

Psychology 224: Psychological Disorders
Term II - Spring 2006
(CRN: 20586)

Class Room: Clough 114
Class Period: MWF, 12:00-12:50
Office hours: MWF, 11:00-11:55;
F 1:00 -2:00 and by appt.

Professor: Jim Shaw, Ph.D.
Office: Clough 106E
e-mail: shawj@rhodes.edu

Brief Course Description:

An overview of psychological disorders: their description, diagnostic criteria, assessment, etiology, prevalence, and recent research. After introductory materials on conceptual issues, some historical background and a brief consideration of treatment options, we will focus on particular disorders. Class time will be spent on lectures, structured discussions (of cases and current issues as they appear in various media), research papers, and exams.

Textbooks

Required: Oltmans, T.F. & Emery, R.E. (2004) *Abnormal Psychology* (5th ed.). Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall.
[Abbreviated: O&E].

Ancillary: American Psychiatric Association (2000). *Quick Reference to the Diagnostic Criteria from DSM-IV-TR*. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association. [Abbreviated: QRDSM]
American Psychological Association (2005). *Concise Rules of APA Style*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Course Requirements:

Attendance: Students are expected to attend and participate in all meetings. Timely attendance is documented by a sign in sheet distributed at the beginning of most classes. If you do not sign it, then as far as the record is concerned you are not here. If you miss a class, you should get announcements, handouts, lecture notes from a trusted colleague. There is no need to tell me why you missed a class, unless you have missed a class because of a college sponsored function you are required to attend. If that is the case please send me notice beforehand. If you miss an exam, and you send a personal note about the reason, it might be possible to make up the exam, but there is no guarantee of that option. (Please see below under "Grading System" for how missing classes can affect your final grade.)

Exams: There will be four exams, including the final, each worth 15% of your final grade in

the course. The first three exams will consist entirely of objective items. The last exam will be a combination of essay and objective items. [At the present time, there are no planned quizzes.]

Papers: There will be two papers, each worth 20% of your semester grade. The first paper will be based on an evaluation and assessment of an individual with an apparent psychological disorder. The individual may be: somebody you are acquainted with (but you must change all identifiers); a historical individual whose life has been well documented; or a major character in an important work of literature or the cinema. A prospectus is required for the first paper. The second paper will be on a proposed diagnosis for the next edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. [DSM] Alternatively it may be a proposal for a major change in the DSM. Each paper should show serious, careful research and documentation drawn from professional publications. Each student will summarize and present (not read) the second paper in class. More information about these papers will be provided later.

Other stuff: (1) Adherence to the Honor Code of the College is expected. (2) If you bring a cell phone or beeper to class, please either turn it off, or put it in a silent mode. (3) This syllabus is not a contract, though every effort is made to adhere to it. Whenever possible, any changes will be announced ahead of time. (4) This course often catalyzes thoughts and feelings in individuals in the class about whether or not they have some psychological disorder. If this happens to you, take advantage of the “Getting Help” sections in the textbook. Most often an individual’s concerns are not major problems. Like any other matter pertaining to the course, I will be happy to talk with you about such issues, but for any extensive discussion/intervention it is best to seek other professionals. The College provides counseling services for all students and you might consider that resource.

Course Schedule

Assigned readings should be done before class and reviewed afterwards.

Date	Day	Topic	Required O & E Chapter	Suggested QRDSM Pages
Jan. 11	Wed	Introduction		
13	Fri	Conceptual & Historical Background	1 & 2	
16	Mon	HOLIDAY		
18	Wed	Conceptual & Historical Background	1 & 2	
20	Fri	Treatment	3 & 604-606	
23	Mon	Classification & Assessment	4	ix-x &
25	Wed	Classification & Assessment		37-48
27	Fri	Mood Disorders & Suicide	5	167-208
30	Mon	Mood Disorders & Suicide	5	167-208

Feb. 1	Wed	Mood Disorders & Suicide	5	167-208
3	Fri	EXAM I		
6	Mon	Anxiety Disorders	6 & 7 (to page 243)	209-227
8	Wed	Anxiety Disorders	6 & 7	209-227
10	Fri	Anxiety Disorders	6 & 7	209-227
		PROSPECTUS 1ST PAPER IS DUE AT BEGINNING OF THE CLASS		
13	Mon	Stress & Health	8	272-275
15	Wed	Stress & Health	8	272-275
17	Fri	Personality Disorders	9	287-297
20	Mon	Personality Disorders	9	287-297
22	Wed	Personality Disorders	9	287-297
24	Fri	EXAM 2		
27	Mon	Eating Disorders	10	263-266
Mar. 1	Wed	Substance Related Disorders	11	263-266
3	Fri	Substance Related Disorders	11	263-266
6	Mon	Substance Related Disorders	11	263-266
8	Wed	Substance Related Disorders	11	263-266
10	Fri	Sexual & Gender Identity Disorders	12	245-262
		1ST PAPER IS DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS		
13-17		SPRING BREAK		
20	Mon	Sexual & Gender Identity Disorders	12	245-262
22	Wed	Sexual & Gender Identity Disorders	12	245-262
24	Fri	EXAM 3		
27	Mon	Schizophrenia & Other Psychotic Disorders	13	153-165
29	Wed	Schizophrenia	13	153-165
31	Fri	Schizophrenia	13	153-165
Apr. 3	Mon	Schizophrenia	13	153-165
5	Wed	2ND PAPER: CLASS PRESENTATION OF CONTENT		
7	Fri	2ND PAPER: CLASS PRESENTATION OF CONTENT		
10	Mon	2ND PAPER: CLASS PRESENTATION OF CONTENT		
		HARD COPY OF 2ND PAPER IS DUE AT THE END OF CLASS		
12-14		EASTER RECESS		
17	Mon	“V” Codes	17	305-314
19	Wed	Mental Retardation & Pervasive Mental Disorders	15	51-52 & 59-64
21	Fri	Psychological Disorders of Childhood	16	65-81

24	Mon	Ethical & Legal Issues	18	
26	Wed	Ethical & Legal Issues	18	
28	Fri	Creative Activity Symposium Awards Convocation Classes End		
May 2	Tu	FINAL EXAM 1:00 PM		

Not all assigned readings are equal, and hopefully some days there will be livelier discussions. Therefore there will be some overlap from day to day.

*Guest Lecturer: Jonathan D. Shaw, MD, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Tulane Medical School.

GRADING SYSTEM

A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F=<60. In those instances where scores may be rounded up, class attendance, punctuality and the quality of a student’s participation will be considered.

OBJECTIVES

(Or, “The last in execution is the first in intention.”-Aquinas.)

(1) Gain factual knowledge of major psychological disorders (aka “mental disorders”): their description, diagnostic criteria, assessment, etiology, prevalence, and recent research about them. (IDEA: Gaining factual knowledge.)

(2) Develop the skills needed to recognize what is the current evidence based view of psychological disorders and their differential diagnosis. (IDEA: Developing skills needed by professionals.)

(3) Obtain a clearer understanding of how to destigmatize actual or supposed psychological disorders by working to overcome personal and societal prejudice (unjustified negative views) and discrimination (unjustified harmful actions). (IDEA: Developing a clearer understanding of, and commitment to, personal values.)

(4) To put the above within the broader conceptual and historical framework of scientific psychology. (IDEA: Gaining a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual/cultural activity.)

