

***Psychopathology***  
***(PSY 303, sections 1, 4 & 5)***  
***Winter, 2021***  
***Prof. Brian Lakey***

***Office hours*** are by appointment. Email me and we'll talk via phone, Facetime or Skype.

***Email:*** [lakeyb@gvsu.edu](mailto:lakeyb@gvsu.edu)

***Texts:***

Nasar, S. (2011). *A Beautiful Mind*. New York. Simon & Schuster. 9781451628425  
Jamison, K. R. (1996). *An Unquiet Mind*. New York: Random House.  
9780679763307

This course presents an introductory survey of scientific research in adult psychopathology, and will focus on descriptive psychopathology and basic psychological mechanisms. Descriptive psychopathology involves describing important symptoms and organizing them into categories (i.e., syndromes). This reflects an enduring emphasis of psychiatry, in which mental disorders are construed as illnesses. In contrast, the psychological approach focuses on identifying basic psychological processes that apply across a wide range of symptoms and syndromes.

***Blackboard:*** All course material will be posted on Blackboard.

***Course goals:*** *To provide opportunities for an introductory, but detailed study of...*

1. ...the scientific approach to psychopathology.
2. ...key scientific findings in psychopathology.
3. ...core psychopathological symptoms and how symptoms are typically organized into syndromes.
4. ...how quantitative analysis advances our understanding of psychopathology.

***Objectives:*** Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the current system of classifying psychological disorders.
2. Decide when you or someone you know may need evaluation by a professional by using the diagnostic criteria of specific psychological disorders.
3. Identify and explain the biological, psychological, social, and cognitive factors underlying etiology and maintenance of selected psychological disorders.
4. Explain major theoretical models and their contribution to the understanding of psychological disorders.
5. Explain how the research process and research findings influence the conceptualization and treatment of psychological disorders.

### ***Mode of Instruction:***

A new, 50-minute lecture will be posted at noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, except for official university holidays. Topics covered each week are at the end of the syllabus.

### ***Grading:***

*Exams:* There will be three, multiple choice exams, consisting of approximately 50 questions each. All questions will be from lecture. Exams 2 and 3 are cumulative. These are open note tests. You will have three days to complete Exams 1 and 2. You will have five days to complete the final. Late exams will receive a 10% penalty.

*Quizzes on the books:* Every Monday, a multiple-choice quiz on the readings will be posted. You will have until Friday at midnight to complete each quiz. Late quizzes will receive a 10% penalty. Quizzes are open book.

*Quizzes on lecture:* There will be multiple-choice quizzes on each of the ten lectures. Quiz questions are in the same style as exam questions but are not identical. Typically, quizzes will be posted on the day that the lecture is finished. The first lecture will focus on the syllabus and there will be a separate quiz on that. Quizzes are open note. Late quizzes will receive a 10% penalty. You will have three full days to finish each quiz.

*Don't cheat.* Your grade in this course should be based on your own work. You are not permitted to discuss with other students the exam or quiz questions, until both of you have completed the quiz or exam. Anyway, there is no need to cheat. Given that all the quizzes and exams are open book or open note, you will be able to do well in this course if you simply do the work. Quiz and exam questions are the property of the Brian Lakey and so it is a violation of copyright law to copy or photograph them without my consent.

*Grading:* Your letter grade in the class will be based on your final course score, which will be the weighted average of your exam scores, your readings quiz scores and your lecture quiz scores. Quizzes on the readings will count for 25% of your grade, quizzes on lecture will count for 37.5%, and exams will count for 37.5%. Curving occurs after all exams, lecture quizzes and readings quizzes are completed. Exams will be curved by summing your total number of questions answered correctly across the three exams and dividing by the highest score achieved in the course, across the three exams. Lecture quizzes and readings quizzes will be curved in the same way. Of course, your sum of lecture quizzes will be divided by the highest score for lecture quizzes and your sum of readings quizzes will be divided by the highest score for readings quizzes.

Your final course score will be converted to letter grades according to the following schedule:

.90 – 1.00	A
.80 – .89	B
.70 - .79	C
.60 - .69	D
.59 and below	F

The upper two points within the range of a letter grade are assigned “+” and the lower two points within the range of a letter grade are assigned “-“. For example, a .88 would be assigned a B+ and an .81 would be assigned a B-.

***Exam Dates:***

Exam 1 Posted: Monday, February 22

Exam 2 Posted: Monday, March 29

Exam 3 (Final) Posted: Monday, April 26

***Lecture Topics and Approximate Schedule***

<b><i>Week</i></b>	<b><i>Lecture Topic</i></b>
Week 1	Course Overview. Lecture 1: What are mental disorders?
Week 2	Lecture 1: What are mental disorders?
Week 3	Lecture 2: How the DSM got its structure.
Week 4	Lecture 3: The structure of mental disorders.
Week 5	Lecture 3: The structure of mental disorders.
Week 6	Lecture 4: Stressful life events and depression.
Week 7	Lecture 5: Family criticism and relapse in schizophrenia and other disorders.
Week 8	Lecture 6: The thin ideal and risk for eating disorders.
Week 9	Lecture 7: Genetic and environmental influences on mental disorders.
Week 10	Lecture 7: Genetic and environmental influences on mental disorders.

Week 11	Lecture 8: Cognitive processes in depression and anxiety.
Week 12	Lecture 8: Cognitive processes in depression and anxiety.
Week 13	Lecture 9: Psychological and biological treatments for depressive disorders.
Week 14	Lecture 10: Psychological and biological treatments for anxiety disorders.

**Book Quiz Schedule. (Page number are inclusive)**

Week 1	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters Prologue - 4</i>
Week 2	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters 5-9</i>
Week 3	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters 10-14</i>
Week 4	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters 15-19</i>
Week 5	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters 20-24</i>
Week 6	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters 25-29</i>
Week 7	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters 30-34</i>
Week 8	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters 35-40</i>
Week 9	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters 41-46</i>
Week 10	<i>A Beautiful Mind, Chapters 47-Epilogue</i>
Week 11	<i>An Unquiet Mind Prologue – Part 1</i>
Week 12	<i>An Unquiet Mind Part 2</i>
Week 13	<i>An Unquiet Mind Part 3</i>
Week 14	<i>An Unquiet Mind Part 4 + Epilogue</i>

This course is subject to the GVSU policies listed at <http://www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies/>