



P324 – Abnormal Psychology

Online, Spring 2015

Instructor: Robin K. Morgan, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: By appointment

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Class Meets: Online only

Section Number: 3635

Catalog Description: A first course in adult abnormal psychology; including forms of abnormal behavior, etiology, development, interpretations, and final manifestations.



Sigmund Freud's house in London

Course Philosophy:

All students are capable of learning. My plan to help you to succeed is three fold: First, I will provide you many opportunities to learn the material; second, I will provide you multiple opportunities to demonstrate what you have learned; third, I will test you in small chunks so there is less stress and you have a better chance of doing well. My goal is for you to take the basic concepts of this class and be able to use them in your work and daily life after you graduate from college.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Define & evaluate criteria for abnormal behavior and specific psychological disorders,
- Recognize or "diagnose" common psychological disorders,
- Describe common explanations for the etiology of psychological disorders,
- Outline effective treatments for specific psychological disorders, and
- Integrate material from a variety of scholarly sources, citing according to APA format, and presenting this material in a professional forum.

Texts: No textbook is required for this course. You will be reading material online in our Canvas Course site.

Technology Required: Since this class is entirely online, the expectation is that you have access to a working computer. Because it's built using web standards, Canvas runs on Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, Android, or any other device with a modern web browser. Information on supported browsers may be found at the [Canvas Help Center](#). You may not be able to see everything in the course using your iPad. You should also have access to:

- Microsoft PowerPoint; available free of charge from [IUware](#).
- A webcam with a built-in microphone

If you have problems with equipment, please let me know but you should also **contact a person at the [computer helpdesk](#) immediately**. That person will be much more likely to resolve computer problems.

New to Canvas? Canvas is the new learning management system within Indiana University. Some of your professors may still be using Oncourse but soon Canvas will be the only option on

IU campuses. Canvas is very easy to navigate but may be confusing at first. The [Canvas Student Guide](#) can assist you.

Logistical Issues for an Online Course:

- Online courses *ARE* different than face-to-face classes in that you do not meet with the instructor each week. However, feel free to email me at rmorgan@ius.edu (the best way to catch me), call me at my office, or stop by and see me at my office. I will do my best to return your **emails within 24 hours EXCEPT** Thursday night through Sunday night.
- All assignments should be submitted according to schedule; all late assignments will be automatically docked **2 points**. No late assignments will be accepted after the final day of class. This keeps you on track and ensures that you will have a better chance of completing the course successfully. If problems occur or if you become ill, please contact me immediately so we can determine your best options.
- Please proof all assignments and email messages to ensure the use of standard English, proper grammar, and correct spelling. You will lose points for problems in this area. If you are worried about your writing, please feel free to contact our campus [Writing Center](#); these individuals can assist you in improving your writing.
- Communication pointers:
 - Humor and sarcasm don't translate very well when using email or online discussions. Be careful.
 - Reveal only information that you are comfortable sharing. Even though this is a psychology class, you should not share information about psychological difficulties you or those you know may be experiencing. All students may utilize the free psychological services available to them on campus by contacting [Dr. Michael Day](#) at 941-2244.
 - Keep in mind that there's a real, live human being with feelings on the other end of your email or discussion posting -- if you were sitting in front of that person would you say to their face what you're saying in your email or discussion posting? Remember that your words are written in an email or discussion posting - you can't take them back.
 - Avoid offensive language, especially comments that might be construed as racist or sexist.
 - Remember that the law still applies in cyberspace. Do not commit illegal acts online, such as libeling or slandering others, and do not joke about committing illegal acts.
 - Generally speaking, avoid putting words into full capitals. Online, all-caps is considered SHOUTING.

Requirements:

1. **Extra Credit:** There will be few opportunities to earn extra credit in this course. Each student can earn five (5) points extra credit by completing the **pre-assessment quiz by 11:59**

pm on Wednesday, January 14th. You can also earn five (5) points of extra credit by completing the course evaluation. The course evaluation allows me to determine what parts of this class were effective and what parts need to be revised. The **course evaluation** will be open during the last week of class only; it will be **closed at 11:59 pm on Monday, April 27th.**

