

**Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 2900, R11
Syllabus, Summer 2019**

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):
Nolen-Hoeksema, S. (2017). *Abnormal Psychology, 7th edition*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

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:

Midterm	30%	Term Paper	15%	Presentation	15%
Final Exam	30%	Participation	10%		

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 10-minute presentation on their term paper to the class during the last week of the semester; each presentation will be followed by 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. 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. **Per Fordham's student attendance policy, you will be encouraged to withdraw from the course after 3 absences for any reason (excused and unexcused), as this is roughly equivalent to missing 3 weeks of classes during the semester.**

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.

Electronics Policy:

Research has shown that students who take notes on laptops perform worse on quizzes and exams than students who take notes longhand (Mueller & Oppenheimer, 2014). Students who took notes by hand demonstrated a better understanding of the material and were able to apply and integrate the material more effectively than students who took notes on laptops. Given this empirical data, you are encouraged to take notes by hand. Some students will prefer to use a laptop; please stay focused on the class so that you don't miss material and you are able to participate in class discussions. It is inappropriate and unprofessional to spend class time working on assignments for other classes, on social media, or engaging in other activities on the Internet (e.g., reading news, shopping, online gambling). Consider turning off your WiFi during class to minimize distractions. If it is found that any student is using a laptop for non-class related activities, use of laptops during class will be banned for the entire class. Cell phone or smart phone use of any kind during class is unacceptable; please make sure your phone is off before class begins.

Disability Statement:

If you are a student with a documented disability and require academic accommodations, please register with the [Office of Disability Services for Students \(ODS\)](#) in order to request academic accommodations for your courses. Please contact the main ODS number at 718-817-0655 to arrange services. Accommodations are not retroactive, so you need to register with ODS prior to receiving your accommodations. Please see me after class or during office hours if you have questions or would like to submit your academic accommodation letter to me if you have previously registered for accommodations.

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 28
Researching Abnormal Psychology (Chapter 4)	May 29 & 30
Theories of Psychopathology (Chapter 2)	June 3
Assessment and Diagnosis (Chapter 3)	June 4
Anxiety Disorders and PTSD (Chapter 5)	June 5 & 6
Mood Disorders and Suicide (Chapter 7)	June 10 & 11
Midterm Exam	June 12
Schizophrenia and Psychotic Disorders (Chapter 8)	June 12 & 13
Dissociative Disorders (Chapter 6), Eating Disorders (Chapter 12)	June 17
Personality Disorders (Chapter 9)	June 18 & 19
Childhood Disorders (Chapter 10)	June 20
Neurocognitive Disorders (Chapter 10), Sexual Disorders and Gender Identity Disorder (Chapter 13)	
Paper Due	June 24
Substance Related Disorders (Chapter 14), Health Psychology (Chapter 15)	
Presentations	June 25
Presentations	June 26
Final Exam	June 27