

Psychology 2505A - Abnormal Psychology
Fall 2018
Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:25 – 10:50
Room: PE 275



Instructor	Contact Info	Office Hours
Jennifer Williams Psychology Department University of Lethbridge	Office: C878 (University Hall) Email: jennifer.arthur@uleth.ca Phone: (403) 380-1852	Thursdays: 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Or by appointment

Teaching Assistant

Lana Petterson

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Course Description

Abnormal Psychology examines the realm of abnormal behaviour and experiences, their causes, developmental course, and their treatments. This past decade is marked by a blossoming of research on the entire range of psychological disorders, yielding tremendous insight and the recent publication of a new Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (the DSM-5; 2013) by the American Psychiatric Association. In this course we will investigate: historical perspectives on abnormality; a wide range of psychopathologies currently included in the DSM; major theoretical perspectives that attempt to explain mental illness; and research approaches to altering abnormal behaviour.

* *Prerequisite: Psychology 1000*

Textbooks

Title: ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY (TENTH ED)

Required/Optional: Required

Author: Ronald J. Comer & Jonathan S. Comer

Publisher: Worth Publishers

Moodle

In addition to your textbook, Moodle will be used to provide information, assignments, study material, practice exams, etc. for the course. It is your responsibility to keep up to date. Students are strongly encouraged to access the course Moodle site multiple times per week as important materials, discussions, and announcements will be posted regularly throughout the semester.

Copyright, Moodle, and Intellectual Property

With the exception of information that is freely available on the Internet, all course materials should be treated as copyright-protected. You are free to make personal use of any materials posted within Moodle, and you are free to take your own notes in class (of course!). You are not permitted to distribute materials or information in any form to persons not registered in this course in this semester. Once information is in your hands, you are responsible for what you do with it; the Instructor will not be held accountable for students who choose to violate copyright law. Audio or video recording of lectures or any other in-class presentation or activity is strictly prohibited. Doing so is a serious offence as it violates intellectual property rights and the privacy of your classmates who have not consented to have their voice/questions recorded.

Grade Assessment

Your overall grade in the course will be determined by the following:

Midterm Exam 1	33.33%
Midterm Exam 2	33.33%
Final Exam 3	33.34%

3 Exams: in total worth 100% of your course grade.

- Exams will be closed book and written in class.
- Exams will consist of a combination of questions (i.e., multiple choice, true/false, &/or matching questions, fill-in-the-blank, listing, labeling questions, &/or short answer).
- Details regarding the exact format of exams will be made available during class closer to the exam date.
- Exams 1 & 2 are non-cumulative and will cover material from class lectures, class activities and discussion, videos, and any additional required readings and resources. Each exam has a time limit of 90 minutes.
- Final examinations are scheduled by the Registrar after the extended drop period or by the Moodle Testing Centre. Until such time as specific examination dates are announced, students must plan to be available for the entire final examination period (December 8 – 17, 2018). The final exam will be cumulative with 20% of the questions coming from the material covered up to the second midterm and 80% of the material coming from the material covered after the 2nd midterm. The final exam will consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer questions. You will have 2 hours to complete the exam.

Missed Exam /Missed Assignment Policy

If a student is unable to write an exam during the designated exam period, please contact the course Instructor as soon as possible. Medical reasons must be supported by a physician's statement that test performance would be seriously affected by the illness, along with the physician's name and contact information. Non-medical reasons must also be supported. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Instructor to set up a make-up exam. Unless a medical note, documentation of bereavement, or other acceptable documentation is presented, a grade of 0% will be assigned for any exam not written during the designated time.

Students with Special Needs

If you have a documented condition that prevents you from fully participating in this course, including evaluation procedures, it is your responsibility to contact your Instructor regarding your individual situation. Please note that no accommodations will be given without official notification from the Accommodated Learning Centre (<http://www.uleth.ca/ross/accommodated-learning-centre/>)

Grade Ranges

Letter grades will be assigned to final course percentages according to the following scale:

Letter	GPA	Percent	Letter	GPA	Percent
A+	4.0	90 - 100%	C+	2.3	67 - 69.9%
A	4.0	85 - 89.9%	C	2.0	63 - 66.9%
A-	3.7	80 - 84.9%	C-	1.7	60 - 62.9%
B+	3.3	77 - 79.9%	D+	1.3	55 - 59.9%
B	3.0	73 - 76.9%	D	1.0	50 - 54.9%
B-	2.7	70 - 72.9%	F	0	0 - 49.9%

Experimental Research Participation and Bonus Points

This course provides students with an opportunity to get involved as a participant in ongoing research projects. If you volunteer to be a participant, each project usually requires about one hour of your time. In recognition of the value of your data, and in recognition that you are learning something about the discipline of scientific psychology, beyond that of the typical classroom environment, an extra credit of 1 to 2% for each study (variable) in which you participate will be added to your final course percentage. MAXIMUM EXTRA CREDIT = 2%. These extra credits are added after all grade cutoffs have been established for course work, such that students who choose not to participate are not disadvantaged.

