Abnormal Psychology
PSRU 2900, R11

Syllabus, Summer 2016

Professor: Dr. Peggy Andover
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Phone: 718-817-0188
Office Hours: Dealy 420; by appointment

Class Times and Location:
MTWR 9-12, TBA

Textbook (Required):

Course Description:
The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an overview of abnormal psychology, or psychopathology. Complexities in distinguishing abnormal from normal behaviors will be discussed. Etiology, prevalence, symptoms, and course of various psychological disorders will be covered, with an emphasis on the scientific investigation of psychopathology. The course will use movies to investigate the accuracy of representations of mental illness in popular culture, including how these representations inform our understanding of and attitudes towards mental illness.

Class Format:
A lecture format will be used. Class participation is expected. Demonstrations and movie clips may be used to illustrate principles.

Grading:

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<th>Midterm</th>
<th>Term Paper</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
<th>Final Exam</th>
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Final Grades:
A 95% and above    B+ 87.0 – 89.9%    C+ 77.0 – 79.9%    D 60.0 – 69.9%
A- 90.0 – 94.9%    B 84.0 – 86.9%    C 74.0 – 76.9%    F Below 60%
B- 80.0 – 83.9%    C- 70.0 – 73.9%

Writing Assignment:
Students will write a 6-8 page research paper on a topic related to abnormal psychology; students may choose a specific psychological disorder or abnormal behavior to be the focus of their paper. Instructions on the paper will be distributed the first week of class.

Presentation:
Students will give a 15-minute presentation on their term paper to the class during the last week of the semester; each presentation will have a five-minute question and answer period.
Make-Up Policy:
All students are expected to take course exams and complete assignments according to the course schedule. Late assignments (i.e., term paper) will not be accepted unless arrangements with the professor have been made. If you must miss an exam due to illness or some other reason, you may request a make-up examination before the exam begins. Make-up exams will only be granted after appropriate written notice is given (i.e., signed memo from academic dean, academic advisor, or medical professional with the date and reason for absence). Make-up exams will be entirely essays.

Class Attendance:
Attending class is entirely your responsibility as a student. It is highly recommended that you attend class so that you can learn the material, ask questions, and participate in discussions. Lectures will include information not included in the text. Exams will focus on lecture material, readings (text and distributed in class), and in-class activities, and they will include information not covered in the text. Per Fordham’s student attendance policy, you are allowed 3 absences for any reason (excused and unexcused). However, you are responsible for the material you missed, including assigned exercises. Lecture notes will not be available outside of class. If you miss a class, please make arrangements with a classmate to obtain missed information.

Academic Honesty Policy:
Fordham University’s academic integrity standards will be upheld in this class. The term paper must be submitted using turnitin.com. If you are caught cheating on an exam, paper, or assignment, you will receive a zero for that exam, paper, or assignment. This includes cheating in any form, such as using notes on tests, copying answers from another person, verifying one’s answers with another person, giving test information or answers to another, and representing someone else’s work as one’s own (plagiarism). Penalties from the Arts and Sciences Policy on Academic Integrity can include an F in the course, documentation of the incident in your official student record, suspension, and expulsion.

Disability Statement:
Under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, all students, with or without disabilities, are entitled to equal access to the programs and activities of Fordham University. If you believe that you have a disabling condition that may interfere with your ability to participate in the activities, coursework, or assessment of the object of this course, you may be entitled to accommodations. Please schedule an appointment to speak with someone at the Office of Disability Services (Rose Hill - O’Hare Hall, Lower Level, x0655 or at Lincoln Center – Room 207, x6282).
Class Schedule:
The following is a tentative schedule of topics. Some dates and topics may be modified during the semester. You will be expected to have read the chapter before it is discussed in class.

What is Abnormal Psychology? (Chapter 1) May 31
Researching Abnormal Psychology (Chapter 4) June 1 & 2
Theories of Psychopathology (Chapter 2) June 6
Assessment and Diagnosis (Chapter 3) June 7
Anxiety Disorders and PTSD (Chapter 5) June 8 & 9
Mood Disorders and Suicide (Chapter 7) June 13 & 14

Midterm Exam June 15

Schizophrenia and Psychotic Disorders (Chapter 8) June 15 & 16
Dissociative Disorders (Chapter 6), Eating Disorders (Chapter 12) June 20
Personality Disorders (Chapter 9) June 21 & 22
Childhood Disorders (Chapter 10) June 23

Neurocognitive Disorders (Chapter 10), Sexual Disorders and Gender Identity Disorder (Chapter 13) June 27

Substance Related Disorders (Chapter 14), Health Psychology (Chapter 15) June 28

Presentations June 29

Paper Due June 30
Final Exam June 30