

**Psychopathology**  
**PSYC 380-010**  
**Wednesdays, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.**  
**Brown Lab, Room 206**

Professor: Shellene Ball, Ph.D.

Email: sball@psych.udel.edu or sball@udel.edu

Office: I do not have an office on campus.

Office Hours: Before and after class

Office Phone: (302)424-8144

TA: Samantha Moffett

Email: smoffett@psych.udel.edu

Office: Wolf 406

Office Hours: Weds 12:15 -1:15, or by appointment

Office Phone: (302)831-6146

*Course Learning Goals:*

Psychopathology is the scientific study of psychological disorders. This course will provide you with an overview of the field of psychopathology, including diagnosis, etiology, treatment, and research. By the end of the course, you will have an understanding of the major diagnostic categories of psychopathology, theoretical perspectives that help to explain and to direct treatment of psychopathology, treatment modalities, and an understanding of the research base underlying the field. It is also hoped that through this exploration of psychopathology that you will begin to appreciate the complex interplay of factors that affect human behavior.

**Readings**

**Required:**

Nolen-Hoeksema, Susan. (2017). *Abnormal Psychology* (7<sup>th</sup> Edition). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education. (web address: <http://connect.mheducation.com/class/s-ball-fall-2018>)

**Recommended:**

Oltmanns, Thomas F., Martin, Michele T., Neale, John M., & Davidson, Gerald C. (2015). *Case Studies in Abnormal Psychology* (10<sup>th</sup> Edition). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

*Reading Assignments:*

Reading assignments from the text are listed on the calendar on the last pages of the syllabus. The readings should be completed before the listed class, as we will be discussing the readings on the dates listed. You are responsible for and will be quizzed on the material in the reading and the lecture. Even if material is not explicitly covered in lecture, you will be responsible for it on quizzes. Make sure you read the material carefully.

*Group Assignments:*

1. Case study draft [50 points]. You will be asked to work with another student of your choosing to identify a disorder of interest and complete a case study assignment. I can assign you to a group if desired. You will select a case [i.e., a real person with a disorder] from course materials (e.g., cases in your textbook(s), documentary or video clips from class) or from your own research (e.g., web site, news story, memoir). You will be asked to write a paper summarizing details about the case as well as research related to a particular topic of interest that is relevant to the diagnosis. See calendar below and/ or CANVAS for due dates. A grading rubric will be posted on CANVAS.

2. Case study final version [100 points]. You will use feedback to edit your case study write-up. Please see the calendar below and/ or CANVAS for due dates. A grading rubric will be provided on CANVAS.
3. Case study poster presentation [100 points]. You will use your case study research and write-up to create a poster presentation related to the disorder and case you selected. Your group will present your poster during an in-class conference/ presentation day. This is a professional presentation. Please dress professionally in business casual attire, and be prepared to present your poster and answer questions. You will be rated by selected peer reviewers and myself, and these ratings will factor into your grade for this assignment. A grading rubric will be provided on CANVAS.

*Individual Assignments:*

- Class Participation [80 points]. On weeks when there are no mid-term quizzes, there will be a class participation exercise(s). In order to receive participation points, you must be present and complete the assignment. Please note that assignments will be submitted when they are completed in class. No make-ups will be given for these assignments. I will drop one assignment per student.
- Mid-Term Quizzes [100 points each. 400 points total]. There will be 4 quizzes throughout the semester and each will be worth 100 points. Make-up quizzes will be administered only in documented cases of medical, mental health, or family emergencies. Please submit documentation from your dean's office if you must miss a quiz.
- Optional Final Exam [100 points]. Students who would like an additional opportunity to demonstrate mastery of course material will be invited to take an optional comprehensive final exam that will be similar to mid-term quizzes and administered on the scheduled final exam date. Students who opt to take the final exam will have these additional points added to the points total required (e.g., total points will be 730 versus 830). The final exam score will only be included in the points total if it improves a student's final grade.

*Extra Credit*

- For up to 10 points of extra credit, students can read and complete discussion questions for two chapters in the *Case Studies in Abnormal Psychology* text. Please see due dates in the calendar below. To earn the maximum amount of points, responses should be clear and well-written. Ideas should be expressed in complete sentences.
- For up to 2 points of extra credit on each mid-term quiz, students can complete assignments in LearnSmart for all chapters covered on the quiz by the due date before the quiz.

*Grading:*

|   | % of points (no final) | % of points (with final) |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Case study first draft – 50 points          | 6.8%                   | 6.0%                     |
| Case study final draft – 100 points         | 13.7%                  | 12.0%                    |
| Case study poster presentation – 100 points | 13.7%                  | 12.0%                    |
| Mid-Term quizzes – 400 points               | 54.8%                  | 48.3%                    |
| Class Participation – 80 points             | 11.0%                  | 9.7%                     |
| Optional final exam – 100 points            | 0%                     | 12.0%                    |

Total points without optional final exam – 730

Total points with optional final exam – 830

*Grading Cutoffs (without final):*

A (93-100%, points cutoff 678.9 and above), A- (90-92, points cutoff 657 and above), B+ (87-89, points cutoff 635.1 and above), B (83-86, points cutoff 605.9 and above), B- (80-82, points cutoff 584 and above), C+ (77-79, points cutoff 562.1 and above), C (73-76, points cutoff 532.9 and above), C- (70-72, 511 and above), D+ (67-69, points cutoff 489.1 and above), D (63-66, points cutoff 459.9 and above), D- (60-62, points cutoff 438 and above), F ( $\leq 59$ , below 438)

*Grading Cutoffs (with final):*

A (93-100%, points cutoff 771.9 and above), A- (90-92, points cutoff 747 and above), B+ (87-89, points cutoff 722.1 and above), B (83-86, points cutoff 688.9 and above), B- (80-82, points cutoff 664 and above), C+ (77-79, points cutoff 639.1 and above), C (73-76, points cutoff 605.9 and above), C- (70-72, 581 and above), D+ (67-69, points cutoff 556.1 and above), D (63-66, points cutoff 522.9 and above), D- (60-62, points cutoff 498 and above), F ( $\leq 59$ , below 498)

*Students with Disabilities:*

Students have different learning styles and needs. If you are a student with a documented disability or require special accommodations in order to optimally benefit from the course, please let me know by speaking with me at the beginning of the semester so that arrangements can be made to accommodate your needs. If you have questions about your rights and responsibilities related to your disability, please contact the university's Disability Support Services office at 302-831-4643.

