

**St. Petersburg College
Downtown Campus
Abnormal Psychology CLP 2140_3471
Fall 2015**

Professor: Adriana Uruena-Agnes, Ph.D.
Office Hours: After Class OR by appointment

Email: Uruena.Adriana@spcollege.edu
Class Time: TR 02:00-03:15pm
Class Location: DT-DC Room 230

Required Textbook:

Comer, R. J. (2014). *Fundamentals of abnormal psychology* (7th ed.). New York, NY: Worth Publishers.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Abnormal Psychology is a course recommended for students interested in the mental health profession and who are currently taking classes in the natural, social and clinical sciences. This course will be taught from an interdisciplinary perspective, integrating psychological and biological theories, clinical practice and behavioral pharmacology. Such teaching philosophies will compliment the DSM-5. The course objectives are as follows: 1) appreciate the history, field and study of clinical psychology from an interdisciplinary approach 2) describe and distinguish between the various presentations of psychological disorders 3) gain a basic understanding behind the biology of psychological disorders and current pharmacological treatment strategies, aimed to decrease symptomology 4) describe the importance of side effects and additional factors decreasing patient compliance, threatening treatment effectiveness. Students will demonstrate knowledge and appreciation for the basic components of clinical practice: assessment, diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders.

*****This class DOES NOT qualify students to assess, diagnose and/or treat any psychological disorders.**

STUDENT OUTCOMES:

Students will be assessed for their competency in the following areas:

1. Describe the DSM-5 and identify the new and progressive role of neuroscience in the development of the DSM-5 and in mental health treatment in general.
2. Define and distinguish between various psychological disorders based on psychological, physical, physiological and biological symptoms and signs.
3. Describe the course, incidence, and prevalence of psychological disorders.
4. Identify psychological and pharmacological treatment strategies for various psychological disorders.
5. Identify those factors that threaten patient compliance and treatment effectiveness.
6. Develop a psychological packet: assessment, diagnosis, treatment plan

FORMAT:

Course relevant material lectured and discussed in class will come from the textbook, research articles, from my own professional expertise and from student presentations. Class discussion relevant to the lecture topic is highly encouraged. I recommend reading the assigned material **before** coming to class and also taking notes during class. While you are permitted to record

lectures, you are not permitted to use those recordings or any notes taken during class for the purpose of sale.

COURSE POLICIES:

Class Etiquette.

Students are expected to come to class prepared and refrain from distractions. This includes the following: end ALL phone calls BEFORE entering the classroom, NO listening to music or wearing headphones in the classroom, NO texting during class. Students are expected to be respectful while communicating (i.e. verbal and/or written) with the professor. **Disrespect will not be tolerated.**

Technology in the Classroom.

The use of laptops, tablets, and phones is ***not*** permitted during lecture, other than for recording and/or note-taking purposes. ***No headphones, ear buds, etc for any purpose.***

Communication.

Please note that the best way to communicate with the professor is via MyCourses.

Please compose a well-written, grammatically correct, and professional email, when addressing your professor and when listing concerns. Disrespectful, non-professional emails will be ignored. In the case student progress is of concern, the professor will email the student and make an appointment to discuss student progress. Students are encouraged to approach the professor (in class or via email) with any concerns pertaining to student success in the course.

Minimum Technical Skills Required.

Students are expected to have regular access to a computer to view posted course material on MyCourses. Email may also be used to deliver course-related information. Students are required to use Microsoft Word to compose the abstract and term paper (Critical Film Review), which are to be submitted electronically (via MyCourses) by the due date (see course schedule).

Attendance.

SPC Fall academic calendar can be accessed by visiting the following website: <http://www.spcollege.edu/calendar/#tab=2>. Additional student information pertinent to student success can be accessed <http://www.spcollege.edu/addendum/>. Regular attendance is ***strongly*** encouraged and expected. Attendance will be taken on a daily basis to maintain compliance with SPC's "No Show," "Withdrawal" and "Unofficial Withdrawal" policies (<http://www.spcollege.edu/withdrawal/>). A student that does not show up at least once for class the first two weeks, will be administratively removed from the course as a "No Show." You will be allowed 5 absences prior to October 22nd. If a student misses 6 or more classes prior to October 22nd, the student will be identified as no longer "actively participating," resulting in a "W/F" grade. Following the 60% mark, students are expected to attend class regularly and are allowed ONLY 5 absences (regardless of number of absences prior to October 22nd). Additional absences will result in an earned "F" at the end of the semester. Students are expected to email a notification of absence prior to the scheduled class meeting. Only students can voluntarily withdrawal from a class. The professor cannot withdrawal you from a course. **The last day to withdrawal is October 22, 2015.**

Students are responsible for all assignments and all material covered on days they are absent, even if such assignments and activities deviate from the attached course schedule. In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for SPC to suspend normal operations. During this time, SPC may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: MyCourses, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It's the responsibility of the student to **monitor their email and MyCourses websites** for each class for course specific communication, and the main websites, emails, and emergency messages for important general information.

