products and avoiding unnecessary products that are scented (e.g. perfume).

## Student Counselling

The material covered in this course can sometimes prompt students to reflect upon issues in their own lives. Students who wish to discuss academic or personal concerns further are encouraged to contact the Counselling Centre, on the main floor of the Duckworth Centre. <http://uwinnipeg.ca/counselling-centre/index.html>.

Student Counselling may be contacted at [studentwellness@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:studentwellness@uwinnipeg.ca) or 204-988-7611.

## Academic Misconduct

Students should familiarize themselves with the University's policy on academic misconduct (<http://pace.uwinnipegcourses.ca/sites/default/files/pdfs/publications/Academic%20Misconduct%20Policy.pdf>) as well as Section 8a of the Regulations and Policies document of the Academic Calendar (<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>). Be assured that my personal limits on this issue are decidedly narrow, and that **I take academic misconduct very seriously.**

Students facing a charge of academic or non-academic misconduct may choose to contact the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) where a student advocate will be available to answer any questions about the process, help with building a case, and ensuring students have access to support. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit our website at [www.theuwsa.ca/academic-advocacy](http://www.theuwsa.ca/academic-advocacy) or call 204-786-9780.