

PSYC 385	Abnormal Psychology	Summer 2021
<b>Instructor:</b>	Sabine Soltani	<b>Lecture Location:</b> Online, D2L
<b>Phone:</b>	N/A	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b> MW, 13:00-15:45
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<b>Office:</b>	Online	
<b>Office Hours:</b>	By appointment via Zoom (email to schedule)	

### Course Description

This course will serve as an introduction to the field of psychopathology across the lifespan (with an emphasis on adult psychopathology). We will examine the historical origins of psychopathology, theories related to abnormal behaviour, and how to classify and diagnose psychological disorders. A number of different disorders will be examined in terms of their etiology (what contributes to the development of the disorder), specific defining features, developmental course, assessment (the measurement of disorders), treatment (ways to intervene), and prognosis of the major psychological disorders. Current theory and research will be emphasized.

### Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see [psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/program-learning-outcomes](http://psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/program-learning-outcomes)), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Identify and describe biological, psychological, and sociocultural bases of adult psychopathology.	Multiple choice exams Written assignment	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	I
Describe how the understanding and classification of mental disorders evolved over time.	Multiple choice exams	1,	I
Accurately identify different mental disorders including their classification, causes, symptoms, and diagnostic criteria.	Multiple choice exams Written assignment	1, 2, 4, 7	C
Identify legal and ethical issues related to mental health/disorders.	Multiple choice exams	1, 6	I
Identify issues and methods related to the prevention and treatment of mental health problems.	Multiple choice exams	1, 2, 4, 7	I
Identify and compare similarities and differences between disorders and/or disorder subtypes within/between different diagnostic criteria.	Multiple choice exams Written assignment	1, 2, 4, 7	C

Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles in a diverse world, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills, 8 = Demonstrate multicultural competence and awareness of issues related to equity, diversity,\* and inclusion. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

### **Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity**

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

### **Course Format**

Lectures will be taught live via Zoom during each scheduled class as per the course schedule below, and corresponding lecture PowerPoint slides will be posted to D2L after class. Recordings of the lectures will not be posted on D2L.

All information regarding the course, exams, and assignments will be posted on D2L and students should be diligent in keeping up to date with the information to ensure course requirements are met and to keep apprised of any changes or updates to the course information.

### **Prerequisites**

PSYC 200 – Principles of Psychology I

PSYC 201 – Principles of Psychology II

### **Required Text**

Dozois, D.J.A. (2019). *Abnormal Psychology Perspectives* (6th Ed.). Toronto: Pearson Canada.  
Available at the U of C bookstore or as an e-book.

### **Assessment Methods**

The evaluation of this course will include two midterm exams, one written assignment, and a final exam. The three exams will be multiple choice and non-cumulative.

<b>Component and format</b>	<b>% of Grade</b>	<b>Material evaluated/required</b>	<b>Released</b>	<b>Due</b>
Midterm exam 1	25%	Chapters: 1-5 And corresponding lectures	July 12, 1:00pm	July 13, 1:00pm
Midterm exam 2	25%	Chapters: 8, 9, 11, 12 And corresponding lectures	July 26, 1:00pm	July 27, 1:00pm
Written Assignment	20%	Brief description below. Additional details to be provided in class and posted on D2L.	N/A	August 11, 11:59pm; hand in via D2L
Final Exam	30%	Chapters: 13, 14, 16, 17, 19	TBD	TBD – will take place during final

		And corresponding lectures		exam period August 13-17
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**Midterm Exams:**

Midterm exams will be delivered online via the Quizzes section on D2L. All exams (including the final exam) will be non-cumulative, multiple-choice format, based on the textbook and lecture materials. There will be no lecture on midterm days. The midterms will be released at class time (i.e., 1:00pm on Monday July 12, and 1:00pm on Monday July 26). Each midterm exam will be 90 minutes in duration, with an additional 45 minutes allotted to accommodate any technology issues that may arise, for a total of 135 minutes. Students will be able to write the exam during a 135-minute timeframe of their choosing within the 24-hour period of the specified exam day. Not all testable material will be covered in lectures, and students will be responsible for all assigned readings from the text even if the specific content has not been covered in lectures. The exams must be finished and submitted before the 1:00pm deadline on the due date (no late submissions will be accepted). Students with academic accommodations should contact the instructor to make appropriate adjustments to the allotted times for exam completion.

