

**Psychology 385 (L02)****Abnormal Psychology****Fall 2014**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Raymond Lamontagne	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	SA 106
<b>Phone:</b>	403-944-4784	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	W 18:00-20:50
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	By appointment		

**Course Description and Goals**

This course will provide an overview of the field of psychopathology, including theory on abnormal behaviour, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. Disorders to be covered include anxiety disorders, mood disorders and suicide, schizophrenia spectrum/psychotic disorders, eating disorders, substance-related disorders, developmental disorders, and personality disorders. The format of the course will be lectures and discussion although video may be used to supplement core material. Students who complete the course will gain an understanding of how abnormal behaviour is defined, the processes of assessment and diagnosis (particularly differential diagnosis based on specific real-world examples), current evidence-based treatments for a variety of disorders (particularly from cognitive-behavioral, mindfulness/acceptance, and short term psychodynamic models), and research considerations related to each core area of abnormal psychology.

**Prerequisites**

Psychology 200 – Principles of Psychology I

Psychology 201 – Principles of Psychology II

**Required Text**

Barlow, D. H., Durand, V. M., Stewart, S. H., & Lalumiere, M. L. (2015). *Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach* (4th Edition). Toronto: Nelson Education.

Available in the University Bookstore. Although you may find used previous editions of the text, it is highly recommended that you obtain the current edition, as it is updated for the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5).

**Note** that the lectures are generally intended to highlight and expand on rather than summarize assigned text content. As such, you will benefit the most from the lectures by reading the assigned chapters before coming to class. Read now, cram less later. Don't get cocky. Cramming does not work that well.

## Evaluation

Term Exam #1	33.3%	Chapters 1-6 (excluding 4) & Lecture material	October 8th, 2014
Term Exam #2	33.3%	Chapters 7-12 & Lecture material	November 12, 2014
Final exam	33.3%	Chapters 13-16 & Lecture material	Scheduled by registrar (TBD)

All four exams are **not** cumulative. Exams will be closed-book (i.e., textbooks/notes are not permitted) and will consist of multiple-choice questions. Questions will cover **both** textbook and lecture material, including any material from presented multimedia or other sources. Given that some questions will cover lecture material that is not present in the text, regular attendance at lectures is a rather good idea. As a heads up, I prefer to test on general principles and application of principles rather than persnickety little details, although I will include a smattering of detail-type questions to reward those who really do read all the text chapters carefully.

### Department of Psychology Grade Distribution Policy

The distribution of grades in Psychology courses (the percentage of A grades, B grades, etc.) will be similar to the distribution of grades in other courses in the Faculty of Arts. The Department monitors the grade distributions of 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses in the Faculty to ensure that the grade distributions in Psychology courses are comparable. Based on these reviews, students can expect that 1) up to 30% of grades in 200- and 300-level psychology courses will be "A" grades (A+, A, and A-), and 2) up to 40% of grades 400-level psychology courses will be "A" grades.

### Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

**A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance.*** An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

**A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance.*** Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

**B Range: *Good Performance.*** Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

**C Range: *Satisfactory Performance.*** Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

**D range: *Marginally meets standards.*** Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

F grade: *Course standards not met.* Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

**Grading Scale**

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor’s discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

To determine final letter grades in this course, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

**Tentative Lecture Schedule**

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
W Sep 10	Introduction to course, definition of psychological disorder, historical context (text Chapter 1)
W Sep 17	General causal theories of psychopathology, diagnosis (text Chapters 2 and 3)
F Sep 19	Last day to drop full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. No refunds for full courses (Multi-term) or Fall Term half courses after this date.
M Sep 22	Last day to add or swap full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.
W Sep 24	Anxiety, trauma, and the obsessive-compulsive spectrum (text Chapter 5)
F Sep 26	Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.
W Oct 1	Somatic symptom and dissociative disorders (text Chapter 6)
W Oct 8	Term exam # 1
W Oct 15	Mood disorders, suicide (text Chapter 7)
W Oct 22	Eating, sleep, and health-related disorders (text Chapters 8 and 9)
W Oct 29	Sexual disorders, gender dysphoria, substance-related disorders (text Chapters 10 and 11)
W Nov 5	Personality Disorders (text Chapter 12)
W Nov 12	Term exam #2
W Nov 19	Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders (text Chapter 13)
W Nov 26	Developmental and cognitive disorders (text chapters 14 and 15)
W Dec 3	Legal and ethical issues in psychopathology (text chapter 16)
F Dec 5	Fall Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.
Dec 8-18	Fall Term Exam Period.

### **Reappraisal of Grades**

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

### **Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

### **Academic Accommodation**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

### **Absence From A Test/Exam**

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

### **Travel During Exams**

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered except under exceptional circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act**

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 255), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

### **Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)**

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Dec 5, 2014**.

### **Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

### **Student Organizations**

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

**Student Union VP Academic:** Phone: 403-220-3911

[suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)

**Student Union Faculty Rep.:** Phone: 403-220-3913

[socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **Student Ombudsman's Office**

The Office of the Student Ombudsmen provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)

(<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

### **Safewalk**

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year.

Call 403-220-5333.

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund is Friday, September 19, 2014**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Monday, September 22, 2014**.

The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 5, 2014**.