University of Texas at Tyler Course Syllabus

Course Information

Name: Abnormal Psychology  
Course Number: PSYC 4311.001  
Semester: Spring 2017  
Class time: Tuesdays, 5:30pm - 8:15pm  
Location: Braithwaite Bldg. (BRB) Room 1025  
Dates: January 17, 2017 – May 6, 2017

Instructor Information

Name: Mari G. Stocks, MS, LPA  
Phone: 903-877-8730 (office)  
Email: mgutierrez@uttyler.edu

As an adjunct instructor, I do not have an on-campus office. You may reach me via mgutierrez@uttyler.edu 24/7, or M-F 8:00am – 5:00pm at the office phone number provided.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Name: Juan Olivera  
Email: jolivera@patriots.uttyler.edu

GTA office hours: Wednesdays 2:00p – 4:00p in HPR 138, as well as by appointment

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

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.

Student Learning Outcomes and Assessments

By the end of the course, students 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

**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 accessing social media sites (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, etc.), surfing the internet, messaging, email, etc. during class which can be distracting to other students and to me. Please have cell phones off or on silent mode, and refrain from excessive texting as you will miss important class materials and it can also be distracting to others. If use of cell phones or devices becomes excessive and/or distracting, I may ask that they be put away during class hours.

In addition, there will be people in class who either have a psychological disorder themselves or who have a friend or a family member with a psychological 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.utttyler.edu/counseling/services.html](http://www.utttyler.edu/counseling/services.html)

**Evaluation and Grading**

Your grade in this class will be determined by your performance on four exams throughout the course, including a comprehensive final exam. Your final course grade will be your total points earned, rounded to the nearest whole number if ending in .50 or higher. For example, a final grade of 356.53 points will result in 357 points (an 89%, or B.) A final grade of 322.49 points will result in 322 points (an 80%, also a B.) During examinations, the use of class notes, class materials, textbook, laptops, cell phones, etc. are **not allowed.** You will be asked to put away all materials with the exception of a pen or pencil during the test.
Summary of Grading Policy:

Exam 1   100 points  
Exam 2   100 points  
Exam 3   100 points  
Exam 4   100 points  

Total Class Points:  400 points possible

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>360-400</td>
<td>(90% - 100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>320-359</td>
<td>(80% - 89%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>280-319</td>
<td>(70% - 79%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>240-279</td>
<td>(60% - 69%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>239 and below</td>
<td>(59% and below)</td>
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**Bonus Point Options:** If you wish to earn bonus points toward your final grade, you may choose to participate in a research study within the psychology department. One hour of research participation will earn 4 bonus points, up to a maximum of 2.5 hours (10 course points). See the following section for instructions to volunteer for research experience.

**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. 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_0dKKGsfrp0f1YSp

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.

**Class Meeting Schedule:**

It is expected that each student will complete the assigned reading prior to class in order to be prepared for discussion regarding the material. Although formal attendance is not taken, students are expected to attend every class session and tardiness is strongly discouraged. The expected pace of the class is as follows. Changes to the following schedule will be announced in advance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignment:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Introduction to Course; Definitions of Abnormal Behavior</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 24</td>
<td>Causes of Abnormal Behavior; Treatment of Psychological Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 2, Ch. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>Classification and Assessment of Abnormal Behavior</td>
<td>Ch. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>EXAM 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>Mood Disorders and Suicide</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Chapter</td>
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<td>February 21</td>
<td>Anxiety Disorders and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder</td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 28</td>
<td>Acute and Posttraumatic Stress Disorders, Dissociative Disorders, and Somatic Symptom Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>EXAM 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK - NO CLASS</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Personality Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>Feeding and Eating Disorders; Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 10, Ch. 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>EXAM 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>Neurocognitive Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 14</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorders</td>
<td>Ch. 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>EXAM 4: FINAL EXAM</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.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php](http://www.uttyler.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.uttyler.edu/registrar](http://www.uttyler.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 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD, or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

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.

**CEP 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.

**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.utttyler.edu/psychology/BSBAPsychPLO](http://www.utttyler.edu/psychology/BSBAPsychPLO)