

PSYC 4311-Intro to Psychopathology Syllabus

Course Information:

PSYC 4311.461- Intro to Psychopathology

Summer 2026- 06/29/26-08/15/26

7WK- Virtual

Instructor Information:

Ceselie Tobin, MS, LPC-S

Email- ctobin@uttyler.edu (best way to reach me)

On Campus Office- HPR 204

Office Hours (Zoom or In-Person): Wednesdays 9:00-10:00 AM

Meeting ID: 818 3543 9343

Passcode: 922450

Course Description:

A review of abnormal psychology including clinical syndromes of deviance, etiology, and treatment tactics.

Learning Outcomes and Assessments:

Through the use of class lecture and discussion, 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 abnormal psychology
- 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

Recommended Textbook:

Jennings, M., & Nolen-Hoeksema, S. *Abnormal Psychology* (9th ed.).

ISBN- 978-1-265-31603-7

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

Note: A student at UT-Tyler is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Evaluation & Grading:

Assignments	Points Possible
Quizzes (5)	400 Points
Discussion Boards (4)	400 Points
Disorder Spotlight (1)	200 Points
Total Points Possible	1000 Points
Extra Credit Assignment (Optional)	50 Points

Grading Scale

- A: 900-1000 Points
- B: 800-899 Points
- C: 700-799 Points
- D: 600-699 Points
- F: 0-599 Points

Assignment Descriptions:

Quizzes

There will be five quizzes in this course, each worth 80 points. The quizzes will feature multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, and/or case study questions, covering material from lectures, slides, and the textbook.

Discussion Board Posts

You are required to complete four Discussion Board Posts throughout this course, each worth 100 points. Each post should be a brief but thoughtful reflection on a given topic or question related to the assigned weekly reading. Some posts may require you to upload documents or slides. Topics or questions will be posted on Canvas, and your responses must be submitted by 11:59 PM on the due date listed in the course schedule. Late submissions will not be accepted or graded.

Each Discussion Board Post should include an "Initial Post" that answers the question and at least two responses to your peers' posts. Ensure all posts adhere to proper grammar and syntax, reflecting the senior-level writing standard expected in this class.

Disorder Spotlight

You will complete one Disorder Spotlight during this course, worth 200 points. This will be a brief essay, 2-3 pages in length, focusing on a specific psychological disorder. Your essay should review and discuss the disorder's symptoms and approved treatment interventions. You are required to cite at least one credible source to support your information. The essay must be formatted in APA style and include a list of references. Further instructions will be provided on Canvas.

Extra Credit (Optional)

There is one opportunity for extra credit during this course. If all the requirements are met for the extra credit assignment, then full points will be rewarded. If your submission for this assignment does not meet all the requirements, then no points will be rewarded. Points from this extra credit assignment will be added to your overall points for the class. The guidelines for the extra credit assignment will be posted on Canvas.

Course Policies:

Virtual Classroom Environment

Creating a respectful and inclusive virtual classroom environment is essential. Everyone should feel comfortable expressing their thoughts without fear of harsh or judgmental responses. I expect all students to be respectful of the diverse experiences and backgrounds of your classmates, and you can expect the same respect from me. Disrespect or discrimination of any kind, including but not limited to ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical ability, socioeconomic status, religion, or value system, will not be tolerated.

Additionally, please be mindful that some classmates may have personal experiences with mental health disorders, either themselves or through friends or family members. Mental health issues are deeply personal, and sensitivity in your comments and questions is expected.

IMPORTANT: While discussion and reflection are encouraged, the classroom is not intended to function as a therapy environment or crisis support space. I can, outside of class, help direct a student to services they might need, although the best and most appropriate resource is often the Student Counseling Center, 903-566-7254, located in the University Center, which is covered by your student services fees. <https://www.uttyler.edu/student-life/health-wellness/student-counseling-center/>

Online Course

This course is 100% online. Your ability to function within the Canvas system will facilitate your success in this course. Online learning requires students to be very self-disciplined. Be sure you understand and are prepared to comply with all required class assignments and deadlines. For this course, refer to the syllabus for all assignments and due dates.

Late Work

Late work will be accepted for written assignments unless otherwise specified. Discussion Board Posts cannot be submitted late. Written assignments submitted late will receive a 10% deduction per day. Exams/quizzes cannot be taken late unless there are severe extenuating circumstances.

Utilizing AI

You can use AI programs (ChatGPT, Copilot, etc.) in this course. These programs can be powerful tools for learning and other productive pursuits, including completing assignments in less time, helping you generate new ideas, or serving as a personalized learning tool. However, your ethical responsibilities as

a student remain the same. You must follow UT Tyler’s Honor Code and uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. This applies to all uncited or improperly cited content, whether created by a human or in collaboration with an AI tool. If you use an AI tool to develop content for an assignment, you must cite the tool’s contribution to your work. I will utilize an AI detector as needed to ensure assignments are not being plagiarized or fully fabricated. Any assignments that are flagged as being over 30% AI generated will not be graded.

Course Schedule:

Week	Topic/Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1- June 29-July 5	Chapter 1- Looking at Abnormality Chapter 2-Theories & Treatment Chapter 3-Assessing & Diagnosing	Due July 12 by 11:59 PM: Discussion Board #1 Quiz #1
Week 2- July 6-12	Chapter 5-Anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive, Trauma, & Stressor-Related Disorders	
Week 3- July 13-19	Chapter 6-Somatic Symptom & Dissociative Disorders	Due July 26 by 11:59 PM: Discussion Board #2 Quiz #2
Week 4- July 20-26	Chapter 7-Mood Disorders & Suicide	
Week 5- July 27-August 2	Chapter 8-Schizophrenia Spectrum & Other Psychotic Disorders	Due August 2 by 11:59 PM: Quiz #3 Disorder Spotlight
Week 6- August 3-9	Chapter 9-Personality Disorders Chapter 10-Neurodevelopmental & Neurocognitive Disorders	Due August 9 by 11:59 PM: Discussion Board #3 Quiz #4 Extra Credit (Optional)
Week 7- August 10-15	Chapter 12-Eating Disorders Chapter 14-Substance Use & Gambling Disorders	Due August 14 by 11:59 PM: Discussion Board #4 Quiz #5

University Policies:

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <https://www.uttyler.edu/offices/student-conduct-and-intervention/student-conduct/policies/>

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (STE 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <https://www.uttyler.edu/current-students/registrar/forms.php>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services

In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodation must provide documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services counselor. If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services office in UC 3150, or call 903-566-7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

(i) "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or information about an unadministered test, test key, homework solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;

- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of U. T. Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and,
 - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
- (ii) “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.
- (iii) “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

College of Education and Psychology Vision and Mission and Program Standards

Vision. The College of Education and Psychology is nationally recognized and respected for its academic programs and opportunities. It is a center of academic excellence, scholarly inquiry, and public service. The College prepares leaders to meet the critical challenges of the 21st Century, to make significant contributions to local and global communities, and to work toward individual and cultural equity.

Mission. The mission of the College of Education and Psychology is to provide a positive environment that fosters the acquisition of knowledge and skills. The mission is individually and collectively realized through a community of scholars that contributes to knowledge through scholarly inquiry; organizes knowledge for application, understanding and communication; and provides leadership and service. Additionally, the College is committed to affirming and promoting global perspectives, cultural diversity, and respect for individual differences as a means of enhancing learning, service, and scholarship.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021. This is the open-access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

Note: This document is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be announced.