Directions for Participation:

You will receive an email to your U of L account with your Login name and password. Please go to <http://psychleth.sona-systems.com> and sign in as soon as you receive notification to do so. Studies will then become available on September 14, 2018. There will be NO transfer of credits between courses. If you are registered in another course that offers credits, a second email will be sent to you with a different email and password. Sign up in the course to which you want your credits to be assigned. Further studies and timeslots will be added throughout the semester, please keep checking, but remember that participation is on a first-come basis. Note that not all students may not be able to achieve the maximum credit. Questions regarding research participation should be directed to Leanne at wehlage@uleth.ca. The last date to participate in studies is December 5, 2018.

University, Classroom, and Teaching Policies and Procedures

- ❖ Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not their own facts. Given the nature of the course material, a diversity of viewpoints will inevitably exist in the classroom. Voicing well-reasoned disagreement with others' opinions is perfectly fine; being combative, intolerant, or disrespectful toward others is not (see the University Calendar Section 5.b.1). Open-mindedness is a prerequisite for learning.
- ❖ As per the University Calendar, Section 5.h.1.: "When a student disrupts instructional activities, the instructor may exclude the student immediately from instructional space and/or from future scheduled instructional meetings of that course pending further actions by the Dean."
- ❖ When students talk amongst themselves during lecture, it disrupts instructional activities and, consequently, your Instructor must respond according to the University Calendar regulation. To minimize other forms of disruption, turn off your cell phone or any other noise-emitting device prior to the beginning of class. Avoid engaging in off-task Internet use (e.g., Facebook, Google, Texting) during lectures as it distracts you and others around you.
- ❖ Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Academic Regulations and Policies contained within the University of Lethbridge Academic Calendar https://www.uleth.ca/ross/sites/ross/files/imported/academic-calendar/2018-19/cal_doc.pdf
- ❖ In all email messages addressed to the Instructor or Teaching Assistant, include the course name and topic of your email in the Subject line. Address the recipient appropriately by name, and end the email by typing your full name. Adhering to this structure makes sending accurate replies and keeping track of correspondences much easier! Every effort will be made to respond to email inquiries in a timely manner during weekday 'working hours' (Monday morning through Friday afternoon). If you fail to structure your email correspondence by these guidelines, or if you email the Instructor with a question that has been clearly answered on Moodle or in this course outline, do not expect a reply.

Tips for success in PSYC 2505

- ❖ Keep your chin up. Research tells us that texting while driving increases one's risk of car accident to a degree roughly equivalent to that of driving drunk. Instructors' experience tells us that texting during class increases students' risk of failing to a degree roughly equivalent to that of coming to class drunk. To increase your likelihood of success - don't do either, or send a designated note-taker on your behalf.
- ❖ Understand that your instructor is your ally, not your adversary. As your Instructor, I want nothing more than for you to feel passionate about, engaged in, and enthralled by Abnormal Psychology as much as I am. I want you to learn, understand, and apply the material, to succeed and earn high grades in the course. I can help you achieve this goal, but I cannot do it for you.
- ❖ Achieving success requires regular class attendance, showing up on time (i.e., before the lecture begins), staying until class has officially ended, paying full attention during lecture, participating in class activities, completing all assigned work, and checking Moodle frequently for valuable resources.
- ❖ If in doubt, find out. If you are unclear about any of the material presented in class or posted as assigned readings in Moodle, or if you have a question that has not been answered in any of the valuable course resources that have been provided to help you, then ASK! Your Instructor is more than happy to address any pertinent questions you may have.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

	Tue	Topic	Thur	Topic
Sept			6	Introduction to the Course
	11	Abnormal Psychology: Past and Present	13	Research in Abnormal Psychology
	18	Models of Abnormality	20	Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment
	25	Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment	27	Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive, and Related Disorders
Oct	2	Disorders of Trauma and Stress	4	Exam 1: includes Chapters 1 through 6 and lectures up to and including Oct 2.
	9	Depressive and Bipolar Disorders	11	Treatment for Depressive and Bipolar Disorder
	16	Suicide	18	Disorders Featuring Somatic Symptoms
	23	Eating Disorders	25	Substance Use and Addictive Disorders
	30	Sexual Disorders and Gender Variations	1	Exam 2: includes Chapters 7 through 13 and lectures from Oct 9 through Oct 30.
Nov	6	Schizophrenia and Related Disorders	8	Schizophrenia Society
	13	Reading Week – No Class	15	Reading Week – No Class
	20	Treatments for Schizophrenia and Other Severe Mental Disorders	22	Personality Disorders
	27	Disorders Common Among Children and Adolescents	29	Disorders of Aging and Cognition
Dec	4	Last Class: Law, Society, and the Mental Health Profession		
Dec 8 -17 Final Exam Period				