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General Information

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Semester tips:



1. Watch weekly announcement videos for important updates.
2. Turn in extra credit early to take pressure off during finals.
3. Take unlimited quizzes to study for exams.

Intro to Psychopathology

PSYC 4311.062
Fall 2025
Asynchronous

Professor: Destiny LaRue McCormick, M.S.
(She/Her)



dlarue@uttyler.edu



I am happy to meet with you virtually on Zoom
Wednesdays from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM or email me
to set up a different time!



Office hours zoom link: [Click Here](#)

Meeting ID: 818 2637 6118

Passcode: 123456

Course Description

This course looks at mental health problems, including common types, possible causes, and ways to help people feel better.

Course Format

This class is **fully online**. You will use **Canvas** to do all your work. To do well, you need to stay organized and manage your time. Make sure you can turn in all assignments on time. Check the syllabus for a list of what is due and when.

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Using class lectures and discussions, readings, videos, quizzes, exams, and assignments, after taking this course you should be able to:

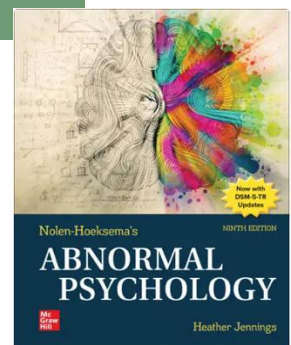
- ✓ Evaluate definitions of abnormal behavior and mental disorders
- ✓ Demonstrate knowledge of the historical trends in psychopathology
- ✓ Describe the signs and symptoms of specific mental disorders
- ✓ Describe theories regarding the causes of mental disorders
- ✓ Compare and contrast different disorders
- ✓ Identify which populations are more vulnerable to specific mental disorders
- ✓ Describe how culture impacts the expression of psychiatric conditions
- ✓ Describe treatment and prevention strategies for specific mental disorders
- ✓ Have a better understanding of what it is like to live with a mental disorder

Textbook

Nolen-Hoeksema, S., & Jennings, H. (2023). *Abnormal Psychology* (9th ed.). McGraw Hill Education.
ISBN-13: 9781265316037

***You do NOT need the access code/online package, just the text.**

Note: You do not have to buy your textbook from the university bookstore. You can also buy it from other stores.



Assignments

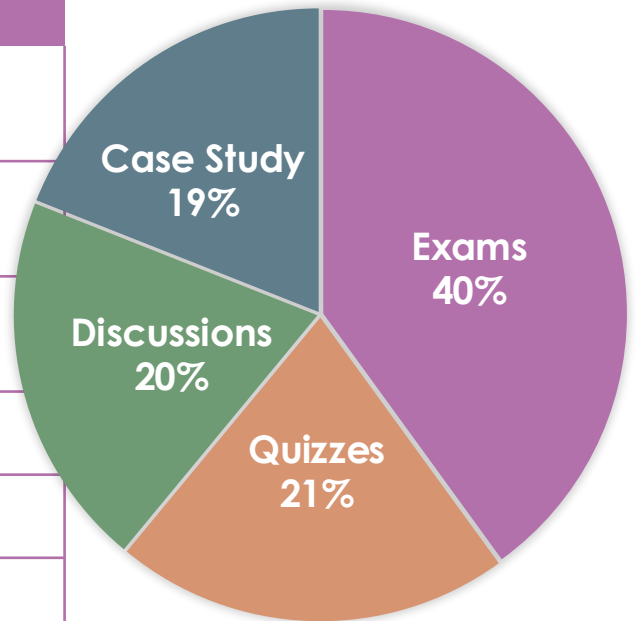
Assignment	Description
Exams	<p>You will take two exams in this class: one in the middle and one at the end. The exams may have multiple-choice questions, short answers, or case study questions. Questions will come from the slides, lectures, discussions, and the textbook. All exams will be taken online through Canvas.</p>
Quizzes	<p>Quizzes are open note and will be multiple-choice. Quiz questions will be like the ones on the exam. Quizzes help you practice and see how well you understand the material.</p> <p>You'll find the quizzes in Canvas under the "Modules" tab. You can use your book and notes. Quizzes are graded right away in Canvas. You have unlimited attempts and the highest grade counts.</p>
Discussion Board Posts	<p>Each week, you will write a discussion post. The type of post may change from week to week. Your main post is due by Thursday at 11:59 PM, and your two replies to classmates are due by Sunday at 11:59 PM. This gives everyone time to read during the week and respond over the weekend. There are 11 discussion board posts, and your lowest score will be dropped.</p>
Case Study	<p>For this assignment, you will read through several case studies and answer questions about <u>one of them</u>. You will use what you've learned in class to figure out possible mental health diagnoses.</p> <p>You will have two weeks to finish the assignment (see the week-by-week schedule for the due date and Canvas for more details). Additional instructions and a rubric will be posted on Canvas.</p>
Extra Credit (Optional)	<p>You have one chance to earn extra credit in this class. You will choose a mental health disorder we talk about and write a short paper (2–3 pages). In the paper, you will talk about the disorder's history, how it is diagnosed, and how it is treated.</p> <p>Instructions for the extra credit will be posted on Canvas and explained in a video. You can turn in the extra credit any time during the semester, but there is a deadline listed in the week-by-week schedule. I recommend choosing a disorder when we cover it in class and turning in your paper then. This way, you won't have to do extra work later.</p>

