

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

<i>Course Title:</i>	Abnormal Psychology				
<i>Course Prefix & Number:</i>	Psyc2320	<i>Section Number:</i>	400	<i>Semester/Year:</i>	Fall 2019
<i>Semester Credit Hours:</i>	3	<i>Lecture Hours:</i>	3	<i>Lab Hours:</i>	0
<i>Course Description (NCTC Catalog):</i>					
<p>This course provides an introduction to the psychological, biological, and socio-cultural factors involved in the development, diagnosis, and treatment of psychological disorders. It includes a review of the historical understanding of abnormal behavior and the development of modern diagnostic systems. It includes discussion of psychological research and practice as it relates to mental health and psychological functioning, as well as legal and ethical issues.</p> <p>Additional Comments from Saenz: During this course, students are encouraged to ask themselves: How can I apply this knowledge to my life? Regardless of career path, how can an introductory understanding of abnormal psychology impact both my professional and personal life, especially when it comes to self and other understanding, and my ability to connect and empathize with others, and overall promote mental health.</p> <p>The theme of this course will be “Hearing Voices,” with a focus on bringing the real-life voices of those struggling with mental disorders to the forefront to enhance true knowledge and understanding of the disorders we study, not letting them be abstract dehumanized concepts/clusters of impersonalized symptoms. The overall goal of this theme is to decrease the stigmatization, mistreatment, and alienation of those living with mental disorders. Special emphasis will be placed on the power of defining and diagnosing abnormality, the important role of sociocultural historical contextual factors in defining abnormality, and the need to take up a caring, respectful, and integrative approach to the study of abnormality.</p> <p>Please show up to class ready to learn. Take a break from everything else going on in your life. Put it all aside for the hour and 20 minutes we have per class, and enjoy your time learning, free of outside stress. Doing so will certainly lead to success in this course.</p>					
<i>Course Prerequisite(s): PSYC2301-General Psychology</i>					
<p><i>Required Course Materials:</i> Comer. Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology. 10th edition. MacMillan Publishing. ISBN 9781319312893 (access code with ebook)</p> <p><i>Additional comments from Saenz: I will provide any additional required readings, such as excerpts from Szasz' Psychiatry: The Science of Lies, Kesey's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Rosenhan's On Being Sane in Insane Places, and Kay Redfield Jamison's An Unquiet Mind.</i></p>					

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Name of Instructor:	Ingeborg Saenz, MPSY
Campus/Office Location:	Gainesville, Office 815
Telephone Number:	(940) 668-7731, Ext. 4343
E-mail Address:	isaenz@nctc.edu

OFFICE HOURS

	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	
8:30-9:00am		Phone		Phone	
9:00-9:30am		Gainesville		Gainesville	
9:30-10:00am		<i>Class</i>		<i>Class</i>	
10:00-10:30am					
10:30-10:50am					
11:00-11:30am		<i>Class</i>		<i>Class</i>	
11:30-12:00pm					
12:00-12:20pm					
12:20-12:30				Gainesville	Gainesville
12:30-1:00pm		<i>Class</i>			<i>Class</i>
1:00-1:20pm					
1:20-1:50pm					
1:50-2:20pm	Corinth		Corinth		
2:20pm until 6:00pm			Corinth + Online		
6:00-6:30pm			Denton		
6:30-7:00pm					
7:00-9:50pm			<i>Class</i>		
9:50-10:20pm			Denton		

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (From Academic Course Guide Manual/Workforce Education Course Manual/NCTC Catalog)

<i>At the successful completion of this course the student will be able to:</i>	
	Discuss the historical antecedents to modern understandings of abnormal behavior.
	Identify and describe the major classes and characteristics of psychological disorders as presented in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM).
	Describe the factors and theoretical perspectives related to the development and maintenance of different types of abnormal behavior.
	List the primary treatments for psychological disorders and discuss their effectiveness.
	Discuss the current research and methodological issues in the study of abnormal behavior.
	Discuss the legal and ethical issues associated with the treatment of and research related to abnormal behavior.
	Develop an understanding of how social and cultural factors impact the expression of psychological disorders.
	Examine the impact of biological factors on the development of psychological disorders.

