SYLLABUS

Course Information:
PSYC 4311-001; ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
ADM 127
Fall 2016
M/W – 2:30-3:50 p.m.

Instructor Information:
Sarah M. Sass, Ph.D.
Office: HPR 213
Email: (best way to reach me) ssass@uttyler.edu
Office phone: (903) 566-7239
Physical Office Hours: Weds 12:15-1:45p, or by appointment
Virtual Office Hours: Thurs, 12:30-2p

Required 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.

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

Student 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

UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY ASSESSMENT

4.0 Clinical and Abnormal: Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in clinical and abnormal psychology.
4.1 Assessment: Students in PSYC 4311: Abnormal Psychology will take a final exam wholly comprised of items related to abnormal psychology. The instructor will score the exam.

Evaluation and Grading: Course evaluation is based on performance on the following:

Exams (50 points)
There will be three exams (each worth 25 points). Only 2 exams will count toward your grade. The exams will consist of questions covering material from the textbook and material presented in class including powerpoints, video, in-class discussion activities, assignments, and discussion boards. If you are absent for an exam you will receive a zero. Because you are allowed to drop your lowest exam - there are NO MAKEUPS (unless extenuating circumstances required by university policy warrant it and with appropriate documentation).

Quizzes (20 points)
Quizzes will each consist of multiple choice questions and will be similar in difficulty level to those that will be on the exam. The purpose of the quizzes is to give you an idea of what the exam will look like and give you an opportunity to evaluate your mastery of the material. There will be 4 quizzes worth 5 points. If you are absent for a quiz you will receive a zero. You may make up a quiz if you have a serious extenuating circumstance and with appropriate documentation. There will be one quiz makeup opportunity on the last day of class for everyone who wishes to use it.

Assignment 1 and then pick either Assignment 2 OR Assignment 3 (15 points)
There will be two assignments due. The first assignment is short, and involves helping me learn something about you. For the other assignment you will be expected to read a narrative about depression or schizophrenia and answer questions about the narrative (you will choose to do Assignment 2 re: depression OR Assignment 3 re: schizophrenia). The assignments will be discussed in class and available on Blackboard. Assignments should be uploaded to Blackboard by the beginning of class on the date listed below. It is very important to turn in your assignments on time. A late penalty will be imposed if the assignment is not turned in on time (see below). For example, if the assignment is uploaded within 24 hours after the beginning of the class in which it was due, 3% will automatically be taken off the grade. Assignments will not be accepted more than 1 week late. If there are extraordinary circumstances, proper documentation (i.e., a letter from a physician) is required within two weeks of the assignment’s due date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How late?</th>
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<tr>
<td>Up to 24 hours</td>
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<td>Up to 120 hours</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Up to 48 hours</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Up to 144 hours</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<td>Up to 72 hours</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>Up to 168 hours</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Up to 96 hours</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>After 168/1 wk</td>
<td>Not accepted</td>
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Assignment 1 Getting to Know You 5 points Due Aug. 31
Assignment 2 Depression 10 points Due Sept. 26
OR
Assignment 3 Schizophrenia 10 points Due Oct. 26

Discussion Board Posts (15 points possible)
Discussion board posts are brief but thoughtful and accurate reflections on a posted topic or question throughout the semester. A discussion board question will be posted 6 times on Blackboard (Under the “Discussion Board” link) and may be continuations of classroom discussion topics or may be new topics. Only 5 DBs will count toward your grade, each worth 3 points (lowest DB grade is dropped). An announcement about these discussion board activities will be announced on BB and/or in class as they become available. You will have a little under a week to respond to DBs (due dates will be posted on BB).

Grading Summary:
There will be a maximum of 100 points for this course – not including bonus points – see below. The final letter grade will be based on a percentage of your 100 points:

- Assignments 1 & 2 or 1 & 3: 15 points (5 points for #1, 10 points for #2 or 3)
- Discussion Boards: 15 points (6 available at 3 points, drop lowest so only 5 count)
- Quizzes: 20 points (6 available at 3 points, drop lowest so only 5 count)
- Exams (2 count, drop lowest): 50 points
- Optional – Extra credit (see below): up to 5 points

**TOTAL: 100 points**

**OPTIONAL:** You can earn up to 5 bonus course points (2.5 hours of research or counseling participation) in this course. See below section, “Bonus Point Options” for more information.

The final letter grade will be based on a percentage of the 400 points:

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<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;60</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Teaching Strategies:**
I use an interactive lecture style that encourages student participation. It is therefore important that you read the assigned material before class and be prepared for discussion. I believe it is important to have information available in multiple formats. Therefore, excerpts of each lecture will be posted on Blackboard so that you can view, download, or print out lecture notes if you choose.

**Announcements:**
You will be responsible for all announcements made in class. If you miss a class, contact a
classmate or myself in order to find out what you have missed. In addition, you can check the course website as some announcements may be posted there.

