

NORTHEASTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

PSYCHOLOGY 212 -- ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
FALL 2007

Course: Psychology 212
Title: Abnormal Psychology
Credits: Three Credit Hours

Textbooks: “Abnormal Psychology, fifth edition”, Ronald J. Comer
“Case Studies in Abnormal Psychology”, Gorenstein & Comer

Access to textbook website through instructor’s web page

Instructor: Lora Chavis
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Office Hours: Will be posted on my office door and on Web site

Course Description: (NETC college catalog) *This course is the study of the nature and development of behavioral disorders, including the investigation of contemporary treatment procedures.*

College-Wide Learning Objective for Social Sciences Department:
Demonstrate an awareness of an international perspective to include ethnic/cultural diversity.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate the following competencies:

- Define abnormality from the perspectives of deviance, distress, dysfunction and danger in addition to the difficulties in defining abnormality.
- Compare and contrast current theories in abnormal psychology.
- Describe the role of research in the field of abnormal psychology.
- Describe how the treatment of mental illness has changed over time.
- Summarize the multi-axial approach of the DSM and describe the general features of the DSM -IV TR.
- Identify the indicators of various psychological disorders and preferred treatment for each disorder.

CLASSROOM/COURSE POLICIES

I.D. Badges: Required at ALL times.

Please refer to pg. 47 of the NETC college catalog for additional information.)

Classroom Etiquette and Conduct of Classes: The following is expected:

- Attendance
- Timeliness
- Respect for Instructor/Fellow Students
- Being prepared for class
- NO sleeping in class.

Refer to pages 45 and 51 in NETC Catalog

Electronic Devices in the Classroom: NOT ALLOWED.

Includes:

- Cell phones (Must be turned off.) Families should be instructed to call 921-6900 if an emergency occurs. Security WILL locate you if you are in class.
- PDA
- IPOD/MP3
- Beepers

Exception: - Rescue, medical personnel & law enforcement. Must inform instructor if you are required to have pagers, etc. activated while in class.

(Refer to page 44 of the NETC college catalog.)

Students with Disabilities: are encouraged to contact the Vice-President for Student Services to discuss needs or concerns as they pursue an academic program and participate in campus life. The Vice-President for Student Services will provide

guidance regarding official documentation of disabilities and/or accommodation of needs. **See NETC College catalog, page 16 and 31.**

Attendance: REQUIRED

- Notify Instructor of extended periods of absence
- It is the student's responsibility to get class notes and other materials missed due to absence. **Refer to page 29 of the NETC college catalog for definitions of attendance requirements.**

Absence and Tardy Policy:

There are **NO** excused absences. Because of this, absences should be saved in case of emergencies or illness.

- Required to attend 80% of classes from the date of enrollment.
- Monday, Wednesday, and Friday classes are allowed a maximum of 9 absences.
- Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday and Thursday have a maximum of 6 absences.
- Evening classes that meet once a week, 3 absences are allowed.
- Summer school 8 absences allowed for daytime classes. Summer students in evening classes are allowed two absences.

Students who exceed their absences will be dropped with a grade of "F".

Tardy Policy: A student is considered tardy if not in the classroom at the time the teacher begins class instruction. Three (3) times tardy equals one full absence.

Exceeding the Absence Limit: Once the absence limit has been reached, students will be dropped from class for excessive absences and the student will receive an F for the course. **See p. 29 of the NETC college catalog regarding absence policies.**

Withdrawal from Course:

- **Check first with the Financial Aid Office.**
- **Complete the Drop/Add form & have advisor/instructor sign.**

BEFORE MIDTERM

- Grade will be W

AFTER MIDTERM/BEFORE LAST DROP DAY

- Grade will be W, if you are passing the course
- Grade will be WF if you are failing the course.
- **See page 30 and 38 of the NETC college catalog.**

Academic Discipline and Honesty: The College expects each student to earn his/her own grades; if academic dishonesty occurs, disciplinary action will be taken.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification of information. **Plagiarizing a written assignment will result in a zero "0" for that assignment. (Refer to pp. 27-28 of the NETC college catalog.)**

COURSE INFORMATION AND POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Instructional Methods to Complete Objectives/Learning Outcomes: Classroom lectures will be supplemented by videos, assessments, readings, computer research, and other materials at the discretion of the Instructor We will use the textbook for

content, terminology and information. You may use your Study Guide to assist and test your learning.

Several web sites will be used to supplement classroom and textbook material and content. The textbook web site also has practice tests and flashcards available that will also help in preparation for tests.

Videos will further enhance and enrich the course's topics. You will fill out and interpret some psychological assessments to learn more about yourself. You will do a little research (but not write a research paper) to learn more about how psychologists conduct their research, what topics they study, and how that applies to people's lives. Other topics will also be explored through web sites during the course.

Evaluation Methods to Appraise Objectives/Learning Outcomes: There will be **seven tests** that will count as 85% of your grade. (The last test is during the final exam period). Your lowest exam grade will be dropped. A grade worksheet is attached to this syllabus so you can keep track of your own grades and progress in the course. Please write down your grades each time tests are returned so that you can keep up with your progress.

The grading scale is as follows:

90 – 100 = A
80 -- 89 = B
70 -- 79 = C
60 -- 69 = D
0 -- 59 = F

Make Up Tests: You are allowed **ONE** make-up test if you have a situation that prevents your attendance on a scheduled test day.

To make up a test, you MUST do the following:

1. Contact the instructor **within 24 hours** of the test. (E-mail and voice mail is available at all times.)
2. Your make-up test **coupon must be turned in** with the test to receive credit.
3. Tests must be made up within **two** business days of the test date.

NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.

Project: Will count 15% of your grade. You will select one psychological disorder described in the text and write a short (3-5 page) paper on this disorder, utilizing at least 3 scholarly references. You may use a film that demonstrates the disorder you choose as one reference. Five points will be deducted from your project grade for each **class period** your paper is late.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF
CHAPTERS COVERED, TESTS
AND GRADE SHEET**

			Grades
Chapters 1-2	Abnormal Behavior Past & Present Models of Abnormality	Test # 1	_____
Chapter 3	Assessment, Diagnosis, Treatment	Test #2	_____
Chapter 4-5	Anxiety Disorders PTSD Case Studies 1, 2, 3	Test # 3	_____
Chapter 7-8	Mood Disorders Suicide Case Studies 4, 5	Test # 4	_____
Chapter 9 Chapter 11	Eating Disorders Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders Case Studies 9, 11	Test # 5	_____
Chapter 12	Schizophrenia Case Study 12	Test # 6	_____
Chapter 14	Psychological Disorders of Childhood Case Studies 15, 16, 17		
		Test # 7 <u>(Final Exam)</u>	_____
Test Average x 85%		1.	_____
Project: Due: 11/27/07 Grade x 15%		2.	_____
	TOTAL (1+2=)		_____
	FINAL GRADE		_____