



National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

2021 Summer Program

PSY 220 Abnormal Psychology

Course Outline

Course Code: PSY 220

Instructor: Dr. Job Chen

Home Institution: Clemson University

Office Hours: By appointment

Email: zhuoc@clemson.edu

Credit: 4

Course Description: This course provides an introductory look at mental disorders, or different common ways in which emotion, cognition, and/or behavior can cause impairment or distress. Students will learn the categories and descriptions of the leading mental disorders, the different theoretical models explaining the causes of the disorders, and the empirical evidence linking biological, cognitive, emotional, behavioral, and sociocultural factors with each disorder. In addition, students will learn how mental disorders are assessed in individual cases, and the leading evidence-based methods of treatment, and how to use critical reasoning skills to apply theoretical concepts and empirical evidence to the understanding of mental health issues, including hypothetical clinical cases.

Required Textbooks: Hooley, J. M., Butcher, J. N., Nock, M., & Mineka, S. (2017). Abnormal psychology. Edinburgh: Pearson.

Grading & Evaluation:

Grades will be distributed as 90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-79%=C, 60-69%=D; and below 60% = F.

Assignments and Essays (30%) – Use the theories (at least 4) learned from this class to explain how people can cope with psychological distress introduced by COVID19. The paper has to be no



less than 500 words, and APA formatted. Grades are given based on thoughtful analyses and application of the relevant theories (40%), evidence-based argument and critical thinking (30%), and overall writing and grammar (20%). The paper is due by 12am EST, 23 August, 2020 which is 12pm Beijing Time, 24 August, 2020.

Midterm exam (35%) – will be multiple choice questions given at the end of week 2 to cover all materials previously studied.

Final exam (35%) – will be multiple choice questions given at the end of week 4 to cover all materials previously studied.

Course Schedule:

Every week, students will watch 5 videos of lecture.

Week1

Session 1: Overview and Research Approaches

Session 2: Historical and Contemporary Views of Abnormal Behavior

Session 3: Causal Factors and Viewpoints

Session 4: Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis

Week2

Session 1: Stress and Physical and Mental Health I

Session 2: Stress and Physical and Mental Health II

Session 3: Panic, Anxiety, Obsessions, and Their

Disorders Session 4: Mood Disorders and Suicide Midterm

Week3

Session 1: Somatic Symptom and Dissociative Disorders

Session 2: Eating Disorders and Obesity

Session 3: Personality Disorders

Session 4: Substance-Related Disorders

Week4

Session 1: Sexual Variants, Abuse, and Dysfunctions



Session 2: Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic

Disorders Session 3: Neurocognitive Disorders Session

4: Neurodevelopmental Disorders Final Exam