See next page for grading!



Grading

Assignment	Total Points
Exams (2) • 200 points each • 2 attempts each	400 Points
Quizzes (6) • 35 points each • Unlimited attempts	210 Points
Discussion Board Posts (10) • 20 points each • Lowest grade dropped	200 Points
Case Study Assignment (1)	190 Points
Extra Credit (Optional)	50 Points
Total	1050 Points
*Grade calculated out of 1000 points	



Letter Grades and Corresponding Points				
A 900-1000	B 899-800	C 799-700	D 699-600	F 599 or lower

I will not respond to emails asking me to raise a grade, give extra credit, or make exceptions to the grading policy unless there is a mistake. Changing grades for just one student would be unfair to everyone else and goes against school rules.

Late
Work/
Missed
Tests

No late work or make up tests/quizzes are accepted in this course. However, I know that life events may interfere with class, so there is some flexibility already built into the class design.

- Weekly modules will be open a week in advance, allowing you to work ahead to prevent any late work (i.e., Week 1 and 2 are available on day 1 of class)
- I will drop your lowest discussion board post
- 50 extra credit points are available to you

Class Policies

Classroom Etiquette

This class should be a safe place where everyone feels okay sharing their thoughts without fear of being judged. I expect you to treat your classmates with respect, no matter their background or beliefs. You can expect the same respect from me. Disrespect or discrimination of any kind (like race, gender, sexuality, religion, or disability) is not allowed and may affect your grade, especially on discussion posts.

Also, please remember that some students may have a mental health condition or know someone who does. These topics can be very personal. Be kind and thoughtful in your comments and questions on the discussion board.

Important: The discussion board is not a place to talk about personal mental health problems or ask for help. If you need support, I can help connect you to the right services. One helpful resource is the **Student Counseling Center**. It's free and located in the University Center.

☎ Call (903) 566-7254 or 📶 visit: uttyler.edu/counseling/services.html

Class Exam Protocol

- ✓ You can use your notes, but you must take the exam by yourself.
- ✓ You must take the exam during the time it is open
- ✓ You will have 2 hours to finish the exam
- ✓ The exam must be taken in one sitting. You can't start it and come back later.
- ✓ Do not download, print, or share the exam in any way.
- ✓ Do not take the exam in the same room as someone else.
- ✓ Canvas will track how you take the exam.

Student-Instructor Interaction

I check email every day and usually reply within 24 hours (it may take up to 48 hours on weekends or holidays). I'm available on Zoom for office hours every Wednesday from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. If you need to meet at another time, please email me your name, the class name, and at least 3 days and times that work for you. I'll reply to set up a meeting.


