

**St. Jerome's in the University of Waterloo**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**Psychology 317 – Winter 2009**  
**Child Psychopathology**

**Course Outline**

**Instructor:** Dr. M. Drysdale  
**Office:** STJ 2020  
**Phone:** 884-8111, EXT. 28288  
**Email:** [mdrysdal@watarts.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mdrysdal@watarts.uwaterloo.ca)  
**Office Hours:** T 4:30 – 5:00, & TH 12:00 – 1:00 or by appointment ONLY  
**Lectures:** Tuesday 6:00 – 8:50, STJ 2017  
**Teaching Assistants:** Leia Saltzman, [lsaltzman@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:lsaltzman@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca)

**Course Overview:**

Psychology 317 is designed to introduce students to the major clinical disorders and problems occurring during childhood and adolescence. Class discussions will provide coverage of selected topics relating to various types of developmental psychopathology including:

- disorders of behaviour (attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, oppositional defiant disorder and conduct disorder)
- disorders of emotion (anxiety and depression)
- developmental (autism and asperger's syndrome)
- problems related to physical and mental health (health related disorders and eating disorders)
- problems related to family disturbances (child abuse and neglect)

**Learning Objectives:**

At the end of this course, students will have an understanding of:

- basic characteristics and determinants of developmental psychopathology in children
- current conceptual frameworks for defining and understanding developmental psychopathology in children
- approaches to classification, diagnosis and assessment
- conceptual issues associated with the study of child psychopathology
- current research findings on various types of child psychopathology
- current approaches to intervention and prevention and their effectiveness

**Required Text:** Courseware for Psychology 317, available in the bookstore.

**Correspondence:**

Students using email or the telephone to contact the T.A or me **must** include their first and last names, student number, and course in which they are enrolled. Always email us via UW-ACE unless it is an emergency.

Please allow at least 24 hours for a response made between Monday and Thursday and allow the weekend for a response to an inquiry made on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

For course related questions, request for extra help with the content, or to go over one of your exams, please contact the TA (Leia). For all other inquiries or questions, please contact me (Dr. Drysdale) (e.g., missing an exam).

Please do not ask if you can borrow my notes if you miss class.

Do not email or telephone asking for grades. For security reasons, grades are not released over the telephone or Internet. If my door is open feel free to approach. Please knock first. If the door is closed, I am away or busy. Please respect this.

**Evaluations:**

Exam 1:	January 27	25%
Exam 2:	March 3	25%
Research Article Assignment:	March 17 (6:30pm)	18%
Exam 3:	March 31	25%
Online Discussion and Course Participation:	Weekly before class (by 5 pm) Starts on January 20	7%

NOTE: EXAM DATES and DUE DATES ARE FINAL: PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST ANY ALTERNATE DATES/TIMES (medical exceptions excluded, see below).

### Exams

- Exams will NOT be cumulative and will cover the lecture material, video material, and readings assigned in the courseware package.
- All exams will have two components. A multiple-choice component and a written component comprised of a short essay. **Each essay will be weighted 5% of your final grade. Multiple choice questions for each exam will be weighted 20% of the final grade.**
- Requests for changing the weighting or the format of tests will not be considered.
- **CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**; students are referred to the university policy on scholastic offences. Looking at the test of another student, allowing another student to view your exam, or obtaining information about a test in advance are all examples of cheating. Students found cheating will receive a zero (0%) on that exam. A number of safeguards will be employed to discourage cheating. For example, invigilators of the tests will ask students to move to another seat during the exam, cover their paper, avert their eyes from other students' papers, remove baseball caps, etc. This is not meant as a personal affront or as an accusation of cheating, rather as vigilant attempts at proctoring. It is strongly recommended that you **do not** sit with friends during the examinations.
- All incidences of cheating will be reported to the Department Chair and the Associate Dean. The Associate Dean will then record the offence in the students record. In addition, the professor will recommend that the student be required to withdraw from the university.