Academic Dishonesty.

St. Petersburg College is committed to the development of each student to become a productive and responsible citizen who embraces the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. The scholarly community at SPC strives to instill values that uphold academic integrity and promotes an ethical standard that does not condone academic misconduct. Violation of academic integrity and academic misconduct tarnish the reputation of the University and discredit the accomplishments of past and present students. Sanctions for violation of academic integrity and academic misconduct include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the University. I take integrity **very seriously**, including academic integrity. I will monitor all submissions and exams for violations of the academic integrity policy. **Students are held responsible for knowing and observing the SPC's Academic Integrity Policy** posted at: <http://www.spcollege.edu/academichonesty/>. If you have any questions about the policy, please feel free to talk with me.

COURSE PLATFORM: MyCourses

You can access the class syllabus and lecture handouts on the MyCourses web site (<https://mycourses.spcollege.edu/login.asp>). The materials provided on the web site are not intended to replace the class lecture or textbook material. You will be tested on items covered during lecture, but not everything covered during lecture will be provided in the handouts, videos and/or textbook.

ASSESSMENTS AND GRADING:

Student progress will be assessed from the following: 1) Abstract; 2) In Class Presentation 3) Examinations (cumulative final included) and 4) Psychological Packet. This course requires students to write 2,000 words minimum. The mandated writing component will be divided across assessments. Specifically, students will write a 500-word abstract and a 1,000 word psychological assessment packet. The remaining 500 words will be pooled from essay questions across examinations.

Abstracts/In Class Presentations (50 points each; 100 points total).

All students are required to present a short (3 minutes) presentation one time this semester. Students will be assigned their presentation time slot on the first day of class (08-18-15). The presentation will encompass a theme from the testing module. For instance, those students who signed up to present on 09-03-15, "In Class Presentation 1," will present relevant material on "Introduction to Abnormal Psychology, Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment, Basic Biology and Neuroscience and/or Basic Principles in Pharmacology." The abstract is scheduled to be submitted prior to the presentation date. These dates are firm and missed assignments (i.e. abstract and/or presentation) CANNOT be made up. The schedule is as follows:

Student Assignment: 08-18-15

In Class Presentation 1: Abstract due on 08-27 at 11:59pm and Presentation Date on 09-01

In Class Presentation 2: Abstract due on 09-15 at 11:59pm and Presentation Date on 09-17

In Class Presentation 3: Abstract due on 10-06 at 11:59pm and Presentation Date on 10-08

In Class Presentation 4: Abstract due on 10-29 at 11:59pm and Presentation Date on 11-03

In Class Presentation 5: Abstract due on 11-17 at 11:59pm and Presentation Date on 11-19

The purpose of the presentations is to review testing module information, while assessing learned information. In order to accomplish this goal, students will write a 500-word abstract highlighting 3 topics from the testing module (see above). The presentation will cover the same three topics written in the abstract. The abstract will contribute to 50 points and the oral presentation will contribute to 50 points of the final 100 possible points earned. A question and answer session will assess the student's capability to convey information. The grading rubric is as follows:

Abstract (500 words; 50 points total)

Written in APA format (visit <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>)

5 points – APA format (title page, abstract, references; running head)

30 points – Introduce, list and discuss the 3 topics of information that will be addressed at the time of the presentation. Information will be assessed for accuracy and grammar.

10 points – Material will be assessed for the following: information is correct; ideas are conveyed in a manner easy to understand; appropriate use of grammar (i.e. logical sentences, wording, punctuation, etc)

5 points – Abstract fulfills but does not exceed the 500 word maximum limit

Presentation (3 min presentation and 2 min Q&A for a total of 5 min; 50 points total)

20 points – Introduce and present the addressed 3 topics from the abstract, with adequate and correct information in a manner easy to understand.

20 points – Be able to answer questions from students and/or professor

10 points – Meets the 3 minute minimum presentation time

Examinations (50 points each):

There will be six in-class examinations (09-03, 09-22, 10-13, 11-05, 11-24) including the cumulative, mandatory final exam (12-03). **No one will be able to start taking the test once the first person has finished.** Students may not leave the classroom during the exam. If you must leave the classroom during the exam, for any reason, your exam must be turned in at that time. **So, use the restroom before exams.** The test format will consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and/or essay questions. Exam questions will be drawn from in-class lecture and other assigned materials.

Psychological Packet (100 points):

All students are required to construct a psychological packet, which will include the following:

1) Assessment (30 points):

a. A 20-item questionnaire designed to assess a psychological disorder

2) Diagnosis (10 points):

a. A formal diagnosis, with specifiers and relevant codes.

