Abnormal Psychology
3150 (E03)
Fall 2019

Instructor: Ayurdhi Dhar, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: Melson Hall, Front campus drive: Room: 209
T/R: 9.30 AM-12.30 PM; 2 PM-3.30 PM; 4.45 PM-5.15 PM

While these are the office hours, please schedule appointments with me individually. I reserve the right to change these hours.

Text:
Abnormal Psychology: Contrasting Perspectives by Jonathan D. Raskin

Some material, including research papers, academic articles, videos, and chapters will be provided via Courseden. Accustom yourself with Courseden and if confused, seek help.

Course Objective: This course is aimed to help to learn what mental disorders are, and how they are understood, explained, and treated. We do this through the lens of various theoretical perspectives so we can appreciate the complexity and range of human experience without prematurely pathologizing it, or insensitively minimizing it.

I would advise you to keep pace at one chapter a week, so you can cover the book slowly and in time.

I will add a few audio lectures on some topics. Listening to these lectures is mandatory and they will be included in the quizzes and assignments. We will have an open discussion board throughout the semester, where you can add your thoughts and insights about the book or the lecture. The discussion board will not be graded but I would love to see what you have to say and will respond to it. You have the freedom to join or ignore it.

Course Requirements and Grades: Total: 200 points

1. Each chapter will have either a small quiz worth 10 points (10 multiple-choice questions), OR a longer essay length reflection paper (2 pages) worth 10 points. A prompt will be provided for the reflection paper.

The deadlines for each multiple-choice question quiz and reflection paper submission are the following:

Chapter 1-3: Quizzes close and submission ends on Aug 31st. – 30 points
Chapter 4-7: Quizzes close and submission ends on Sep 30th. – 40 points
Chapter 8-11: Quizzes close and submission ends on Oct 31st. – 40 points
Chapter 12-15: Quizzes close and submission ends on Nov 30th. – 40 points
This lets you, as online students, to have sufficient freedom to move at your own pace, but also provides a basic structure to help not fall behind.

2. Final paper: Due Dec 6th. A 5-page paper where I will give you 3 case studies of someone showing symptoms of a mental disorder. You task will be: first, recognize if you would diagnose this person or not (give reasons), second, to use two theories of your choice to explain their symptoms. More on this in the final paper file. **20 points total**

There are no make-ups and absolutely no deadline extensions.

**Extra-credit:** In the event that you miss an exam or an assignment, you can do the extra credit worth **20 points** to make up for your grade. I would advise against it because the extra-credit is more difficult than most original assignments. The extra-credit is an essay length exam on 4 chapters of my choice from the book, where each question requires **at least** a page of in-depth answers. Each question is worth 4 points. It will be conducted in the last week of November (this way you will know if you need extra-credit or not). It is a difficult exam!

**THINGS I REALLY CARE ABOUT:**

*Professionalism:*
If you have made an appointment and you don’t show up without cancelling first, I will deduct 5 points for unprofessional behavior. It’s totally OK if you cannot make it (we all oversleep), just email me and let me know.

If you don’t understand a concept or are having difficulty with the content, PLEASE COME AND MEET ME DURING OFFICE HOURS and I will personally help you with it.

**Additional Information**

**ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

*Accessibility Services:* Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact [Accessibility Services](#).
**Center for Academic Success:** The **Center for Academic Success** provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or cas@westga.edu

**University Writing Center:** The **University Writing Center** assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or writing@westga.edu

**ONLINE COURSES**

UWG takes students’ privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the **UWG Online** site.

Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the **Online/Off-Campus Student Guide**.

If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the **UWG Cares** site. **Online counseling** is also available for online students.

**HONOR CODE**

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student’s conduct record at UWG.
Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student’s account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the Student Handbook.

**UWG EMAIL POLICY**

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student’s responsibility to check his or her email.

**CREDIT HOUR POLICY**

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

HB 280 (Campus Carry)

UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance:

http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information

You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance:

https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php

**Mental Health Support:**
If you or another student find that you are experiencing a mental health issue, free confidential services are available on campus in the Counseling Center. Students who have experienced sexual or domestic violence may receive confidential medical and advocacy services with the Patient Advocates in Health Services. To report a concern anonymously, please go to UWGcares.