### Class Participation

- As an upper level psychology course, students are expected to evaluate critically the literature on the topics presented. It is important to keep up with the readings so you are prepared for classroom discussions. There are seven weekly assignments for which students can earn a participation grade of 1%. Questions for the weekly reading(s) (available in your courseware) will be posted on ACE the Thursday prior to each Tuesday class. Students are required to answer one question only and submit their answer into the drop box on the 317 ACE site. Answers must be scholarly; simply submitting a response does not guarantee 1%.

### Research Article Assignment

- The criteria for the research article assignment will be given on March 10<sup>th</sup> and will be due during class on March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The articles for this assignment are in section 4 of the courseware package.
- Each student will be assigned an article (by random draw) with specific questions to address.
- Please follow APA guidelines for content and format.
- Assignments can be completed individually or in groups of two. If you choose to do a group assignment, both students in the group will receive the same grade regardless of the division of labour.
- Late assignments will be deducted 20% per day starting on March 17.
- The quality, clarity, and content of "what you say" (i.e., the scholarship of what you write) account for 50%. This includes the APA format (reference citations), spelling, grammar and punctuation. If a paper is poorly written (many spelling mistakes and grammatical errors) then it will be given a failing grade. I am not able to evaluate the content if I am not able to read it. Or make sense of it. Please note that ALL empirical and theoretical statements **MUST BE REFERENCED**.

### **POLICY REGARDING ILLNESS OR ACCOMMODATION**

- Students are entitled to a rescheduling of exams or an extension of deadlines for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons. Students are also entitled to rescheduling of exams based on religious grounds. However, **it is the student's responsibility** to inform the instructor **PRIOR** to the due date or exam date, to arrange a timely makeup, and to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical, compassionate, or religious claim (University of Waterloo Calendar).
- If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, you should contact your instructor and the Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered (University of Waterloo Calendar. If a student completes an exam while ill, the grade stands).

## **PROFESSOR'S REQUIREMENTS REGARDING ILLNESS**

- Only on the documented basis of illness or other extreme circumstance will students be permitted to write a make-up test. In the case of illness, a student **must** contact the professor (Dr. Drysdale) **PRIOR TO THE TEST** (the voice mail stamps the date and time of telephone calls). The student must provide an *official "Verification of Illness" certificate* from the University of Waterloo, which states that, due to medical reasons, it was **impossible** for the student to write the exam at the scheduled time (i.e., severe illness). **A NOTE SCRIBBLED ON A PRESCRIPTION PAD IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE MEDICAL CERTIFICATE** (see page 1:8-9 of the University of Waterloo Calendar regarding the standard practices with respect to illness). The University of Waterloo charges a fee for a "Verification of Illness" certificate.
- **If you are sick and you contact me after the exam, you will not be permitted to write the test.** You will receive a 'zero' on that test. Exception to this: if you are involved in an accident on your way to the exam (documentation required) and as a result you are not able to call me. If you are extremely incapacitated, in hospital or have had an unexpected death in the family within 24 hours of the test, then have a friend or family member call ASAP.
- If you miss an exam because of a family emergency such as a death, you must provide a copy of the death certificate and funeral/memorial announcement or card.
- Any student missing an exam with a valid reason must write a make-up exam. The make-up exam may differ in format from the original exam (e.g., an entire essay exam). Eliminating an exam from the course requirements and redistributing grades is not an option. If you miss an exam, you will receive an "INC" for the course.
- Please note that the following are **NOT** valid reasons for rescheduling an exam:
  - Travel plans (athletic or personal)
  - Missing your bus or ride to campus
  - Work overload. You can have as many as 5 exams in a single day during the regular term.
  - Sleeping-in or alarm clock problems.
  - Forgetting you had an exam or forgetting you were registered in the course.

## **RELEASE OF GRADES:**

When tests are graded, the results will be posted on ACE. Grades are not released over email or telephone. Do not send an email to the Instructor or TA regarding "when will the grades be posted?" We endeavour to complete the grading as quickly as possible.

