***Psych 16 - Abnormal Psychology***

***Workman***

***Fall 2023***

**Course:**       Psychology 16 (online) #54556

**Instructor:**    Penny Workman, MS

**Class Meets:**     100% Online

**Meeting Times:** Online

**E-mail:** Preferred**: Canvas messaging**

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**Course Description:**   
This course introduces the scientific study of psychopathology and atypical behaviors, broadly defined. Students investigate abnormal behavior from a variety of perspectives including biological, psychological, and sociocultural approaches. An integrative survey of theory and research in abnormal behavior, and intervention and prevention strategies for psychological disorders are also introduced.  
**Course Outcomes**:   
**Specify the learning skills the student demonstrates through completing the course and link critical thinking skills to specific course content and objectives.**Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:   
1. describe characteristics of major disorder classifications using basic biological and psychological terminology.  
2. compare major theoretical paradigms used to understand psychopathology and atypical behaviors.  
3. analyze research in terms of quantitative and qualitative evidence, and evaluate the limitations and ethical considerations of research methods used in the field of psychopathology.  
4. demonstrate knowledge related to the process of assessing & diagnosing mental disorders.  
5. demonstrate knowledge of the etiology & risk factors related to the development of major mental disorders.  
6. demonstrate and apply knowledge related to effective treatment interventions for major mental disorders.  
7. apply knowledge of individual differences related to biology, psychology, and sociocultural considerations in the analysis of mental disorders.  
8. demonstrate knowledge of the overlap between the health care system and the legal system in the management of major mental disorders.  
  
**Course Objectives:  
(Specify major objectives in terms of the observable knowledge and/or skills to be attained.)**In the process of completing this course, students will be able to:  
1. Define and use basic biological and psychological terminology to describe psychopathology and atypical behavior and mental processes.  
2. Compare and contrast the various theoretical perspectives on etiology and implications for treatment of various psychological disorders.  
3. Summarize the major disorder classifications and give concrete examples using appropriate diagnostic terminology (i.e., DSM).  
4. Explain specific research methods and the ethical principles for the study and treatment of psychopathology. At the end of the course, the student will be able to pursue advanced study of psychopathology, psychotherapy as well as psychopharmacology.

**Text:** Nolen-Hoeksema, S. (2017) Abnormal Psychology (7th Ed.) New York:  McGraw-Hill. ISBN:  9781259578137

**Course Requirements: (All of these are required to pass this course)**

1. **Homework** - will be assigned for each chapter**. There will be two separate assignments for each chapter, Key Terms and LO (Learning Objective) Questions.**  **Required formatting for this assignment will be posted on Canvas under the Chapter 1 assignment. These instructions for formatting will remain throughout the semester for your convenience. These formatting instructions must be followed for each assignment, with points being deducted for not formatting correctly.** Homework will be submitted each week via Canvas according to the academic schedule (following).

2. **Mid-term & Final Exams - You will have one mid-term and one final exam, worth 100 points each. These will be made up of short essay questions from each chapter we have covered. The mid-term will cover Ch. 1-8, and the final, Ch. 9-16. We will discuss these exams as we move forward through the semester. Dates for both are listed on the academic schedule (following).**

3. **Term paper** - worth 100 points, which is discussed later in this syllabus.

4. **Participation in Class Discussions** – Participation in online class discussions is required and is a large part of your grade.**For FULL POINTS ON EACH DISCUSSION: For each discussion prompt, you will give your own initial response, and then comment on at least 3 of your classmates responses. A high scoring prompt will NOT just commend your classmates on their responses, but actually speak to the content of their responses.**

**Term Paper Guidelines:** Please read the term paper guidelines below carefully. Your paper will be turned in via Canvas.

**1. Subject:**  Pick a topic that lies in the area of abnormal psychology. Check the topic with me, PLEASE! Possible topics fall within those parameters, but should include the interest factor. This means that I highly recommend choosing a topic that piques your interest. If you're not sure that a topic is appropriate (or possible), be sure to discuss it with me before writing the paper. My advice: Choose a topic that really interests you!! It will completely change your writing experience!!

**2. Length/format**: **4 full pages of text**, MLA or APA format, normal margins, double-spaced, 1” margins, 12-point font. With title page (required) and citations page you should have a minimum of 6 pages total.

**3. References/citations page:** Cite at least 5 sources in the appropriate format (either APA or MLA).

4. **Triple check** your paper for grammatical and spelling errors because those elements will be considered, with content and originality, in the evaluation of the assignment.

5**. Due Friday, November 10, 2023**.

**School and Instructor Policies :**

Please note that plagiarism is a violation of Reedley College policy.  Anyone deemed to have submitted plagiarized work will automatically receive a failing grade.  Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different classes without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights. Again, all assignments, tests, and quizzes are to be completed on an individual basis; collaboration with other classmates or anyone else is **not allowed** unless instructed otherwise.

**All of the following is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.**

**Grading:**

A (90 - 100%)

B (80 - 89%)

C (70 - 79%)

D (60 - 69%) F (59% or lower)

**Academic Schedule:                   Topic               Readings (See Canvas for due dates)**

**Week 1     (8/7)** Looking at Abnormality                   Chapter 1

**Week 2     (8/14)** Theories and Treatment                  Chapter 2

**Week 3     (8/21)**Assessment and Diagnosis               Chapter 3

**Week 4     (8/28)** The Research Endeavor                   Chapter 4

**Week 5     (9/5)** Anxiety Disorders                            Chapter 5

**Week 6     (9/11)** Dissociative Disorders                     Chapter 6

**Week 7     (9/18)** Mood Disorders and Suicide           Chapter 7

**Week 8     (9/25)** The Schizophrenia Spectrum           Chapter 8

**Week 9 (10/2) \*\*Midterm\*\* Available 9/30 Due 10/6**

**Week 10   (10/9)**Personality Disorders                     Chapter  9

**Week 11   (10/16)**               Neurodevelopmental  Disorders    Chapter 10

**Week 12   (10/23)**Conduct Disorders                            Chapter 11

**Week 13**   **(10/30)**               Eating Disorders                               Chapter 12

**Week 14 (11/6)** Sexual Disorders Chapter 13 **Term Paper also due**

**Week 15 (11/13)**  Substance Use/GamblingChapter 14

**Week 16**   **(11/20)**               Health Psychology        Chapter 15 Thanksgiving Break 11/23,24

**Week 17**   **(11/27)**               Mental Health & the Law                  Chapter 16

**Week 18**   **(12/4)**                    **\*\*FINAL\*\* Available 12/1 Due 12/6**

       

**This syllabus and academic schedule is subject to (very probable) change and/or revision during the academic term.**

**Let’s have a GREAT SEMESTER!!**

**If you have any questions, just ask!**