GRADING CRITERIA

# of Graded Course Elements	Graded Course Elements	Percentage or Point Values
2 (x 42.5 points)	Make Your Own Study Guides and Mini Exams	(=85 points) 8.5%
Approx. 6 (x 25 points)	Quizzes	(=150 points) 15%
(1 x 125) + (6 x 40)	Research and Writing Assignments	(=365 points) 36.5%
10 (x 14 points)	Class Participation	(=140 points) 14%
2 (x 130 points)	Exams	(=260 points) 26%
1000 points	Semester Total	100%

○ GRADING SCALE:

90- 100%/ 900-1000 Points: A	70-79%/ 700-799 Points: C	Below 59%/ 0-599 Points: F
80-89%/800-899 Points: B	60-69%/600-699 Points: D	

- **INSTRUCTOR RESPONSE:** My goal is to respond to all emails and correspondence within 48 business hours, except for weekends and holidays. All assignments will be graded within three weeks of due date.

○ ASSIGNMENT DETAILS:

- Make Your Own Study Guides and Mini Exams: Step 1-** Prior to each exam and prior to receiving a study guide authored by the instructor, each student will put together a study guide of their own. In doing so, each student will review, gather, and organize all the information in the chapter grouping that they find worthy of being on the upcoming exam. **Step 2-** Each student will compose his or her own mini exam and answer key! The mini exam must be 20 questions long. Can you put together the best exam? See if one of your questions ends up on the actual exam and earn extra credit!
- Quizzes:** At the end of most chapters/chapter groupings, a quiz will be administered. The only preparation necessary for these quizzes is attending class and actively participating/listening. Thorough note taking is encouraged, as you will be allowed to use your notes (but not your book or the Internet) while taking these quizzes. These quizzes will be administered in a pop quiz fashion. My goal is for you all to have a second chance on every quiz. However, I will assess the feasibility of this once the course is underway. Second attempts will be given either the following class or during the subsequent in-person quiz. *With having two chances on each quiz, I hope y'all come to think of getting something wrong/making a mistake as an opportunity to try again, an opportunity for growth :).* I want you all to always have the opportunity to ace this course and master the content, even if it takes you a couple tries to do so. If you are willing to put in the work and you continue to try, even in the face of struggle, I will be right there alongside you, helping and cheering you on. You can do it.
- Research and Writing Assignments:** These assignments will be geared towards our course theme- Hearing Voices.
 - Largest assignment: Students will gather and analyze phenomenological data regarding the experience of living with a mental disorder and complete a research paper covering the disorder and the data gathered.

- b. Four smaller assignments:
 - i. For two of them, students will complete film analyses, focusing on films that showcase characters that bring the voice of someone living with a mental disorder to the screen.
 - ii. Two assignments will be reflections on reading materials.
 - iii. One assignment will involve researching one disorder in the DSM that I do not cover in lecture and doing a mini 10-minute presentation to educate the class on the disorder.
 - iv. One assignment will involve gathering examples of disorders throughout the semester from film, tv shows, and literature (3 total throughout the semester) and completing a short write-up and sharing the ideas with the class. Note: These examples cannot come from the films you complete your film analyses over.

D. **PARTI TIME! Class Participation:** Each student is required to vocally participate in class ten (10) times per semester. These answers/insights must be of value in order to receive credit. However, incorrect or insubstantial comments will not be penalized in any way. Attempting to participate is encouraged regardless of the quality. Trying and struggling is better than not trying at all. Every time a student offers an insightful or correct comment they will be given a slip of paper, a "PARTI" SLIP (haha! Get it?!), to write their name on and turn in at the end of class.

- a. Waiting until the last minute: You must earn all 10 of your Parti Slips by the end of the 13th week of class to receive full credit. Parti Slip Grading Policy:

Week of Class (as noted in Calendar below)	Points per Parti Slip Earned	Maximum Grade Possible (if all PS earned during this week)
13 th week and prior	14	100%
14 th	9.8	70%
15 th	7	50%
16 th	4.2	30%
Finals Weeks	No Opportunity	

- b. Participation Competition: While only required to obtain 10 Parti Slips, ***the student(s) earning the most slips by the end of the semester will receive 5 bonus percentage points added to their overall grade in the class!***

E. **Exams:** There will be three exams throughout the semester. The final exam will be noncumulative.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students in all classes for which they have registered. All absences are considered to be unauthorized unless the student is absent due to illness or emergencies as determined by the instructor. It is the student responsibility to provide documentation as to the emergency for approval and judgement by the faculty member. Approved college sponsored activities are the only absences for which a student should not be held liable and only when provided by a college official ahead of the absence. Valid reasons for absence, however, do not relieve the student of the responsibility for making up required work. Students will not be allowed to make up an examination missed due to absence unless they have reasons acceptable to the instructor. A student who is compelled to be absent when a test is

given should petition the instructor, in advance if possible, for permission to postpone the exam. Student will be dropped from a class by the Registrar upon recommendation of the instructor who feels the student has been justifiably absent or tardy a sufficient number of times to preclude meeting the course's objectives. Persistent, unjustified absences from classes or laboratories will be considered sufficient cause for College officials to drop a student from the rolls of the College. From Board Policy FC (LOCAL)