## **AVOIDANCE OF ACADEMIC OFFENSES**

A note on avoidance of academic offenses: All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts and its colleges are expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. Students who are unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who need help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating), or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, TA, academic advisor, the appropriate ST. Jerome's departmental Chair, or ultimately the Appeals Officer (currently the Associate Dean) for St. Jerome's University. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline) which is supplied in the university of Waterloo Undergraduate Calendar (on the web at

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.html>) and St. Jerome's University Calendar.

If you believe you have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized, you may grieve this decision in accord with Policy #70, *Student Grievance*, [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses 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; the appropriate St. Jerome's departmental chair and ultimately the Appeals Officer (currently the Associate Dean) for St. Jerome's University. Further information on "*How to Avoid Plagiarism and Other Written Offences: A Guide for Students and Instructors*" can be found at <http://watarts.uwaterloo.ca/~sager/plagiarism.html>.

## **PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS\***

In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor (informal consultation). If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal must be made to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied, the written appeal should then be sent to the Departmental Chair or appropriate authority. If the formal response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, he/she may then initiate a hearing before a tribunal

established at the Faculty or University level (see Policy 70, Academic Grievances, Type 1 in the St. Jerome's University Calendar or the University of Waterloo Calendar). More information regarding appeals can be obtained by contacting the St. Jerome's Student Appeals Officer or the Ombudsperson's Office (Student Life Centre, Room 2128, 885-1211). The full text of **Policy 70** is available on the Web as well as from the Secretariat (Needles Hall, Room 3060).  
<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.pdf>

#### **OTHER INFORMATION**

- Students with documented or suspected disabilities (i.e., physical, learning, or sensory disabilities or chronic medical conditions) are encouraged to contact the Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD) to determine eligibility for their services. OPD is located in Needles Hall 1132, 888-4567, ext. 35082.
- Student ID Cards are necessary for examinations. Please place them on the corner of your desk.
- Absolutely no cellular telephones, headphones, or other electronic devices are permitted on your desk during examinations. Baseball caps should not be worn during examinations. If you must wear one, the cap must be worn backward so that your eyes are visible to proctors.
- Backpacks must be stored beneath your desk or at the front of the classroom during examinations. Purses and other personal items must also be stored beneath the desk.
- Do ***NOT*** sit with friends during examinations.
- Students who are dissatisfied with their academic achievement are *strongly* encouraged to seek advice from a study skills counsellor at Needles Hall (**888-4567, Ext. 32655**), the teaching assistant, or the professor ***prior*** to their next exam(s).
- If you bring coffee & other drinks and/or muffins & other food into the classroom, please take your empty cups, tins, wrappers, crumbs, etc. with you and dispose of them in the wastebasket.
- Please do not email the professor or the TA requesting information on required readings/chapters for exams. Please refer to your outline.
- Please turn off your cell phones during class.

\*Portions of these sections were taken from the following sources: Academic Calendars of St. Jerome's University, the University of Waterloo, the University of Western Ontario and the University of Calgary.

#### **Lecture Schedule and Required Readings**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Courseware Section</b>
January 6	Introduction	
January 6	Theories and Causes	One
January 13	Research Methodology	One
January 20	Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment	One
<b>January 27</b>	<b>Exam 1 (25%)</b>	<b>Section One</b>
February 3	Anxiety Disorders Video: OCD	Two
February 10	Mood Disorders	Two
February 17	Reading Week – No Lecture	
February 24	Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Video: ADHD	Two
<b>March 3</b>	<b>Exam 2 (25%)</b>	<b>Section Two</b>
March 10	Conduct Disorders	Three
March 10	Research article assignment criteria announced	
March 17	Pervasive Developmental Disorders Video: Asperger's Syndrome	Three
<b>March 17</b>	<b>Research Article Assignment Due (18%)</b>	<b>Section Four</b>
March 24	Health Related Disorders and Child Abuse Videos: Eating Disorders and Child Abuse	Three
<b>March 31</b>	<b>Exam 3 (25%)</b>	<b>Section Three</b>