**Final Exam:**

Similar to the midterm exams, the final exam will be non-cumulative, multiple-choice format, based on the textbook and lecture materials. The final exam will be 120 minutes (2 hours) in duration, with an additional 60 minutes allotted to accommodate any technology issues that may arise, for a total of 180 minutes (3 hours). This means students may begin the exam at any time during the 24-hour window, but will only have 3 hours to complete it. Not all testable material will be covered in lectures, and students will be responsible for all assigned readings from the text even if the specific content has not been covered in lectures. The exams must be finished and submitted before the deadline on the due date (no late submissions will be accepted). Students with academic accommodations should contact the instructor to make appropriate adjustments to the allotted times for exam completion.

**Are the exams open book?**

Exams for this course are open book. For this course, an open book exam means that the use of class notes and the textbook is permitted. **The use of online resources is prohibited. Students may/may not communicate with others about course material or the exam either in person or electronically during the entirety of the exam administration period.**

**Written Assignment:**

This assignment will involve watching a movie (list of options to be provided in class) and writing a brief review (2 pages double-spaced) from a psychopathological perspective, integrating course material. More detailed instructions for assignment completion will be posted on D2L and will be provided in class. Assignment will be due on due date noted above via the course's D2L dropbox. Assignments will not be accepted via email without prior instructor approval. Without instructor approval, late assignments will be penalized 10% per day, including weekends. Assignments more than 5 days late will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

**University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity.

Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional code of conduct and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary's reputation of excellence. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have read and are familiar with the student academic misconduct policy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

### **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, 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 (revise and add columns & rows as necessary)
M Jun 28	<i>First Day of Classes</i> Introduction and welcome Definitions of Abnormal Behaviour (Chapter 1)
W Jun 30	Theories of Abnormal Behaviour (Chapter 2) Classification and Diagnosis (Chapter 3)
R Jul 1	<b>CANADA DAY No Classes</b>
F Jul 2	<i>Last day to drop classes without penalty and last day to add or swap classes.</i>
M Jul 5	Psychological Assessment and Research Methods (Chapter 4)
W Jul 7	Anxiety/OCD/Trauma-Related Disorders (Chapter 5)
M Jul 12	<b>Exam 1 (chapters 1-5)</b>
W Jul 14	Mood Disorders and Suicide (Chapter 8) Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders (Chapter 9)
M Jul 19	Personality Disorders (Chapter 12)
W Jul 21	Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders (Chapter 11)
M Jul 26	<b>Exam 2 (chapters 8, 9, 11, 12)</b>
W Jul 28	Neurodevelopmental Disorders (Chapter 14)
M Aug 2	<b>HERITAGE DAY No Classes</b>
W Aug 4	Therapies (Chapter 17)
M Aug 9	Aging and Mental Health (Chapter 16) (Guest lecturer: Dr. Calandra Speirs) Gender Identity (Chapter 13)
W Aug 11	<i>End of Spring Lectures and last day to withdraw from a course.</i> Mental Disorder and the Law (Chapter 19) <b>Written Assignment due</b>
W Aug 13-17	<i>Final Exams</i> <b>Final exam will cover ch. 13, 14, 16, 17, 19</b> Final exam TBD by registrar

\*\*Some minor changes in the course outline may occur and some lectures may shift dates as appropriate and informed by class progress. Any changes will be communicated to the class during class time and posted on D2L. Students will be responsible for keeping up to date with any changes.

**Extra Research Participation Course Credit is Not Offered for this Course.**

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

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor. A student may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request for a make-up exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html> . Students who miss a test/exam have up to 24 hours to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. It's the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 24-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. Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within 1 week of the missed test/exam. during exam make-up hours provided by the department <http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-and-course-information#mues>. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

### **Travel During Exams**

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official June and August examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology (psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).

**Reappraisal of Graded Term Work** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

**Reappraisal of Final Grade** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **Academic Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

### **Academic Misconduct**

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **Copyright Legislation**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

### **Student Support and Resources**

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.