

Psychology 257: Introduction to Abnormal Psychology
Tuesday & Thursday 2:30-3:50, B1 271
Fall 2004

Instructors: Lena Quilty, PAS 3014, email: lcquilty@watarts.uwaterloo.ca
Chris Watson, PAS 3203, email: cwatson@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

Office hours: Lena Quilty Wednesday 10-12*
Chris Watson Tuesday 8:30-10:00*

Time & Location: Tuesday & Thursday 2:30 – 4:00
Biology 1 (B1), room 271

*Instructors are also available by appointment.

Text

Davison, G.C., Neale, J.M., Blankstein, K.R., Flett, G.L. (2002). Abnormal Psychology: Canadian Edition. Etobicoke, ON: John Wiley & Sons Canada, Ltd.

Course Content

This course surveys the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders (DSM-IV) categories of abnormal behaviour. These include mood and anxiety disorders, personality disorders, dissociative disorders, schizophrenia, and so on. We will explore various theoretical perspectives on the disorders, as well as survey current treatments, with a focus on adult psychopathology.

Course Structure

Some portion of each lecture may draw from the textbook; however, lectures will also present a range of new material. Additional material presented in lectures will not be available from the textbook, and it is therefore strongly recommended that you attend the lectures.

Evaluation

Your grade for the course will be based on the following:

1. Three term tests:

We will administer three non-cumulative multiple-choice tests throughout the term, during class time:

Term Test 1	October 5	30%
Term Test 2	November 2	30%
Term Test 3	November 25	40%

Make-ups or rewrites will not be considered in the absence of a documented medical, religious or compassionate (i.e. family emergency) reason, submitted within a week of the test date, with no exceptions.

2. Optional bonus credit assignments:

We will accept 3 thought papers, worth a bonus of 1.5% each, examining topics related to previous lectures. They may draw from the assigned readings and lecture material, or may extend beyond them. Thought papers must not exceed 2 pages in length, and be double-spaced, with 12-point Times New Roman font and 1 inch margins. Thought papers are due at the beginning of class; early submissions may be submitted to either instructor's mailboxes in the Psychology Mail Room. No electronic or late submissions will be accepted.

Extensions will not be granted in the absence of a documented medical, religious or compassionate (i.e. family emergency) reason, submitted within a week of the due date, with no exceptions.

Optional paper #1 Due: October 19 1.5%

Topics:

What are the costs and benefits of psychological classification?

Are all psychotherapies equal?

Is electroconvulsive therapy ethical?

Optional paper #2 Due: November 16 1.5%

Topics:

Does Dissociative Identity Disorder exist?

What, if any, changes should be made to Axis II?

What is the most debilitating symptom of schizophrenia?

Optional paper #3 Due: December 2 1.5%

On any topic in abnormal psychology you wish to write about.

A Few Administrative Details:

1. Lectures account for a substantial amount of the course material. Therefore, a large portion of the material presented in lectures will not be available in the textbook. We will supply an outline of the lectures (i.e., lecture slides) at least a week prior to the lecture; however, these do not include all relevant material and will not be a substitute for attendance.

2. Note on avoidance of academic offences: All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offence, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offence is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline) which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar. If you need help in learning how to avoid offences such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean.

3. Cheating on tests is unacceptable. Allowing another to copy one's work is an academic offence just as is copying from someone else.

Class Schedule

Sept. 14	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology	Ch. 1, 2
Sept. 16	Assessment of Psychopathology	Ch. 4
Sept. 21	Diagnosis, Classification, and the DSM-IV	Ch. 3
Sept. 23	Psychological Interventions	Ch. 17
Sept. 28	Mood Disorders - Part I	Ch. 10
Sept. 30	Mood Disorders - Part II	Ch. 10
Oct. 5	TEST # 1	
Oct. 7	OCD & PTSD	Ch. 6
Oct. 12	Anxiety, Panic, and Phobia	Ch. 6
Oct. 14	Dissociative Disorders	Ch. 7
Oct. 19	Somatoform Disorders	Ch. 7
Oct. 21	Personality Disorders	Ch. 13
Oct. 26	Dimensional Models of Personality	
Oct. 28	Schizophrenia - Part I	Ch. 11
Nov. 2	TEST # 2	
Nov. 4	Schizophrenia - Part II	
Nov. 9	Eating Disorders	Ch. 9
Nov. 11	Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders	Ch. 14
Nov. 16	Disorders of Childhood - Part I	Ch. 15
Nov. 18	Disorders of Childhood - Part II	Ch. 15
Nov. 23	Substance-Related Disorders	Ch. 12
Nov. 25	TEST # 3	
Nov. 30	Cosmetic Psychopharmacology	
Dec. 2	Clinical Research at University of Waterloo	