

Course Syllabus
Psychology 336
Introduction to Clinical Psychology
Fall, 2011

Course Instructor: Dr. C. Purdon, Professor
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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00am-12:00pm

Text Book: *Introduction to Clinical Psychology: An Evidence-Based Approach, 2nd Canadian Edition* by John Hunsley and Catherine Lee
ISBN: 978-0-470-15685-8

Class Time: Tuesdays, 2:30 - 5:20pm

Class Location: Roy Couttes Hall, Room 211

TAs:	Brenda Chiang	Jenna Dawson	Kyle Mueller
Office:	PAS 3029	PAS 3029	PAS 3035
Office Hours :	Tuesdays, 1 – 2	Fridays, 1 – 2	Thursdays, 12:30 – 1:30
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Course structure and objectives:

Classes will be held on Tuesdays from 2:30 - 5:20pm. Each class will feature a lecture and big and small group discussions. The lectures will cover important material from the text and will introduce important material that is not in the text. We will hold discussions about current controversies in clinical psychology, as well as moral, ethical, and practical issues that bear on how clinical psychology is conducted. I will also do some demonstrations in class.

The course covers the assumptions on which clinical psychology is based, how we classify mental health problems, and how we assess and treat them.

The primary objective of this course is for students to develop a ready facility with the nature and range of methods used in clinical psychology to study, assess, and treat mental health problems, and to develop an appreciation of the ethical, moral, and practical issues that bear on the execution of clinical psychology work.

Who am I?

I am a Full Professor in the Clinical Division of the Department of Psychology at the University of Waterloo and am a Registered Psychologist with the College of Psychologists of Ontario. I completed my BA(Hon.) at

the University of Western Ontario and received my MA and PhD from the University of New Brunswick in 1997, supervised by Dr. David A. Clark. After completing my predoctoral internship in the Anxiety Disorders Clinic at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, I commenced my position at UW. In my 14 years at UW, I have had an active program of research which examines the development and persistence of anxiety disorders, particularly obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). Some of this work is done in collaboration with the Anxiety Treatment and Research Centre, St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton. My research lab is one of two labs that form the Anxiety Studies Division of the UW Centre for Mental Health Research (CMHR). I also assess and treat people with anxiety and mood disorders in private practice and I supervise students in our PhD program in clinical psychology who conduct assessment and treatment through the CMHR, of which I am also the Executive Director. Finally, I provide formal training in cognitive-behaviour therapy to our graduate students.

Textbook

The textbook is available for purchase in the bookstore in South Campus Hall. Four copies have been placed on 3 hour reserve in the Dana Porter Library. All coursework and evaluation is based on the assumption that you have studied the relevant chapters in the text. Please note that the text is the second Canadian edition of the text (there are American editions and a first Canadian edition on the market, so beware – you really need the right edition).

Course evaluation:

Evaluation will be based on five in-class quizzes and one final exam, and you can also earn bonus credits for participation in research.

Quizzes

Five quizzes are scheduled throughout the term (for dates, see the Course Outline below). The best 4 of the 5 will count towards your final grade for an accumulated total of 60 % of your final grade (15% each). This gives you one “freebie” in the event some mishap or undocumented health or personal problem causes you to miss a quiz, or if you should do especially poorly on one. The quizzes will feature essay questions and/or short answer questions that are designed to evaluate your ability to summarize and synthesize the concepts and develop informed opinions on the course material. Note that the quizzes will cover both class and text material. Each quiz will be given in the first 30 minutes of class and will include the material from the text and class. You must have your student ID card for every quiz. The quizzes will start promptly at 2:30 and the lecture component of the class will begin promptly at 3:05pm. If you arrive late for a class in which there is a quiz you will only have until 3:00pm to write.

Alternative arrangements for the quizzes will only be made if there is a **major** disruption in your ability to function academically due to **documented** health reasons or personal problems. If you are in that boat, I need you to call me yourself at least an hour **in advance** of the quiz you are missing (519-888-4567, x33912) and you will need to provide your formal documentation as soon as possible afterwards. Note that all documentation must date from before the missed quiz, not after it. That is, the documentation must represent first-hand knowledge of the circumstances that made it impossible for you to write the quiz as scheduled, as opposed to reflecting your retrospective self-report to the authority providing documentation.

Final Exam

There will be one final exam during the final exam period that is worth 40% of your final grade. The exam will cover all the course material from the text and the classes. This exam will be 2.5 hours in length and will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. It is designed to evaluate your knowledge and understanding of the course material. You must show your UW student ID in order to write the exam.

The final exam will be scheduled some time during the final exam period (December 9 – 22). Much as I would like to have it scheduled sooner rather than later in this period, I have no control over when the exam is scheduled so it could be on any date. Please make your travel plans accordingly, as I will not be making any alternative arrangements for the final exam except in the event that there is a **major** disruption in your ability to function academically due to **documented** health reasons or personal problems, as described above.

There are two reasons that I am strict about having students write the quizzes and the exam as scheduled. The first is fairness; in the absence of a major extenuating circumstance, it is not fair for one student to have the extra study time, the opportunity to achieve a more balanced exam schedule, or the longer holiday that a modified exam date affords. The second is pragmatics; there are 104 people in the class, so if I begin making accommodations for general life issues as opposed to major life disruptions, I could be making a lot of accommodations. In order to make such accommodations, I need to write a new quiz/exam, find a room in which to hold it, and arrange for its supervision, marking, and grade entry. I am not willing to do it unless a student absolutely cannot, for health or personal reasons, write the quiz/exam as scheduled. This policy is consistent with the UW policy on Academic Integrity (see below).

Research Participation Bonus Credits

You can earn bonus points of up to 4% of your grade through participation in research studies (but you cannot exceed a final grade of 100%, although it would be mildly entertaining to see how the Registrar's office would handle that...). Please see the document entitled "Research Experience Marks" for details.

On Academic Integrity, Grievance, Discipline, and Disability

Academic Integrity: in order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm> When in doubt, please be certain to contact the Department of Psychology Undergraduate Advisor, Ms. Heather Smith (888-4567, x32819).

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity [check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/], to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about 'rules' for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#), www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances) (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 \(Student Appeals\)](#) <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>

Note for Students with Disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

Course Outline

Date	Week	Topic	Text Chapter	Quiz (Covers text AND class material)
09/13	1	What is Clinical Psychology?	Chapters 1-2	No
09/20	2	How do we diagnose mental illness?	Chapter 3	No
09/27	3	The central importance of research in clinical psychology	Chapter 4	Weeks 1 and 2 Ch 1, 2, 3
10/04	4	Assessment overview and interview/observational assessment methods	Chapters 5 - 6	No
10/11	5	Intellectual and cognitive measures of assessment	Chapter 7	Weeks 3 and 4 Ch 4, 5, 6
10/18	6	Self-report and projective measures of assessment	Chapter 8	No
10/25	7	Integration and clinical decision-making	Chapter 9	Weeks 5 and 6 Ch 7 and 8
11/01	8	Prevention; Overview of intervention	Chapter 10 - 11	No
11/08	9	Intervening with Adults and couples	Chapter 12	Weeks 7 and 8 Ch 9, 10, 11
11/15	10	Intervening with Children and adolescents	Chapter 13	No
11/22	11	Identifying key elements of change/ Clinical health psychology/ forensic psychology	Chapter 14 - 15	No
11/29	12	Review	Chapters 1 - 15	Weeks 9,10,11 Ch 12, 13,14