**Classroom Environment:***
It is essential that our classroom be a place where people feel comfortable expressing their thoughts without fear of harsh or judgmental responses. I expect all students to be respectful of the varied experiences and backgrounds of your classmates. You may expect the same level of respect from me. Disrespect or discrimination on any basis, including but not limited to culture, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical ability, class, religion, or value system, will not be tolerated. Similarly, disruptive behavior is also not acceptable and may result in the offending student(s) being excused from class. As a courtesy to other students and your instructor, I ask that you be present in class – you may use a laptop or other device for note taking, but please refrain from instagreamming, snapchatting, facebooks, surfing the web, texting, email, etc. during class which can be distracting to other students and to me. In some circumstances, you may not be allowed to use your devices if I feel you are not sufficiently “present” in the classroom and/or are distracting to others or myself.

In addition, there will be people in class who either have a mental disorder themselves or who have a friend or a family member with a mental disorder. Mental health issues are very personal for many people - please keep this in mind as you make comments or pose questions in class. **IMPORTANT:** This class is NOT a place to discuss one’s own problems or to obtain help. I can, outside of class, help direct people 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. [http://www.uttyler.edu/counseling/services.html](http://www.uttyler.edu/counseling/services.html)

**Class Quiz and Examination Policy:** During examinations use of electronic devices or study materials will not be allowed.

*Be on time!* Note: if you are more than 10 minutes late to a quiz you will not be allowed to take the quiz. If you arrive at an exam after the first person in a class finishes the exam, you will not be allowed to take the exam.

**Bonus Point Options:** If you wish to earn bonus points toward your final grade, you may choose to participate in one or both of the following outside activities:

a. One hour research participation will earn 2 bonus points, up to a maximum of 2.5 hours (5 course points). See information below about how to participate in research projects.

b. One hour of counseling interview participation will earn 2 bonus points, up to a maximum of 2.5 hours (or 3 counseling sessions, 5 course points). See information below about how to participate in counseling interviews.

**Research Participation Initial Registration and Account Setup:** The psychology pool administrator maintains the student credits in the department’s online research participation system, which is called the Sona System. Students are required to register with this online system to track and submit their credits. The website address is: [http://uttyler.sona-systems.com](http://uttyler.sona-systems.com). Click
“Request Account” and fill out required information, preferably with your uttyler email address, and your password will be emailed to you. Once you log into the website with your username and password, you will be able to schedule yourself for different studies on specific dates and times. To view a list of studies, click on “Studies” link. You will see a list of studies, along with a brief description that will include the number of credits the study is worth and the location of the study. Studies that have open appointments will have “Timeslots Available” listed next to the name of the study. Be sure to check the website often, as studies are added on a weekly basis. Keep in mind that a particular study may only be running for a few weeks, so sign up for a study early and complete your research credits as soon as you are able. The website keeps track of your total credits, and you will assign those credits to the course(s) that allow them. Note that you cannot “double dip” – the same SONA credits cannot be applied to 2 qualifying psychology courses. If you have problems with the research website, contact Dr. Eric Stocks (estocks@uttyler.edu) for assistance.

Types of Studies: There are two basic types of studies. The first is a laboratory study, and you will meet with a researcher at a specific location on the UT-Tyler campus. The second type is an online study. With this type of study, you can complete it from any computer connected to the internet. The type of study will be listed in the description of the project on the website.

Cancelling an Appointment: If you need to cancel an appointment for a timeslot you have signed up for, you can do this from the My Schedule / Credits page on the website. Select this link, and you will see all the studies you have signed up for, as well as those you have completed. Click “Cancel” on the appointment you need to cancel, and you will see a confirmation page. Note, however, that you should avoid cancelling an appointment unless absolutely necessary. Aside from not receiving the credit from the study, you are also inconveniencing the student researchers who are waiting at the laboratory to greet you. If you do need to cancel, you may try to contact the researcher in charge of the study (listed on the website) to reschedule.

https://uttyler.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_0dKKGsfrp0flYSp

To assign credits to specific courses – in the event that you are in more than one course that requires participation and/or offers extra credit for participation:

1. Click the “My Schedule/Credits” link.
2. Assign the credits for each study in which you have participated to a specific course.
3. The system will allow you to assign any number of the total credits you have accumulated to any specific course. However, you only have your total number of accumulated credits to distribute to your course(s). For example, if you have two courses that require participation and you have 10 accumulated credits, you can allocate those 10 credits to one course, the other course, or divide them in some way between both courses.

Counseling Participation:
You may earn extra credit points by participating as a volunteer client for the advanced Psychology and Counseling graduate students. You can learn stress reduction techniques, assertiveness skills, relationship skills, and/or resolve bothersome issues or understand yourself better. You will also have the opportunity to learn about Psychology and Counseling from a client’s perspective.
The UT-T Psychology & Counseling Training Clinic, **located in BEP 229**, is staffed with advanced graduate students who are continuing their training through providing services to volunteer student client. These services are provided, at no cost to participating students, under the supervision of professors in the department. Advanced graduate students provide **CONFIDENTIAL** relaxation training, stress management, assessment, individual counseling, and couple counseling. Usually participants come for weekly 50-minute sessions for a minimum of four weeks, however participants can be seen up to twelve times during the semester, including have more than one interview session a week.