AI Statement

You may use AI tools in this class if it fits the assignment and is used the right way. If you use AI, you must say so. I used AI to help me edit this syllabus. Do not use AI to create or copy work from someone else, and do not include private or copyrighted information.

AI tools don't always give correct or complete answers, so you are still responsible for the work you turn in. Using AI in ways that break class rules is considered cheating and may lead to disciplinary action.




Course Schedule

 The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor. Any changes to the course schedule will be announced on Canvas.

Week	Topics/Readings	Assignments	Assignments Due
Week 1: 8/25/2025	Chapter 1- Looking at Abnormality Chapter 2-Theories & Treatment Chapter 3-Assessing & Diagnosing	<input type="checkbox"/> Quiz 1 (Ch. 1, 2, 3)	Sun. 08/31 11:59 PM
Week 2: 9/1/2025	Chapter 5-Anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive, Trauma, & Stressor-Related Disorders (pg. 106-142)	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Board (DB) 1 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 1 Reply	Thurs. 9/4 11:59 PM Sun. 9/7 11:59 PM
Week 3: 9/8/2025	Chapter 5-Anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive, Trauma, & Stressor-Related Disorders (pg. 142-157)	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 2 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 2 Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz 2 (Ch. 5)	Thurs. 9/11 11:59 PM Sun. 9/14 11:59 PM Sun. 9/14 11:59 PM
Week 4: 9/15/2025	Chapter 6-Somatic Symptom & Dissociative Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 3 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 3 Reply	Thurs. 9/18 11:59 PM Sun. 9/21 11:59 PM
Week 5: 9/22/2025	Chapter 7-Mood Disorders & Suicide (pg. 184-212)	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 4 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 4 Reply	Thurs. 9/25 11:59 PM Sun. 9/28 11:59 PM
Week 6: 9/29/2025	Chapter 7-Mood Disorders & Suicide (pg. 212-237)	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 5 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 5 Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz 3 (Ch. 6, 7)	Thurs. 10/2 11:59 PM Sun. 10/5 11:59 PM Sun. 10/5 11:59 PM
Week 7: 10/6/2025		<input type="checkbox"/> Midterm Exam (Ch. 1-3, 5-7)	Sun. 10/12 11:59 PM
Week 8: 10/13/2025	Chapter 8-Schizophrenia Spectrum & Other Psychotic Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 6 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 6 Reply	Thurs. 10/16 11:59 PM Sun. 10/19 11:59 PM

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Week	Topics/Readings	Assignments	Assignments Due
Week 9: 10/20/2025	Chapter 10- Neurodevelopmental & Neurocognitive Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 7 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 7 Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz 4 (Ch. 8, 10)	Thurs. 10/23 11:59 PM Sun. 10/26 11:59 PM Sun. 10/26 11:59 PM
Week 10: 10/27/2025	Chapter 9-Personality Disorders Chapter 11 – Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 8 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 8 Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz 5 (Ch. 9, 11)	Thurs. 10/30 11:59 PM Sun. 11/2 11:59 PM Sun. 11/2 11:59 PM
Week 11: 11/3/2025	Chapter 12-Eating Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 9 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 9 Reply	Thurs. 11/6 11:59 PM Sun. 11/9 11:59 PM
Week 12: 11/10/2025	Chapter 14-Substance Use & Gambling Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 10 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 10 Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz 6 (Ch. 12, 14)	Thurs. 11/13 11:59 PM Sun. 11/16 11:59 PM Sun. 11/16 11:59 PM
Week 13: 11/17/2025		<input type="checkbox"/> Case Study Assignment	Sun. 11/23 11:59 PM
Week 14: 11/24/2025	THANKSGIVING BREAK		
Week 15: 12/1/2025	(Optional) Chapter 16 – Mental Health and the Law	<input type="checkbox"/> DB 11 Post <input type="checkbox"/> DB 11 Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Credit Assignment	Thurs. 12/4 11:59 PM Sun. 12/7 11:59 PM Sun. 12/7 11:59 PM
Week 16: 12/8/2025		<input type="checkbox"/> Final Exam (Ch. 8-10, 12, 14)	Fri.. 12/10 11:59 PM