



National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

2021 Summer Program

PSY 220 Abnormal Psychology

Course Outline

Term: June 14-July 09, 2021

Class Hours: 08:00-09:50 (Monday through Friday)

Course Code: PSY 220

Instructor: Sherry D. Molock, Ph.D.

Home Institution: The George Washington

University Office Hours: Wednesdays TBD

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Credit: 4

Course Description:

Nearly one in five people will experience some form of mental illness in their lives. Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) is one of the most common mental illnesses and is currently the second leading cause of disability. While many mental disorders are treatable, most people who have a mental illness do not receive treatment, due to lack of knowledge about mental illness, stigma, and barriers to access of care (e.g., location of service, health insurance). Learning about abnormal behavior demystifies the topic, debunks myths about mental illness (e.g., mentally ill people are dangerous) helps people reduce stigma and change our cultural norms about mental health help seeking. Learning about mental health helps you recognize that everyone has a “story” and knowing the story helps you to better understand yourself and the behavior of others.

Required Texts: Sue, D., Sue, DW, Sue, D. & Sue, S. (2017). Essentials for Understanding Abnormal Psychology and Life 3rd ed. Belmont: CA: Wadsworth.

Course Philosophy:



You and the other students are an important factor in this course, probably more than you currently realize. As your instructor, I will act more like a coach of an academic team than a traditional teacher. Consequently, you will become (if you aren't one already) an independent learner and begin your progress toward becoming a critical thinker and college graduate. Accordingly, I have several expectations that you must meet:

- You will attend all of the lectures for class.
- You will complete the group assignments on time. The assignments are designed to help you critically think about the concepts in your readings and presented in the lectures and to see the practical application of psychology in our lives.
- As I mentioned earlier, as leader of this academic team, I am eager to assist in your learning. Through the lectures, I will provide you with real-life examples and experiences. I will clarify any and all concepts that may be confusing. I will help you both in and outside of the class, when needed. I want you to succeed and I am certain that you will. However, do not expect me to teach the test, because I won't! Since you are now in college, you will be expected to rise to even a higher level of personal commitment to your learning. I want you to learn, not simply regurgitate memorized terms, and that requires a focused effort on your part. Class will be both informative and fun. Yes, fun! My goal is for this course to be a great experience in learning!

Helpful Hints to Learning

- Read the material before coming to class, answer all questions at the end of each chapter.
- Make notes about confusing concepts/material, as well as personal experiences to ask questions during office hours.
- **Get enough sleep!** Sleep is essential for success. All-nighters seldom help, they generally hinder academic performance.
- In a 4-week summer session, students are expected to spend a minimum of 2-3 hours/day reading and studying the material. Because the summer semester meets 5 times a week for 4 weeks, the course progresses at a faster pace than courses that you typically take during the regular semester. This means you must engage and review the material daily to have the best learning experience. You will not do well in the class if you do not read before coming to class. You will not do well in the class if you try to “cram” or study the material at the last minute. To do well in this class, you must study the material every day. Do not make the mistake of thinking you can wait until the last minute to cram for exams, IT



DOESN'T WORK. Do not fall prey to the idea that you cannot and will not study on weekends.

o I really am here to help. We are a team and I want my team to do well!

Course Policies

Email - Please check your email every evening. All correspondence with the class outside of normal hours will be through email.

Unrestricted Joint Effort - For any assignment presented in this course, excluding in-class examinations, you may work with anyone and use any outside sources. However, the final product must reflect your own work and ideas. Any exceptions must be duly noted through proper documentation techniques.

Respect - Please be respectful of your peers' thoughts and opinions in class. While active discussions are encouraged, part of the course objective is to learn that people have different beliefs and perspectives. You are responsible for keeping your instructor updated on any information pertaining to you regarding this course. Check your email regularly for instructions.

Academic Honesty – I expect nothing less

Course Process and Assignments

I believe the best way to understand psychology is to have repeated exposure to and experience with psychological concepts. Consequently, I have incorporated several different types of assignments, including small group assignments, quizzes, and exams. .

Course Grading

Small Group Assignments (SGA) (80 points total) (@18% of grade): you will have 4 small group assignments that are designed to help you see the practical application of some of the principles that you have learned in class. These assignments will cover the chapters on Research Methods, Suicide and Mental Disorders. Each assignment is due by 11:59 PM Tokyo time on the date listed on the syllabus, and is worth 20 points each

Quizzes (160 points total): (@36% of grade). There will be a total of 4 quizzes (one each week) to assess how students are progressing in the class before you take your midterm and final exams. Quizzes are multiple choice and short answer questions and are similar to the types of questions you will be asked on your exams. Each quiz is worth 40 points; there are no makeup quizzes or exams.

Examinations (200 points total; @46% of grade): Two examinations occur during the summer session with the following weights:



Midterm: 100 points (23% of final grade) Final: 100 Points (23% of grade)

The Final Exam **is not** cumulative. Examinations will consist of multiple-choice and short essay questions. Examinations should be taken on the date assigned in your syllabus. There is a time limit to how long you have to take the exam (1.5 hours). There are no makeup exams. Failure to take an exam on the designated date will result in a zero for that examination.

Course Grading Summary

	<u>Points</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Cumulative Total</u>
Home Assignments	80	18	_____	_____
Quizzes	160	36	_____	_____
Midterm	100	23	_____	_____
<u>Final</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>23</u>	_____	_____
Total	440	100		

Grade Distribution

A+ (95 – 100) 418 - 440	A (90-94): 396 – 417	B+ (85-89): 374 -395
B (80-84): 352 -373	C+: (75-79): 330 – 351	C: (70-74): 308 - 329
D: (60-69): 264 - 307	Below 264 = F	



Date	Topic	Assignment
WEEK 1		
6/14	Intro to the Course What is Abnormal Psychology	Chp. 1
6/15	Understanding & Treating Mental Disorders	Chp. 2
6/16	Clinical Research, Assessment & Classification of Mental Disorders	Chp 3 Small Group Activity #1: Research Case
6/17	Anxiety & OCD Disorders	Quiz #1: Chps 1-3 Chp. 4
6/18	Discussion Section with TA	Chapters 1-4
WEEK 2		
6/21	Trauma & Stress Related Disorders	Chp. 5
6/22	Depression & Bipolar Disorder	Chp. 7 Quiz #2: Chps 4, 5, & 7
6/23	Suicide	Chp. 8
6/24	Discussion & review for Midterm with TA	Chps. 1-5; 7-8 SGA #2: Suicide Case
6/25	MIDTERM EXAM	Chps. 1-5; 7-8
WEEK 3		
6/28	Schizophrenia Spectrum	Chp. 11
6/29	Personality Disorders	Chp. 14
6/30	Disorders of Childhood & Adolescence	Chp. 15 Quiz #3: Chps 11 & 14
7/1	Eating Disorders	Chp. 9 SGA #3: Clinical Case 1
7/2	Discussion Section with TA	Chps: 9, 11, 14, 15
WEEK 4		
7/5	Substance Related Disorders	Chp. 10
7/6	Forensic Psychology	Chp. 16 Quiz #4: Chps: 9, 10, 15
7/7	Review for Final Exam	Chps 9-11, 14-16 SGA #4: Forensic Case Study
7/8	FINAL EXAM	Chps. 9-11, 14-16
7/9	Turn in Grades	