- Additional comments from Saenz re attendance and classroom etiquette:
 - A. **Attendance will be monitored.** *Showing up to class on time and actively wanting and making an effort to learn is considered the most integral part of taking this course and doing well.* Anything discussed in class may be included on a quiz or exam, even if that information is *not* found in the textbook. As class *participation* is vital for optimal learning and retention, **you will receive credit for demonstrating an active presence in class—see Participation portion of grading criteria.** Additionally, **those with perfect attendance during the semester will receive 8 extra credit percentage points on their final examination.**
 - a. Arriving late or leaving early is unacceptable. However, it is understood that there are times that this is unavoidable. In such situations, please take a seat quietly and try not to disrupt the class. Do not forget to speak with me before or after this happens, otherwise you will be counted absent as a result of missing roll call.
 - B. **Classroom Etiquette:**
 - a. **Classroom Etiquette Policy Details:**
 - I hope for our class to be something everyone looks forward to each week and a place where each of you have a sense of belonging and feel comfortable and excited to learn. *It is incredibly important that all members of the class treat each other with respect and kindness.* Discussion times are for intelligent and respectful airing of ideas. Name-calling and personal attacks are not permitted. I have a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to bullying. Please be courteous to others during class.
 - **All cell phones and electronic devices are to be turned off or silenced and kept out of sight/reach during class.** Texting or “looking up” information on your phone is prohibited during class.
 - In addition, the following behaviors are unacceptable: 1) holding private conversations, 2) sleeping, 3) reading other materials, 4) doing other work or 5) cheating. *Any violations of this policy will be addressed immediately and may result in a grade penalty and/or dismissal from class. Repeated violation may result in dismissal from the course.* (Please see below for more information regarding Academic Dishonesty.)
 - b. **Technology:**
 - Studies suggest that laptop use in class lowers student performance (e.g. from surfing the web in class, answering emails, online messaging, and multitasking). As a result, **laptop and tablet use in class is discouraged, bordering on prohibited.** If laptop/tablet usage poses a problem, distracting students from learning, I will ask all students to close/turn off their devices.
 - It is your responsibility to ensure that you not only know how to log into Canvas and submit an assignment, but also that you understand which file

you are uploading and ensure you have uploaded the correct file. Some students have been willing to submit purposefully blank files to Canvas in order to claim a computer error; meanwhile they simply have been continuing work on the assignment. This will not be allowed. It is your responsibility to ensure the correct file is submitted on time.

- Also, it is your responsibility to ensure the correct file type is uploaded.
- If I catch an incorrect file (because you turned in the paper a couple days early) – I will let you fix it. If you submit an incorrect file and I do not catch it until after the deadline, your grade will be docked according to the late work policy presented in this syllabus. We have tech support and library staff that will walk you through the submission process, or you can even set up an appointment with me and I can walk you through it. If you absolutely cannot get Canvas to work – you must email me your completed file prior to the due date, and your email time stamp must show that it was submitted on time.

- C. Make-up Exams/Quizzes/Assignments-** 1) **Exams:** If you must miss an exam, you must provide me with documentation of an excused absence before you will be allowed to make up the missed exam. Aside from extreme circumstances/crises, a make-up exam will need to be completed within one week of the originally scheduled exam. ***Please communicate with me regarding these kinds of situations, and we will work things out.*** 2) **Quizzes: THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES** (because you will already have 2 opportunities on many quizzes). 3) **Late Policy for all other assignments (ex. written assignments):** For each day an assignment/project is late, 10 percentage points are deducted. Meaning if you turn in the assignment the day after it is due, the highest grade you can possibly earn is a 90%.

Last day to drop the course and receive a full refund is Aug 25.

Last day to withdraw from a course with a “W” is Nov 1.

DISABILITY SERVICES (Office for Students with Disabilities)

The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) provides support services for students with disabilities, students enrolled in technical areas of study, and students who are classified as special populations (i.e. single parents).