Counseling is a practical and healthy alternative to struggling alone with stress, worry, relational difficulties, or irresolvable problems. It is an effective means of identifying and utilizing your existing and undiscovered strengths, talents, and abilities to create a more effective and satisfying lifestyle.

If you are interested in participating as a volunteer client at the UT-Tyler Psychology & Counseling Training Clinic and you are not currently receiving counseling or therapy from a mental health professional, please **SIGN UP** (details of how to sign up will be provided the first week of class).

If you were informed about this by your undergraduate course instructor, then you may also be offered extra credit points in the course for participating. Your instructor will be notified prior to the end of the course about how many sessions you attended so that you will receive your extra credit points. They will NEVER know any of the things you discussed during your sessions. That is confidential.

If you volunteer early in the semester you will most likely be contacted by the UT-Tyler P&C Training Clinic staff, who will ask you questions about your preferences for day and time, and also any particular type of issues you would like to address (for example, stress, grief, relationships, time-management, etc.). **Please note that an interest in counseling doesn’t mean there will be availability- there are limited slots - so if you are interested, you may want to volunteer early.**

In the event that we are unable to serve a student who volunteers for counseling at the UT-Tyler Psychology & Counseling Training Clinic, you will be informed of alternatives for counseling that exist on campus (e.g., Student Services) or in the community.

Finally, if you are not interested in participating at the P & C Training Clinic but have concerns you would like to address in counseling you can contact the University Student Counseling Services, (903) 566-7079.

**Your bonus point forms (available on Blackboard) must be uploaded by Dec. 7 (or before).**

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

Note: The following schedule is tentative and subject to change, but is a reasonable estimate of
In order to get the most out of class, be sure to read the assigned chapters PRIOR to class. For example, for Monday August 29, read the syllabus and Chapter 1 before class. Assignment and quiz dates are also listed. For example, Assignment 1 is due on Wednesday, August 31.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignment/Exam</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M Aug. 29</td>
<td>Introduction, Examples &amp; Definitions</td>
<td>syllabus, Ch. 1</td>
<td>Assignment 1 given</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W Aug. 31</td>
<td>Examples &amp; Definitions</td>
<td>History of the Asylum</td>
<td>Assignment 1 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Sept. 5</td>
<td>LABOR DAY – No class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>W Sept. 7</td>
<td>Asylum/ Causes of Abnormal Behavior</td>
<td>Ch. 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Sept. 12</td>
<td>Classification</td>
<td>Ch. 4</td>
<td>Assignment 2 given</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W Sept. 14</td>
<td>Mood Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
<td>Quiz 1 – 1, 2, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Sept. 19</td>
<td>Mood Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W Sept. 21</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Sept. 26</td>
<td>Mood Disorders/ Review</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
<td>Assign 2 due (if dep)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W Sept. 28</td>
<td>EXAM #1</td>
<td></td>
<td>(1, 2, 4, &amp; 5 &amp; Assign. 2 reading)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Oct. 3</td>
<td>Anxiety Disorders and OCD</td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W Oct. 5</td>
<td>Anxiety Disorders and OCD</td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>M Oct. 10</td>
<td>PTSD/Dissociative /Somatic</td>
<td>Ch. 7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>W Oct. 12</td>
<td>PTSD/Dissociative /Somatic</td>
<td>Ch. 7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>M Oct. 17</td>
<td>PTSD/Dissociative /Somatic</td>
<td>Ch. 7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>W Oct. 19</td>
<td>Schizophrenia</td>
<td>Ch. 13</td>
<td>Quiz 2 (6 &amp; 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Oct. 24</td>
<td>Schizophrenia</td>
<td>Ch. 13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W Oct. 26</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assign 3 due (if Sz)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M Oct. 31</td>
<td>EXAM #2</td>
<td></td>
<td>(6, 7, &amp; 13 &amp; Assign 3 reading)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W Nov. 2</td>
<td>Personality Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 9</td>
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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: http://www.uttler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php

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 (ADM 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 http://www.uttler.edu/registrar. 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.

**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.

**Psychology B.S./B.A. Program Mission Statement:**

The mission of the undergraduate program in Psychology is to provide students with a demonstrable knowledge and understanding of the science of behavior and the mind, including content in Memory and Thinking; Sensory and Behavioral Neuroscience; Developmental Psychology; Clinical and Abnormal Psychology; Social Psychology; Psychological Measurement and Methodology. We seek to prepare students for either postgraduate education or a wide variety of employment settings and careers. Psychology B.S./B.A. Program Learning Outcomes may be found at:

[http://www.uttyler.edu/psychology/BSBAPsychPLO](http://www.uttyler.edu/psychology/BSBAPsychPLO)