Students who receive special testing accommodations and need to take a test/ quiz at the DSS office should submit a request to do so through the DSS office at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled test/ quiz date.

*Getting help from your professor and/ or TA:*

Your TA and I are here to help you succeed in this course and are invested in helping you learn course material. Please schedule an appointment for help during your TA's office hours or see me before or after class or during breaks. If you need to reach us outside these times, emailing is best.

I answer student email during evening and weekend hours. I will typically check email between 6 and 7 p.m. each week night and once or twice on the weekends.

*Canvas:*

The syllabus, grades, announcements, PowerPoint slides, and other information will be posted on Canvas. Please make sure to explore our class Canvas page. You can find Canvas at <http://www1.udel.edu/canvas/>. You are expected to check Canvas regularly to review your grades.

*Academic Honesty:*

All work in this class is to be your own. This policy includes all coursework. All forms of academic dishonesty will be reported immediately to the Office of Student Conduct. Consequences for academic dishonesty include failing the assignment or failing the course depending on the severity of the offense. Please refer to the Code of Conduct for more information about what constitutes academic dishonesty: <http://www1.udel.edu/stuguide/18-19/code.html>

**\*These dates and topics are tentative and may change at the discretion of the instructor. Updates to the syllabus will be announced in class and posted on Canvas.**

| Date            | Lecture Topic  | Chapter reading assignment for class | Assignment Schedule  |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Week 1<br>8/29  | Course Overview, Looking at Abnormality, and Theories and Treatment of Abnormality         | 1 & 2                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start to find groups for case study projects</li> <li>Start to pick a diagnosis for case study projects</li> </ul>  |
| Week 2<br>9/5   | Assessing and Diagnosing Abnormality   | 3                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize group for case study projects</li> <li>Finalize diagnosis choice for case study projects</li> <li>By the end of class, submit group members' names and diagnosis for case study project</li> <li>For extra credit, complete LearnSmart activities for chapters 1 through 3.</li> </ul> |
| Week 3<br>9/12  | <b>Mid-Term Quiz (Chaps. 1-3)</b><br>&<br>The Research Endeavor                            | 4                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify materials to use for case study projects (e.g., documentary/ video clips, memoirs, web sites, news articles)</li> </ul>  |
| Week 4<br>9/19  | Trauma, Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders                                | 5                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read book chapter material for case study project diagnosis chosen and ask any questions you have about the material during group work time in class.</li> </ul>  |
| Week 5<br>9/26  | Trauma, Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders                                |                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write a draft of your group case study paper</li> </ul>   |
| Week 6<br>10/3  | Mood Disorders and Suicide   | 7                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue revising draft of your case study paper.</li> <li>For extra credit, complete LearnSmart activities for chapters 4, 5, &amp; 7.</li> </ul>  |
| Week 7<br>10/10 | <b>Mid-Term Quiz (Chaps. 4, 5, &amp; 7)</b><br>&<br>Somatic Symptoms and Related Disorders | 6                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn in case study draft.</li> </ul>  |

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| Week 8<br>10/17  | Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Disorders                               | 8   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No assignment for your case study this week.</li> <li>Extra credit case study questions #1 due</li> </ul>   |
| Week 9<br>10/24  | Personality Disorders  | 9<br>&<br>Antisocial personality disorder section in Chapter 11       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive and review case study feedback and begin editing</li> </ul>   |
| Week 10<br>10/31 | <b>No Class</b>  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet with your group to edit your paper draft.</li> <li>I will be available via email or online chat to answer questions you have while you are revising your draft.</li> <li>For extra credit, complete LearnSmart activities for chapters 6, 8, &amp; 9.</li> </ul> |
| Week 11<br>11/7  | <b>Mid-Term Quiz (Chaps. 6, 8, &amp; 9)</b><br><br>&<br>Eating Disorders | 12  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin work on your poster presentation.</li> </ul>  |
| Week 12<br>11/14 | Substance Use & Gambling Disorders                                       | 14  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue working on your poster presentation.</li> <li>Turn in final draft of case study project.</li> </ul>  |
| Week 13<br>11/21 | <b>No class – Happy Thanksgiving Break!</b>                              |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For extra credit, complete LearnSmart activities for chapters 12-14.</li> </ul>   |
| Week 14<br>11/28 | Sexual Disorders<br><br>&<br><b>Mid-Term Quiz (Chaps. 12 - 14)</b>       | 13  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create poster for poster presentations.</li> </ul>  |
| Week 15<br>12/5  | <b>Poster Presentations</b>  | Group 1: 7 to 8 p.m.<br>Group 2: 8 to 9 p.m.<br>Group 3: 9 to 10 p.m. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be on time for poster presentations!</li> <li>Dress in business casual attire.</li> <li>Make sure to turn in your grading sheet for your group's peer review of other group's poster.</li> </ul>  |

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|  |   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extra credit case study questions #2 due</li></ul> |
| *Tentative date to be finalized by registrar*<br>12/12 | <b>Final Exam</b><br>Date, time, and location to be announced |  |  |