

Adult Psychopathology
PSY 303-02, Fall 2022
Course Syllabus
Grand Valley State University, Department of Psychology

Instructor: Felicia Diaz, MA

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Virtual Office Hours: Mondays: 12pm-2pm

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NOTE: You are responsible for knowing the contents of this syllabus. The contents and requirements of the syllabus may need to be modified over the course of the semester.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Sue, D., Sue, D. W., Sue, D. M., & Sue, S. (2021). Understanding abnormal behavior. Cengage Learning.

CLASS DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of adult psychological disorders, as they are described in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual-V. Through course readings, lectures, and assignments, students will learn about the features, associated characteristics, causes, and treatments for these disorders.

Course Objectives:

1. Describe the current system of classifying psychological disorders.
2. Identify and explain the biological, psychological, social, and cognitive factors underlying etiology and maintenance of selected psychological disorders.
3. Explain major theoretical models and their contribution to the understanding of psychological disorders.
4. Explain how the research process and research findings influence the conceptualization and treatment of psychological disorders.

Course Requirements

Grades in this class will be based on quizzes and examinations.

Exams:

There will be three multiple choice exams and 1 multiple choice cumulative final. **Students who miss one of the non-cumulative exams (due to unexpected circumstances or emergencies) will be required to take the final. No make-up exams will be given.** Other students may take the final if they wish to replace one of their non-cumulative exam scores. The lowest exam grade will be dropped.

The final examination may only be made up in the most extreme of circumstances and with the instructor's approval. If the final examination is to be made-up, you must contact the instructor **prior to the final exam or within 1 hour following the scheduled examination time.** The

examination must be made up within 3 days of the scheduled exam time. The format for a make-up examination may be different, likely involving short answer and essay questions.

The first three exams will consist of 50 questions and will be worth 100 points. The final will consist of 100 questions and will be worth 100 points. Exams will cover material presented in recorded lectures and in the book. Therefore, to earn a good grade in the class, it is recommended that you virtually attend the lectures and read the book.

Quizzes:

There will be four multiple choice quizzes during the semester. Quizzes will contain 10 questions and will be worth a total of 20 points. Quizzes are designed to help students review material between exams and to keep up with the reading. **No make-up quizzes will be given.** Quizzes will be completed on E-Learning by 10pm on the due date. Quizzes should be completed *on your own*.

Extra Credit:

A total of 8 points of extra credit will be available throughout the semester. Students may earn extra credit by submitting an “exam review sheet” to the instructor prior to an exam. Each exam review will be worth 2 total points and will be available prior to each of the four exams. Exam review sheets should be detailed and organized according to how each individual student learns best. Examples of exam review sheets will be posted on Blackboard.

Course Policies

Preparation:

It is expected that you read each chapter prior to attending online lecture. Reviewing your notes each day after class will also help you retain course information.

Grading:

Grades in this course will be based on performance on 4 quiz scores, 3 exam scores, and potential extra credit. The following shows the total amount of points that each student can earn.

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>pts possible</u>	<u>number</u>	<u>total points</u>	<u>% of total grade</u>
Quizzes	20	4	80	~16.5%
<u>Exams</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>3 (4-1)</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>~83.5%</u>
Total			380	

Letter grades will be assigned based on percentage according to the following scale:

A = 100 – 93

A - = 92 – 90

B + = 89 – 87

B = 86 – 83

B - = 82 – 80

C+ = 79 – 77

C = 76 – 73

C - = 72 – 70

D+ = 69 – 65

D = 64 – 60

F = 59 or below

Grade Questions: Grades will be posted via the course page on Blackboard on a regular basis throughout the semester. You are responsible for routinely checking your grade. If you suspect an error has been made in recording one of your grades, bring it to my attention, preferably during office hours (where we will have access to the grade book and the material in question), **as soon as it is noticed**. If you disagree with the grading of an assignment, you must submit a written request for re-grading based on the existing content of the paper. Submit the request directly to me and arrange an appointment for feedback.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Class Date	Content	After Class Assignment
8/31/22	Course Introduction, Syllabus Review	Read Ch. 1-3
9/7/22	Understanding & Treating Abnormal Behavior; Assessment & Classification	Read Ch. 5
9/14/22	Anxiety & Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders	Read Ch. 6; Online Quiz 1 (Covers Ch. 1-5)
9/21/22	Trauma & Stressor related Disorders	Read Ch. 7
9/28/22	Somatic Symptom & Dissociative Disorders	Study for Exam 1 (Covers Ch. 1-7)
10/5/22	*Exam 1*	Read Ch. 8-9
10/12/22	Depressive & Bipolar Disorders; Suicidality	Read Ch. 10
10/19/22	Eating Disorders	Read Ch. 11; Online Quiz 2 (Covers Ch. 8-10)
10/26/22	Substance Use & Addiction	Read Ch. 12
11/2/22	Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders	Study for Exam 2 (covers Ch. 8-12)
11/9/22	*Exam 2*	Read Ch. 13
11/16/22	Neurocognitive & Sleep Wake Disorders	Read Ch. 14
11/23/22	NO CLASS	----
11/30/22	Sexual Dysfunction, Gender Dysphoria, Paraphilic Disorders	Read Ch. 15
12/7/22	Personality Psychopathology	Study for Final Exam (covers Ch. 13-15)
12/14/22	*Exam 3*	Study for final (covers Ch. 1-15) or celebrate!
12/21/22	*Final Exam*	---

Academic Integrity: Students are responsible for making themselves aware of and understanding the University policies and procedures that pertain to Academic Honesty. These

policies include cheating, fabrication, falsification and forgery, multiple submission, plagiarism, complicity and computer misuse. If I have evidence of any form of academic dishonesty (cheating on an exam, giving or receiving information about what is asked in the exam, or any other form of cheating such as plagiarism), you will receive a failing grade in that activity and other consequences as dictated by GVSU policy. Plagiarism is presenting work, ideas or words that are not your own as though they were your own—this includes work of other students or work that is in a published source (the textbook, a journal article). To avoid plagiarism be sure to do your own work and put information in your own words. Use of quotes with appropriate reference to the original source from which you got the information or ideas is acceptable but less preferred than paraphrasing (with referencing of the source provided) in psychological writing.

Special Needs: The instructor is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students. If you have any physical or learning disabilities, please contact the instructor during the first week of class to discuss any necessary accommodations to ensure equity.

Any student that is having difficulty with the class materials, pace of the class, or test scores is encouraged to contact the instructor **as soon as possible**. The instructor is happy to help and provide assistance to students that may be struggling with their class achievement; however, help is often less effective if it is requested too late in the semester. Please do not wait to ask for help.

Diversity: It is important for students to feel comfortable in the classroom. If the instructor or anyone else in the course says or does something that strikes you as culturally insensitive or inappropriate, please notify the instructor immediately.

Psych Friends:

If you feel you could use some extra help/guidance/support in any academic domain or for your well-being, please consider scheduling an appointment with a mentor through Psych Friends. Psych Friends mentors are upper-level undergraduate peer mentors who are trained to provide support in many areas including: effective study and time management techniques, exam preparation and reflection skills, comprehension of the psychology and behavioral neuroscience major requirements, tips for engaging in the field, strategies for education continuation, methods for maintaining physical and mental health. Schedule an appointment here: <https://www.gvsu.edu/navigate> and Questions? Email psychfriends@gvsu.edu

University Closures

If the University is closed on the date of an exam or quiz, the exam will be re-scheduled for the next class meeting. If the University is closed on the day an assignment is due, the assignment will also be due at the next scheduled class meeting. Closures occurring on other scheduled meeting days will result in the material that was to be covered on that day being discussed during the following class meeting (in addition to the assigned readings for that meeting).

University Information about policies

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