2. **Quizzes:** There will be **five (5) quizzes** in this course, worth **30 points each**. Our Canvas site will be used for completing online quizzes. Quizzes require you to apply, integrate, and evaluate the materials required for this course. Quiz 1 covers the first four units and will consist of three short answer questions. For the remaining quizzes, you will be supplied with a single case study. For each case, you must describe relevant symptoms, a diagnosis, the etiological theory most supported by research, and the most effective treatment. Each quiz will be worth 30 points. Please note that quizzes are timed; you will be given **30 minutes** to complete each quiz. You will only be provided **one chance** to complete the quiz so be careful not to click on the quiz until you are prepared. The quiz questions are randomly selected by the computer from a large bank of possible questions prepared; it is certainly possible that you will receive different questions from other students. Specific due dates for each quiz are listed in our course site; the computer will close access to all quizzes on the final class day – 11:59 pm on Monday, April 27th. If you miss the initial due date, take the quiz late. **Late quizzes** will be docked 2 points (the computer will not remove the 2 points, but I will do so before calculating final grades).
3. **Wiki Assignments:** This class uses a Wiki as a class text. This Wiki was created by prior students in P324 and myself. You will be assigned a specific section of the Wiki to revise; **a list specifying which section you have been assigned can be found under Files in our Canvas site**. Specific instructions for each step of completing the Wiki are provided in our Canvas site. Each step of the process will be graded separately. You are not to make any changes on the original Wiki without my prior approval. The total number of points for all of the Wiki Assignments is **135**. Grading rubrics are provided for each Wiki assignment in our Canvas site. **Late work is accepted** but 2 points (per assignment) are automatically deducted. No late work will be accepted after the final class day – 11:59 pm on Monday, April 27th.
4. **Video Clip Assignments:** Students will be asked to complete **five (5) video clip assignments, worth twenty (20) points each**. For each assignment, students will be asked to either find a video clip or to watch a video clip and then to answer certain questions relating to course content. Grading rubrics are provided for each video clip assignment in our Canvas site. Late work is accepted but 2 points are automatically deducted. No late work will be accepted after the final class day – 11:59 pm on Monday, April 27th.
5. **Discussions:** There are **six (6) discussions** for this course. The first discussion is an introductory one and will be worth 15 points. The remaining five (5) discussions (worth 20 points each) are designed to assist you in diagnosis, describing etiology, and determining the most effective treatments. Grading rubrics are provided for each discussion in our Canvas site. Late work is accepted but 2 points are automatically deducted. No late work will be accepted after the final class day – 11:59 pm on Monday, April 27th.

Other Class Policies/Expectations:

- It is expected that students will be tolerant of views different from their own, consistent with the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct.

- Additional policies can be found in the [IUS Student Code of Conduct](#). Please pay particular attention to university polices on harassment, plagiarism, and other problem behaviors. Engaging in these behaviors will result in the penalties outlined.
- If you have specific physical, psychiatric or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please let me know early in the semester so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. Documentation should be provided to [Disability Services](#).

Grading: Final grades are based on points. Extra credit will be added to your final point tally. Please keep track of your grades within Canvas.

| Requirements | Points |
|------------------------|--------|
| Wiki Assignments | 135 |
| Discussions | 115 |
| Quizzes | 150 |
| Video Clip Assignments | 100 |

| Grade | Number of Total Points |
|-----------|------------------------|
| 500 | A+ |
| 456 – 499 | A |
| 450 – 455 | A- |
| 445 – 454 | B+ |
| 406 – 444 | B |
| 400 – 405 | B- |
| 395 – 399 | C+ |
| 356 – 394 | C |
| 350 – 355 | C- |
| 300 – 349 | D |
| < 300 | F |

Tentative Schedule: All changes to this schedule will be announced in our Canvas Course site. Since we are a completely online course, deadlines are not impacted by the campus closing for any reason. Feel free to submit assignments early; there is no penalty!

| Unit | Due Date | Assignments | Course Learning Objectives: |
|------|----------|-------------|--|
| | | | 1. Define & evaluate criteria for abnormal behavior and specific psychological disorders, 2. Recognize or "diagnose" common psychological disorders, 3. Describe common explanations for the etiology of psychological disorders, 4. Outline effective treatments for specific psychological disorders, and 5. Integrate material from a variety of scholarly sources, citing according to APA format, and presenting this material in a professional forum. |

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|---|------|---|--------------------------|
| Getting Started | 1/14 | Pre-assessment quiz Introductory Discussion | 5 |
| Abnormality through the Ages | 1/18 | Wiki Step 1 | 1, 3, 5 |
| Is Anyone Normal? | 1/25 | Video Assignment 1 | 1, 2 |
| So, How does this Happen? | 2/1 | Wiki Step 2 | 3, 4, 5 |
| No Shocking People? What About Locking People Away? | 2/8 | Discussion 1 Quiz 1 | 5 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Neuroses by Any Other Name | 2/15 | Video Assignment 2 | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Where Everything is Just Right | 2/22 | Wiki Step 3 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 |
| Aftershocks | 3/1 | Discussion 2 Quiz 2 | 1, 2, 3, 4 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| I'll Have a Blue Christmas | 3/8 | Video Assignment 3 | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| What Goes Up Must Come Down | 3/15 | Wiki Step 4 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 |
| You're Not Paranoid if Someone is Really Out to Get You | 3/22 | Discussion 3 Quiz 3 | 1, 2, 3, 4 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Doctor Shopping 101 | 3/29 | Video Assignment 4 | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde | 4/5 | Discussion 4 Quiz 4 | 1, 2, 3, 4 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| It's All Kinsey's Fault | 4/12 | Video Assignment 5 | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Personal Preference? | 4/19 | Wiki Step 5 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 |
| I'm Not the Problem, You Are | 4/26 | Discussion 5 Quiz 5 | 1, 2, 3, 4 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Course Evaluation | 4/27 | Course Evaluation | |