

Syllabus: Introduction to Abnormal Psychology (PSY219) Winter 2021

Instructor: Laura Backen Jones, Ph.D.

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Class Meets: Online (via Moodle). The class is **asynchronous**, meaning that you can access the prerecorded Zoom lecture session at your convenience.

Office hours: Mon and Wed, noon to 12:50 (via Zoom).

** When you email me, identify your full name, course you are attending and course time. Due to my busy course load, I cannot respond to emails that do not include this information.*

Course Description

An introduction to the study of psychological disorders, including issues of diagnosis and treatment. Topics include stress and effective coping, models of abnormality; overview of major disorders, including diagnostic considerations; current research on treatment effectiveness; the effects of stress on our psychological wellbeing, and the impact of psychological disorders on society.

How Does this Online Class Work? Each week, you'll have an interactive slide presentation with select visual and video components. Simply watch the presentation, complete the individual activities, view the embedded videos and/or resources, take a weekly text quiz and complete your weekly assignment in a small group forum. In addition, you will create a project (see Course Requirements).

Required Materials: Text Comer, R.J. (2019). Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology, 9th Edition. Worth Publishers: New York, New York.

Course Learning Outcomes

As a result of successfully completing this course, I expect you will:

- Critically analyze the relationships between humans and the natural world.
- Recognize & articulate the interplay between social and/or natural forces & individuals.
- Use analytical and scientific thinking to draw reasonable conclusions.
- Synthesize diverse perspectives and express them in a coherent and applicable manner.

Online courses take the place of three hours of lectures and outside class assignments required in a traditional face-to-face class. You should expect to devote about 10 hours per week on the online interactions and other class assignments. Set aside specific time each week to work on this class.

Important Note: All of your coursework will be completed via Moodle. You must be able to upload assignments and take exams on Moodle. It is an expectation for this course that you will use Moodle independently and seek help from the [student](#)

[helpdesk](#) or [eLearning center](#) if you have questions related to using Moodle. If you are not prepared to work independently with Moodle, drop this course immediately.

To Prevent being Dropped: This course is in high demand. You will be dropped automatically if the following are not completed before 9 am on Thursday, January 7: (1) Read your syllabus, (2) watch the course overview, (3) post a response to your Weekly Assignment and (4) complete the 'Help me get to know you" questionnaire.

Instructor Responsibilities: The current week's content and assignments will be posted on Moodle. I will be available to support your learning when requested. I will hold you accountable by following through with course objectives and syllabus content. My aim is to facilitate a learning environment that encourages active, effective and respectful activities, discussion and learning.

Student Responsibilities

- Critically read/analyze assigned information.
- Use your LBCC email account to communicate with me.
- Effectively participate in class assignments, project, quizzes, and exams.

Course Requirements

Note: Weekly quizzes, project, assignments, and exams *take place on Moodle. Be sure to do your assigned reading and engage in the Weekly Slide Presentation before completing the point earners below.*

Your final grade in this class will be determined by your performance on the following:

Quizzes: Open book online quizzes on your text only at the Moodle site for this course. Item types include true/false, multiple choice, and matching. T/F = 1 point; multiple choice with 1 answer = 1 point; multiple choice with more than one 1 answer = 2 points; matching = 3 points. You will have 15 minutes to take each quiz. Available by 9 am on Monday and open until 9 am the following Monday.

Weekly Assignments: Read your Weekly Assignment each Monday. Often, the assignment requires that you complete an activity ahead of time. Your response is dependent on your text reading and slide presentation for the week, so complete the assessment activity after these tasks. I want to give you the experience of evidence-based activities, scientists and therapists, and practitioners do in real life to help others cope effectively and to promote wellbeing. Each assignment will be an example of an activity used in the field from a particular perspective for you to try out. To give you access to peer interaction and shared encouragement and support, I divide the class into small groups; you'll respond to assignments and reply to a classmate within your small group forum all term.

Two online exams assess your understanding of the course material. Exam 1 covers lecture material and text through Week 4. Exam 2 covers lecture material and text from weeks 5-9. Items consist of multiple-choice, true/false and matching. Exams are on Moodle. I will post a study guide for Exam 1 by the end of the 2nd week of the term.

Project: As part of a public information campaign (prevention), create an infographic describing a psychological disorder from the experience of a famous

figure who has/had a known disorder (includes at least a testimonial from that person). This is worth a substantial portion of your grade and will be graded accordingly. You will need to work out some technology to do this so plan ahead!

Policy Regarding Assigned Work: I do not accept late work. Use the information on the course calendar (below and available separately on Moodle) to create your own plan to complete your assignments. Coursework is submitted/conducted online via Moodle. Course work submitted by email will not receive a grade.

Tools for Success in this Course: In an online course, the teacher is a resource in learning, while the student takes a more active role in the process. If you are new to online learning, be aware that you will need to take the initiative to read all documents and materials thoroughly for your own understanding. Self-direction and self-discipline are critical. It is up to you to keep track of deadlines and complete and upload your assignments. The assignments, exams and weekly forums are ways for me to gauge your understanding of the teaching/learning process in which you are participating. I am here to help. I will respond to your assignments with feedback. If you have carefully read course materials and still have a question, post your question to the **Question and Answer Forum** right away.

Preparedness: Complete your assignments in the calendar above before 9 am on Thursdays and Mondays as designated. As I stated above, I do not accept late assignments so prepare in advance.

