

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

PCP 655 Psychopathology
Monday Evenings 6:30 PM

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Spring 2003

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a study of child and adult psychopathology and behavioral disturbance in the context of the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Each major diagnostic category will be studied emphasizing the definitions, etiology, disorder maintenance, assessment by symptom recognition, and preferred therapy.

OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Define mental disorder
2. Describe the history of the DSM
3. Identify the five axes of the DSM
4. Describe how and why the DSM is used.
5. Describe criteria for the major diagnostic categories.
6. Identify etiological factors involved in each major disorder.
7. Identify dominant treatment modalities for each major disorder.
8. Accurately diagnose mental disorders after review of case studies.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Sarason, I. G. & Sarason, B. R. (2002). Abnormal psychology: The problem of maladaptive behavior. (10th ed.). Upper saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

American Psychiatric Association. (2000). Desk reference to the diagnostic criteria from DSM-IV-TR. Washington DC: Author.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS

American Psychological Association. (2001) Publication Manual of American Psychological Association, (5th ed). Washington DC: Author

Study Guide to accompany textbook.

BASIC COURSE OUTLINE

- 1/6 *Intro to Course & Review of Syllabus,*
Chapter 1 Abnormal Psychology
- 1/13 Ch. 2 & 3 Elements of Maladaptive Behavior & Classification and
Assessment
- 1/20 Chapter 15 Pervasive Developmental Disorder & Mental Retardation
- 1/27 Chapter 14 Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence

2/3 MIDTERM Chapters 1, 2, 3, 14, & 15

- 2/10 Chapter 8 Sexual Variants and Disorders
- 2/17 Chapter 9 Personality Disorders
- 2/24 Chapter 10 Mood Disorders

3/3 SPRING BREAK

- 3/10 Ch. 11 & 12 Schizophrenia & Other Psychotic Disorders; Cognitive
Impairment Disorders

3/17 MIDTERM Chapters 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

- 3/24 Ch. 4 & 5 Stress, Coping, and Maladaptive Behavior; Bodily
Dysfunction
- 3/31 Chapter 6 Disorders of Bodily Preoccupation
- 4/7 Chapter 7 Anxiety Disorders
- 4/14 Chapter 13 Substance-related Disorders

** *Term Paper Due at beginning of Class on the 14th of APRIL, @ 6:30 PM*

By Friday of that week, April 18th, @ 4:00 PM, Your reflection paper must be turned in. It can either be e-mailed to me or turned into the faculty secretary. IF you e-mail it to me, please bring a hard copy of the reflection paper to the final exam. (Just incase it does not download. That way the professor will have a hard copy. Please include your name on the actual paper. Not just the e-mail notice.

4/21 FINAL EXAM Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, & 13

METHODOLOGY

The format of the course will consist of lectures, class discussions, multi-media presentations, homework assignments, and examinations. Possible outside lab requirements of video viewing may be required.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Professionalism and courtesy in regard to attendance is expected.
2. Active participation in class discussions is expected.
3. Completion of all readings as assigned is expected on date expected.
4. Completion of research paper and homework assignments on time is expected. (Late papers/assignments will be lowered one letter grade for each date late.)
5. Completion of three comprehensive examinations based on the assigned readings, lectures, class discussions, and multi-media presentations is expected.
6. A 10-12-page research paper will be due on or before April 2nd, 2002. This paper is to be based on one particular mental disorder listed in the DSM-IV. The paper should utilize 12 or more references (including books, journals, interviews, audio/videotapes, etc). The paper must be typed double-spaced, using the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. A critical review of the disorder is to include, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Description of symptomology
 - b. Possible etiological factors
 - c. Preferred therapeutic interventions of treatment
 - d. Prognosis
 - e. References
7. A four to five page personal reflection paper on psychopathology and this course. Please include a response to Chapter 17 in the text book, "Society's Response to Maladaptive Behavior." (It is not in your scheduled reading, but must be read.) Incorporate the church's response or lack of response to the mentally ill. Discuss how this class has affected you personally. Incorporate any ideas you have to further expand the knowledge and compassion towards those who suffer from mental illness.

GRADING PROCEDURE

The final course grade will be determined based on the combined scores on all exams, homework assignments, and papers. Grades will be calculated by dividing the total number of points accumulated by the total possible points. Attendance and class participation will be considered in cases of borderline grades.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

A selected bibliography and recommended web sites will be provided the first day of class.

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Melody Palm, Psy.D., January 2003

