

Syllabus

PSYC 3082, version 2.0

Effective: May 18, 2016

PSYC 3082— Introduction to Abnormal Psychology

Course Description: Abnormal personality and behavior disorders.

Textbooks and Other Materials

ODL is *not responsible* for student purchases that result in *the receipt of the wrong materials*. It is the responsibility of the student to order the correct textbook materials. Courses are written to specific textbook editions; edition substitutions *are not allowed*.

Textbook

David H. Barlow and Vincent M. Durand. *Abnormal Psychology: An integrative approach*. Seventh edition. Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning, 2014.

ISBN-10: 1-285-75561-8

ISBN-13: 978-1-285-75561-8

Ordering Information

Please review the following tips for ordering your course materials:

Do not purchase your textbooks until your enrollment is approved. During the processing period, a new section may be opened that could require a different textbook or edition.

1. Do not purchase your textbooks until your enrollment is approved. During the processing period, a new section may be opened that could require a different textbook or edition.
2. *Always order by the ISBN*. Publishers and vendors often offer the same textbook title under different ISBNs. You must have the correct ISBN to access your online website.
3. If you are having problems locating a textbook, contact us at Answers@outreach.lsu.edu for assistance.

Other Materials and Resources

Software: MS Word, Web Browser, Adobe Acrobat Reader

Students must use a recent version of MS Word to write their answers to each module assignment.

It is recommended that you use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome as your web browser. Internet Explorer is not compatible with your Moodle course site.

Adobe Acrobat Reader is required to view PDF document files.

Hardware: *Web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers, and high speed internet*

Exams are completed online and require the hardware listed above. Students are encouraged to review the technical requirements provided on the ProctorU website and to perform a test on their equipment prior to enrolling in this course to make sure they have the necessary resources available.

Technical Requirements: <http://www.proctoru.com/tech.php>

Equipment Test: <http://www.proctoru.com/testitout/>

Nature and Purpose of the Course

Course Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Describe the historical emergence of abnormal psychology as a concept and as an area of clinical practice.
2. Identify and compare several theories about the causes of abnormal behavior.
3. Review basic psychological research methods and identify specific research methods designed to study psychopathology.
4. Discuss issues in the assessment and diagnosis of mental disorders.
5. Describe the wide variety of treatment approaches available to modern clinicians.
6. Identify and describe several common and relatively easily treated disorders, such as adjustment, anxiety, phobias, and somatoform disorders.
7. Identify and describe some of the more difficult to treat disorders, such as schizophrenia, paranoia, and the affective disorders.
8. Describe and discuss disorders that involved some violation of legal or social standards, including sexual variations, alcohol and drug abuse patterns, impulse control, and violence.
9. Recognize relationships between various central nervous system that impairments and abnormal behavior patterns.
10. Explain aspects and implications of various types and levels of mental retardation.

11. Identify, describe, and discuss special disorders of childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and aging.
12. Discuss the major ethical and legal considerations associated with abnormal behavior.

Abnormal psychology is the study of disturbed human behavior. Abnormal behavior may be disturbing to either the individual or society and often to both. Note that in this course, the terms *abnormal psychology*, *abnormal behavior*, and *psychopathology* will be used interchangeably.

This course will provide an introduction to the psychology of several types of psychopathology, relying primarily on material presented in the course textbook, *Abnormal Psychology: an Integrated Approach* (Barlow & Durand, 2012). The first four chapters of the textbook will provide a historical context for current perspective of abnormal behavior and diagnosis. They will also provide you with an introduction to the different perspectives from which abnormal behavior is viewed, the research methods used by psychologists to study abnormal behavior, and the approaches to assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. Chapters 5 through 16 present several categories of disorders through an integrated perspective taking into account the various approaches to the conceptualization, assessment, and treatment of the disorder. The last chapter of the textbook will discuss various issues of law and ethics in mental health.

Working with the Course Materials

Remember, this course covers an entire semester of work or the equivalent of a classroom course lasting 15 weeks. That means that each module in this course equals nearly a week of course work and will require the same time and effort on your part. *Do not expect to complete each module in a single study session. Understand, too, that if you choose to submit assignments at a very high pace, your instructor may not be able to grade your work at the same rate.*

Each module contains information, activities, and assignments organized under a consistent series of headings. Get familiar with how the module is organized. Each module in this course is organized into the following sections: the Module Learning Objectives, the Reading Assignment, a graded Quiz, and the graded Module Assignment. You should work through these parts of the module in order. Specific recommendations are provided in a link to the course module instructions, which you should review before beginning the first module.

