Psychopathology, Fall 2009
Professor: Dr. Adele Hayes

Required Book: *Abnormal Psychology*
Kring, Johnson, Davison, & Neale (2010), Wiley

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Office Hours: Tuesday, 11-12 and by appointment
TA: TBA

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course provides an overview of the etiology (causes), course, diagnosis, assessment, and treatment of the major psychological disorders.

The goals of the course are to facilitate: (a) knowledge of theory and research in psychopathology, (b) understanding of research design, data analysis, and interpretation of empirical findings, (c) the ability to evaluate the adequacy of claims about human behavior, and (d) the development of communication skills and logical argument.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

3 Exams, 25% each = 75% (3, noncumulative, mixed format)
1 Short Paper = 25% (5 – 7 pages)

**GENERAL COURSE OUTLINE: TOPICS AND READINGS**

9/1: Introduction and Historical Overview (Ch. 1)
9/3: History continued, Legal and Ethical Issues (Ch. 17, pp. 530-540)
9/8: Current Paradigms (Ch. 2)
9/10: Current Paradigms
9/15 Diagnosis/Assessment (Ch. 3)
9/17: Research Methods (Ch. 4)
9/22: Effects of Stress (Ch. 7)
9/24: Effects of Abuse

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9/29: **EXAM 1 (Lectures, all readings)**

10/1: Dissociative Disorders (Ch. 6)
10/6: Somatoform Disorders (Ch. 6)
10/8: Anxiety Disorders: PTSD (Ch. 5)

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10/13: Anxiety Disorders (Ch. 5)
10/15 Anxiety Disorders (Ch. 5, Ch 14: pp. 436-437, 440-441)
10/20: Mood Disorders (Ch. 8, Ch. 14: pp. 433-436, 438)

10/22 Mood Disorders: Discuss Weissman et al., 2006 article; Treatment (Ch. 8)


10/27: Mood Disorders: Bipolar Disorder (Ch. 8), Suicide

10/29: EXAM 2 (Lectures, all readings since exam 1)

11/03: Schizophrenia (Ch. 11)
11/05: Schizophrenia and Substance Abuse (Ch. 10)
11/10: Substance Abuse: Harm Reduction


11/12: Borderline Personality Disorder (Ch. 12)
11/17: Borderline Personality Disorder and Self-Harm


11/19: Conduct Disorder and Antisocial Personality Disorder (Ch. 14: 426-432, Ch. 12)
11/26: THANKSGIVING BREAK
11/24: Eating Disorders (Ch. 9) Short Papers Due
12/01: Eating Disorders
12/03: ADHD, Autism (Ch. 14)
12/08: EXAM 3 (Lectures, all readings since exam 2)

SPECIFICS

CLASS ETIQUETTE: TURN OFF cell phones before the beginning of class. DO NOT carry on conversations during class.

EXAMS: There will be three exams over the course of the semester. Each test will contain multiple choice and short essay questions and will be worth a total of 100 points. Test content will be based on course readings and lecture material. The exams are not cumulative.

Make-up tests will be offered only in the case of a SERIOUS personal emergency or family tragedy. Should you have an emergency that conflicts with the exam, it is your responsibility to communicate this information to your professor PRIOR to the examination time. Should the emergency prevent you from communicating the conflict prior to the examination, you must communicate the information within 24 hours of the exam in order to be given consideration for a make-up exam. If you will be absent from class for an extended period of time, you must contact the Dean’s office to ensure proper documentation is sent to faculty members. Make-up
exams will be offered as close to the actual exam date and time as is feasible. Any medical excuse for an exam must be accompanied by a hospital or physicians note. If there is an activity (e.g., musical performance, athletic event) that conflicts with the exam, alternate arrangements must be made a minimum of 1 week prior to the exam. Make-up exams will differ from original exams in terms of format and will usually be in essay format.

**SHORT REACTION PAPER:**

The short paper is to be *4 to 6 pages long*, double-spaced, and in 12-point font. It should also be in APA format. The paper is to involve a discussion of one of the assigned journal articles or a theme that intrigues you from the chapters or lectures. Your paper can be about anything related to the topics covered in the class. Your task is to raise a question or issue and to present a logical and scholarly argument related to that. This is not to be loose opinions or general impressions. For instance, you might write a paper on the controversy about whether Dissociative Identity Disorder is a clinical disorder or a form of malingering. For this, you would present the controversies, summarize each side, and then present your take on this in the form of a scholarly argument. Please include citations for all sources that you use to make your points. You needn't gather more articles, but you may if you are interested in reading more on a given topic. An example of a reaction paper is posted in SAKAI. The paper is worth 25% of your grade.

Late assignments will be accepted only at the discretion of the instructor and will be penalized at the rate of *5 percentage points per day late* (e.g., an 85% on an assignment will become an 80% if it is one day late).

Your course grade will be based on your performance on the three exams and on the short paper.

*Grading scale:*

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**STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** If you are a student with a learning disability or any other specific need, please notify me early in the semester so I can work with you to enhance your learning potential in this class. The University’s ADA office, which coordinates accommodations and offers support for students with disabilities can be contacted at 302-831-8670. In addition, students can make an appointment at the Writing Center (302-831-1168) for assistance with
writing assignments. There are also numerous supports available through the Academic Enrichment Center (302-831-2805).

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** You are expected to be familiar with the University's Policy on Academic Honesty, which can be found in the Student Guide to University Policies. Academic honesty is vital in a university setting and failure to uphold these principles hurts the individual and the educational setting as a whole. Some examples of academic dishonesty include plagiarism, which is using the words or ideas of others without giving credit to the person(s) who is responsible for the material, cheating on tests or permitting other students to cheat from your exam, or using the same work in multiple classes. The official UD reporting policy requires that all alleged incidents of academic dishonesty be handled through the Office of Judicial Affairs.