Support services for students with disabilities might include appropriate and reasonable accommodations, or they may be in the form of personal counseling, academic counseling, career counseling, etc. Furthermore, OSD Counselors work with students to encourage self-advocacy and promote empowerment. The Counselors also provides resource information, disability-related information, and adaptive technology for students who qualify.

For support, please contact the counselors at (940) 498-6207 or (940) 668-4321. Alternatively, students may stop by Room 170 in Corinth or Room 110 in Gainesville.

CORE CURRICULUM FOUNDATIONAL COMPONENT AREA (For classes in the Core)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Government/Political Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social and Behavioral Sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life and Physical Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Component Area Option |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Language, Philosophy & Culture | <input type="checkbox"/> American History |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Arts | |

REQUIRED CORE OBJECTIVES (For classes in the Core)

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|------------------------------|---|
| X Critical Thinking | <input type="checkbox"/> Teamwork |
| X Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Responsibility |
| X Empirical and Quantitative | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Responsibility |

COURSE TYPE

- | |
|--|
| X Academic General Education Course (from ACGM but not in NCTC Core) |
| Academic NCTC Core Curriculum Course |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WECM Course |

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Students are expected to follow all rules and regulations found in the student handbook and published online.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, academic falsification, intellectual property dishonesty, academic dishonesty facilitation and collusion. Faculty members may document and bring charges against a student who is engaged in or is suspected to be engaged in academic dishonesty. See Student Handbook, "Student Rights & Responsibilities: Student Conduct ([FLB(LOCAL)])".

QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, or COMPLAINTS

Name of Chair/Coordinator:	Crystal R.M. Wright
Office Location:	Gainesville Campus, Room 24
Telephone Number:	940-668-7731, ext. 4320
E-mail Address:	cwright@nctc.edu

Name of Instructional Dean:	Dr. Bruce King
Office Location:	1500 North Corinth St, Corinth, TX 76208-5408
Telephone Number:	940-498-6464
E-mail Address:	bking@nctc.edu

Additional Comments from Saenz: **Please come to me first with any questions, concerns, or complaints. I am here for you and want this course to be the best experience possible for each of you! Cheers to the start of an exciting semester! :) Let's have some fun and grow as people!**

Tentative Course Calendar

Remember that you are responsible for the material on the date it is listed.

WEEK	DATES	TOPICS	APPROXIMATE DUE DATES/IMPORTANT DATES
1	Aug 26	The Birth of Our Class ;) Syllabus, Course Mechanics, Get to Know One Another Activity	Film Written Assignments and Mini Presentations can be turned in/completed anytime during the course of the semester but must be submitted by Week 14.
	Aug 28	Defining Abnormality and History of Mental Illness	
2	Sept 2	No Class	
	Sept 4	Defining Abnormality and History of Mental Illness	
3	Sept 9	Defining Abnormality and History of Mental Illness & Diagnosis and the DSM	Written Assignment #1 Due
	Sept 11	Perspectives- Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual	
4	Sept 16	Perspectives	
	Sept 18	Anxiety Disorders	
5	Sept 23	Anxiety Disorders	Research Project Topic Due
	Sept 25	Depression	Must have mentioned and turned in one literature/film/tv example by this point

6	Sept 30	Depression	Written Assignment #2 Due
	Oct 2	Bipolar Disorder	
7	Oct 7	Bipolar Disorder	Study Guide for Exam 1 Due at Midnight
	Oct 9	Personality Disorders- Overview (Not on Exam 1)	
8	Oct 14	Personality Disorders- Narcissistic	EXAM 1
	Oct 16	Personality Disorders- Narcissistic	
9	Oct 21	Personality Disorders- Borderline	
	Oct 23	Personality Disorders- Borderline	
10	Oct 28	Personality Disorders- Antisocial	Research Data Due
	Oct 30	Personality Disorders- Antisocial	Must have mentioned and turned in your second literature/film/tv example by this point
11		Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence	
	Nov 4	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	
	Nov 6	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	
12	Nov 11	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	
	Nov 13	Eating Disorders	
13	Nov 18	Dissociative Disorders	Research Paper Due
	Nov 20	Dissociative Disorders	
14	Nov 25	Schizophrenia	
	Nov 27-30	No Class (Nov 27)	

15	Dec 2	Schizophrenia	Must have mentioned and turned in your third literature/film/tv example by this point
	Dec 4	Leaving Space to Allow for Extra Time Where Needed	Study Guide 2 Due
16	Dec 9-14	Final Exam (noncumulative)	

*** Syllabus and Course Calendar subject to change. All changes will be announced to students. See **CANVAS** for live **Tentative Course Calendar**.*