For each module, a set of learning objectives is provided, as well as key terms and key figures in the module material to help highlight the important information in each. Not only will many of these key terms and figures be included in exam questions, but they are also the most basic components that are necessary to the understanding the objectives in each module. These lists of key terms and figures are not exhaustive, but a good familiarity with them will be an excellent indication of your understanding of each module as a whole. The module material also includes: an introduction to each module, which provides a brief overview of the textbook chapter followed by a detailed module outline. This outline highlights important concepts

discussed in that chapter as well as important terms used in the chapter. After each detailed outline, there will be a list of supplementary readings and online resources. These materials are not required in any way, but are only there to provide other resources if you are particularly interested in that chapter's material.

Suggested Study Techniques

1. Carefully review the module objectives to help you focus on the information that will be covered on the exams.
2. Concentrate on the reading assignments, the module lecture material, and any additional resources provided. This review should include a detailed examination of any illustrative problems and examples. After an assignment has been completed, a rapid re-reading of the related text and other materials is strongly recommended.
3. Put yourself on a definite schedule. Set aside a certain block of hours per day or week for this course and work in a place where distractions are minimal.
4. Try to submit one assignment each week or at least every two weeks. Delays in submitting assignments usually result in lagging interest and the inability to complete the course.
5. Review your module assignments after they have been graded, paying special attention to any instructor feedback provided. (We suggest that you wait for assignment feedback before you submit subsequent assignments.)
6. Regardless of how you complete your graded assignments, keep in mind that module completion should not be your sole preparation for your exams. As with any college course, you should study for your exams.

Reading Assignments

To do well in this course, it is essential that you read and study all the course materials that precede the module assignment. You will read an average of 35 pages per module. Although the first 8 modules correspond to the first 8 chapters in the textbook, Modules 09–15 do not. Specific information on reading assignments will be given in each module in Moodle.

Topic Outline

This course covers the following specific topics:

Module	Topic
01	Abnormal Behavior in Historical Context
02	An Integrative Approach to Psychopathology
03	Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis
04	Research Methods

- 05 Anxiety, Trauma, and Stressor-Related and Obsessive-Compulsive Related Disorders
- 06 Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders and Dissociative Disorders
- 07 Mood Disorders and Suicide

Mid-Course Examination

- 08 Eating and Sleep-Wake Disorders
- 09 Sexual Dysfunctions, Paraphilic Disorders and Gender Dysphoria
- 10 Substance-Related, Addictive and Impulse-Control Disorders
- 11 Personality Disorders
- 12 Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders
- 13 Neurodevelopmental Disorders
- 14 Neurocognitive Disorders
- 15 Mental Health Services: Legal and Ethical Issues

Final Examination**Module Assignments**

Each module has two graded components: the module quiz and the module assignment. The module quiz is worth 80 points and the module assignment is worth 20 points. Before beginning any module assignment, it is critical that you have read the appropriate chapter from the textbook as well as all additional materials provided with the module. Although you may use the textbook and your notes when you complete each part of the assignment, remember that you will not be able to use these resources during the exams. Therefore, it would be good practice to compose your first attempts without using your textbook.

Module Quiz

For each module, the first assignment you will complete is the module quiz. Each module quiz will have 40 multiple-choice, true or false questions. You have two attempts to complete each quiz. You will have one hour to complete each attempt. This is not enough time to look up all of the information in the textbook, so it is highly recommended that you read the assigned textbook chapter before each quiz (you may also find it helpful to take notes as you read). After each attempt you will be provided with feedback concerning which answers were correct and which were incorrect. Use this information to get a sense of what you know and what you need to review again. Your grade will come from the highest of your two quiz attempts. If you are satisfied with your first graded attempt, you do not need to complete a second attempt.

Module Assignment

For each module assignment, you will answer a couple of short essay questions concerning important topics from the chapter. The module assignment is not available until you have completed at least one attempt of the module quiz. Unlike the module quiz, you will have only *one* attempt to answer these short essay questions. That is to say, once you have uploaded and submitted your word document you will *not* have an opportunity to make changes and resubmit this document. Please make sure your assignment is complete, uses the template, and free of spelling/grammatical errors.

The written module assignments are designed to assist your understanding of the module material and help you remember the ideas presented in the textbook. Although you may and should use the textbook to provide the correct information for each question, you should *never copy your answers word for word from the textbook*.

You should submit each module assignment as soon as it is completed. Some courses have restrictions that require that a grade be received before you can submit additional assignments. Specific information on assignment submission is included in the Module Instructions. Please be sure to follow these instructions.