GETTING STARTED

- Read the syllabus and all other course documents.
- Watch the course introduction video
- Put all due dates for exams and assignments in your calendar.
- Create your own schedule for completing coursework.
- Have questions? Post them on the **Question and Answer Forum**. This is the fastest and most efficient way for you to get an answer.
- Read information that comes to you via the Announcements.

Accessibility Resources: Request a meeting with your instructor during Week One if you have a documented disability and need accommodations. Your instructor needs to know medical information about you, and if you need special arrangements in the event of an emergency. Make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services web page every term. If you believe you may need accommodations but have not registered with CFAR, visit the CFAR website at www.linnbenton.edu/cfar for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

Cheating/Plagiarism: Using someone else's work as your own or using information or ideas without proper citation (which is called plagiarism) can lead to your failing the assignment, test or class. Bibliographies and in text citations are required whenever you use outside sources, including internet sources (unless otherwise indicated by me).

COURSE CALENDAR

Week	Topic	Chapters	Due each Thursday before 9 am (date listed below)	Due each Monday before 9 am (date listed below)
1 1/4	Models of abnormal psychology and treatment; community approaches	1 & 2	Thursday, 1/7 Response to Weekly Assignment	January 11 Moodle: Weekly Text Quiz (Chapters 1 and 2) Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate)
2 1/11	Clinical diagnosis, assessment, and treatment Disorders of trauma and stress	3 & 5	Thursday, 1/14 Response to Weekly Assignment	January 18 Weekly Text Quiz (Moodle) (Chapters 3 & 5) Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate)
3 1/18	Anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive and Related Disorders	4	Thursday, 1/21 Response to Weekly Assignment	January 25 Weekly Text Quiz (Moodle) (Chapter 4) Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate)
4 1/25	Depressive and Bipolar Disorders & Suicide	6, 7 14 (pp. 436-443)	Thursday 1/28 Response to Weekly Assignment	February 1 Weekly Text Quiz (Moodle) (Chapters 6 & 7 + 14 (pp. 436-443) Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate)
5 2/1	Disorders Featuring Somatic Symptoms & Eating Disorders	8 & 9	Thursday 2/4 Response to Weekly Assignment	February 8 Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate) Exam 1
6 2/8	Substance Use and Addictive Disorders	10	Thursday 2/11 Response to Weekly Assignment	February 15 Weekly Text Quiz (Moodle) (Chapter 10) Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate)
7 2/15	Neurodevelopmental Disorders & Sexual Disorders and Gender Variations	11 14 (pp. 450-468)	Thursday 2/18 Response to Weekly Assignment	February 22 Weekly Text Quiz (Moodle) (Chapter 11 & 14, pp. 450-468) Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate) Class Project Due
8 2/22	Schizophrenia & related disorders Disorders of Aging and Cognition	12, 15	Thursday 2/25 Response to Weekly Assignment	March 1 Weekly Text Quiz (Moodle) (Chapters 12 and 15) Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate)
9 3/1	Personality Disorders	13	Thursday 3/4 Response to Weekly Assignment	March 8 Weekly Text Quiz (Moodle) (Chapter 13) Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate)
10 3/8			Thursday 3/11 Response to Weekly Assignment	March 15 Weekly Assignment (reply to classmate)
11	Exam 3 is due by 5 pm on Tuesday, March 16			

Course Requirements				
Requirement	Summary	Max Points Possible per unit	Units	Total Points Possible
Help me get to know you survey	Complete this survey by 9am on Thursday Week 1 of classes (or be dropped from the course)	3	1	3
Assigned Reading	Assigned reading listed on Moodle (weekly section) also Course Calendar. 1-3 chapters per week. Do your assigned reading <u>before</u> you complete the tasks below.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Weekly Slide Presentation	After you do your assigned reading, view the prerecorded Zoom session. Embedded learning resources in the accompanying slide presentation include information, videos, select reading related to the topic, and individual activities (no need to turn these in - activities target material that will be on the exam). Completing the activities will help you remember what you need to know for the exams.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chapter Quizzes (on text only)	Online, open book quizzes, include T/F, multiple choice and matching items. T/F = 1 pt.; multiple choice with 1 answer = 1 pt.; multiple choice with more than one 1 answer = 2 pts; Matching = 3 pts.	10	X8	80
Class Assignment	Engage in an evidence-based activity used in the field and post your experience (in response to a prompt) by 9 am on Thursdays; reply to a classmate before 9 am the following Monday.	10	X10	100
Moodle Exams	Exam 1: Course material Weeks 1-5	75	x2	150
	Exam 2: Course material Weeks 6-9	75		
Project	As part of a public information campaign (prevention), create an infographic describing a psychological disorder from the experience of a famous figure who has/had a known disorder (includes at least a testimonial from that person). This is worth a substantial portion of your grade and will be graded accordingly. Much more information about this on Moodle. You will need to work out some technology to do this so plan ahead.	75	1	75
Total Possible Points				408

Grades are figured on a straight percentage based on the total number of points possible. I encourage you to check in with me about your progress throughout the term to maximize your success and minimize any surprises.

A= 90-100% B= 80-89% C= 70-79% D= 60-69% F= 59% or below

Incomplete Grades: You may be eligible for an 'Incomplete' grade if you have finished 90% of the class work. If you have an 'Incomplete,' all coursework must be finished by the end of the next term. You must contact me at least one week before the end of the term with proper documentation to receive an Incomplete.