3) Treatment Plan (30 points):

- a. A formal treatment plan describing the first-line psychological and pharmacological treatments for the psychological disorder assessed.
 - i. Psychological Treatment Plan: Identify the appropriate psychological therapy (i.e. CBT, DBT, CB, Exposure, etc) and indicate the duration of treatment and frequency of visits.
 - ii. Pharmacological Treatment Plan: Identify the appropriate pharmacological therapy (e.g. antidepressant and antipsychotic (name the specific drugs and doses) combination therapy for MDD with psychotic features) and indicate the duration of treatment and dosing.

4) Considerations (15 points):

- a. Discuss any potential issues with reliability and/or validity. If none, discuss why there are no related issues.
- b. Identify special considerations for treatment conditions (i.e. side effects, delayed desired effects, contraindications with pregnancy, heart disease, renal or hepatic failure, etc

5) References (15 points):

- a. List out at least 3 references used (i.e. DSM-5, drug facts from manufacturer, peer-reviewed published articles, textbooks, etc).

Student with Disabilities.

If there is any student who has special needs because of a disability, please go directly to the Disability Services (<http://www.spcollege.edu/dr/>). Accommodations will be granted accordingly with appropriate paperwork. Please feel free to discuss this issue in private if you need more information.

Extra Credit.

Formal extra credit is not an available option. However occasional assignments may be made available during class that can count as extra credit. Therefore, it is recommended that you attend lecture.

Make-Up Policy.

ONE DAY will be scheduled for students to make up a missed exam. **Make-up exam day will take place on 12-01-15 and this will be the ONLY DAY students are permitted to make-up an exam. There are no exceptions.** There is NOT a “drop” policy for this course.

Grading.

Your cumulative grade will be calculated using the following percentage distributions:

5 EXAMS	50% of your final grade	(250 points total)
FINAL EXAM	10% of your final grade	(50 points total)
ABSTRACT/PRESENTATION	20% of your final grades	(100 points total)
PSYCHOLOGICAL PACKET	20% of your final grade	(100 points total)

Your final letter grade will be calculated using the following scale:

A	90%-100% (450-500 points)
B	80%-89% (400-449 points)
C	70%-79% (350-399 points)
D	60%-69% (300-349 points)
F	59%-0% (000-299 points)

COURSE SCHEDULE:

I reserve the right to change the course schedule as it is described in the syllabus, either to incorporate mid-course adjustments designed to enhance student learning, to adjust to external constraints such as inclement weather and unforeseen circumstances, to adjust assignments so they are consistent with material covered in class, or simply to correct errors. Students are responsible for complying with any deviations noted in the course schedule, which may be made available to them during normal class meetings and/or through email announcements.

DATE	TOPIC / TESTING	ASSIGNMENTS
08-18	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology/Student Sign Up	Syllabus, Assignment
08-20	Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, Treatment	Chapters 1; 2; External Sources
08-25	Basic Biology and Neuroscience	External Sources
08-27	Basic Principles of Pharmacology	External Sources Abstract 1 Due MyCourses 11:59pm
09-01	In Class Presentations 1	
09-03	Exam 1	
09-08	Personality Disorders	Chapter 13
09-10	Neurodevelopmental Disorders	Chapter 14
09-15	Neurocognitive Disorders	Chapter 15 Abstract 2 Due MyCourses 11:59pm
09-17	In Class Presentations 2	
09-22	Exam 2	
09-24	Anxiety, Trauma and Stress-Related Disorders Part1	Chapter 4; 5
09-29	Anxiety, Trauma and Stress-Related Disorders Part2	Chapter 4; 5
10-01	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	Chapter 4
10-06	Eating Disorders	(V) Abstract 3 Due MyCourses 11:59pm
10-08	In Class Presentations 3	
10-13	Exam 3	
10-15	Depressive Disorder	Chapter 6
10-20	NO CLASS	College Day
10-22	Bipolar Disorder	Chapter 6
10-27	Impulse Control, Disruptive and Conduct Disorders	
10-29	Medicated Child	(V) Abstract 4 Due MyCourses 11:59pm
11-03	In Class Presentations 3	
11-05	Exam 4	
11-10	Substance-Related/Addictive Disorders	Chapter 10
11-12	Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders	Chapter 12
11-17	Psychological Packet Assistance	Abstract 5 Due MyCourses 11:59pm
11-19	In Class Presentations 5	
11-24	Exam 5	
11-26	NO CLASS	Thanksgiving!
12-01	Make-Up Exam Day	
12-03	Cumulative Final Exam	
12-06	Psychological Packet Due	11:59pm MyCourses

August 18, 2015

Student Agreement:

I, _____, agree and will adhere to the policies, procedures and student expectations listed within the syllabus.

_____ (printed name)

_____ (signature)

About the student:

Please fill out the following information:

1. **First and Last name:**
2. **Year (Freshman, etc):**
3. **Major:**
4. **Why are you registered for this course?**
5. **What expectations do you have for this course?**

6. **List your educational or professional goals.**