Once you *submit* an assignment, you cannot revise it, so be sure to check your work. Your instructor will normally post a grade for your assignment within *seven calendar days*. Understand that occasional delays will occur, such as during holidays and semester breaks or if you submit several module assignments within the same week.

Do not rely too heavily on your textbook or other resource material when preparing your assignments. If you do, you may not realize until exam time that the perfect response you prepared for an assignment was only possible because you referred to resource material without really learning or understanding the material and concepts. Therefore, *you should attempt each assignment without referring to the resource material*, and if you find it necessary to look up an answer, be sure you have actually learned the concept and material rather than merely reflecting it in the answer.

Academic Integrity

Students in Online Distance Learning (ODL) courses must comply with the *LSU Code of Student Conduct*. Suspected violations of the academic integrity policy may be referred to LSU Student Advocacy & Accountability (SAA), a unit of the Dean of Students. If found responsible of a violation, you will then be subject to whatever penalty SAA determines and will forfeit all course tuition and fees.

Plagiarism

Students are responsible for completing and submitting their own course work and preparing

their own modules. All work submitted in the course modules must be the student's own work unless outside work is appropriate to the assignment; all outside material must be properly acknowledged. It is also unacceptable to copy directly from your textbook or to use published answer keys or the teacher's edition of a textbook.

Collaboration

Unauthorized collaboration constitutes plagiarism. Collaborative efforts that extend beyond the limits approved by the instructor are violations of the academic integrity policy. Students who study together are expected to prepare and write their own individual work for submission and grading.

For more information and links to the *LSU Code of Student Conduct* and the SAA website, go to the [ODL Academic Integrity policy](#) on our website.

Examinations and Grading Policy

There will be two examinations. The mid-course exam follows Module 07 and covers Modules 01–07, and the final exam, which is comprehensive, follows Module 15. Each exam will have approximately fifty multiple-choice questions and five short answer questions. You are not permitted to use any notes or your textbook during the exams.

You will have a maximum of *three* hours to complete the exam.

- Module quizzes count 80 points each.
- Module assignments count 20 points each.
- Exams are 100 points each.
- Course grade = average of module quizzes + average of module assignments + mid-course exam + final exam scores. Each component is weighted by the following percentages.

Course grade =

Component	Weight (%)
Module Quiz	15%
Module Assignment	15%
Mid-Course Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%

The following grading scale applies.

- 97%–100% = A+
- 93%–96% = A
- 90%–92% = A-
- 87%–89% = B+

83%–86%	= B
80%–82%	= B-
77%–79%	= C+
73%–76%	= C
70%–72%	= C-
67%–69%	= D+
63%–66%	= D
60%–62%	= D-
0%–59%	= F

YOU MUST PASS THE FINAL EXAMINATION IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.

IMPORTANT: The final exam cannot be taken until you meet the following requirements. Under no circumstances may the final exam be taken earlier.

1. You must have been enrolled in the course for *at least three weeks*, regardless of when the modules and other exams are completed.
2. You must have a *grade posted in the Moodle grade book for the Module 15 Assignment in order to unlock access to the Final Exam*. Please allow at least seven days for the final assignment grade to be posted in the gradebook.

To read the full exam policy and other policy statements, visit <http://www.outreach.lsu.edu/Extended-Campus/Online-Distance-Learning/Guidelines-Policies/Policies>. Go to Continuing Education's homepage. Click on *Extended Campus*, select *Online Distance Learning*, and then click the link for *Guidelines and Policies*.

Taking Your Examinations

You are *required* to create a Louisiana State University ODL ProctorU account and to take your examinations through ProctorU, a remote proctoring service that allows you to take exams anywhere with internet access. Information on creating your ProctorU account can be found in the *Getting Started* module. You cannot use an account created through another university, so if you already have an account, you will still need to create an account associated with LSU Online Distance Learning (ODL).

The ProctorU website provides links you can use to find out how ProctorU works and to check your computer to see that it meets the technical requirements. In addition, to test using ProctorU, you need *access to a web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers*, and *high speed internet* to use this service. A complete list of technical requirements is available from the ProctorU website.

You should schedule your exams about a week before you are ready to take them in order to avoid any additional charges.

Transcript Information

After you have completed this course, your grade will be filed with the Office of the University Registrar. If a transcript is needed, it is your responsibility to make a request to the registrar. If you would like to order a transcript, visit the Office of the University Registrar Transcript Requests page to view your options

(<http://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/registraroffice/student-services/transcript-request/>).

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