

**Psychology 331 Section 4  
Abnormal Psychology  
Spring Semester 2008**

**Time and Location:** Chemistry and Forensic Sciences Bldg. Room 107---2:00-2:50 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Text: *Abnormal Psychology (6<sup>th</sup> Ed.)*—Ronald J. Comer

**Instructor:** Ronald Davis Ph.D.

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**Office Hours:** Monday, Wednesday 3:00-4:20 p.m.; Tuesday, 5:00p.m.-6:00 p.m.; Friday, 1:00-1:50 p.m. and by appointment

**Course Objectives:** Students will:

1. be able to remember and understand the nature and etiology of Psychological Disorders as presented in the DSM IV TR;
2. be able to analyze and evaluate techniques of assessing psychological disorders; treatment approaches and; systems designed to alleviate/manage psychological disorders (insurance, Community Mental Health, State and Federal Programs)
3. be able to apply knowledge of the nature and etiology of psychological disorders and treatment as presented in DSM IV TR and current literature to case examples.

**Grading and Assignments:**

1. Four exams and a final exam. Each exam may include multiple choice, short answer and essay questions and will cover material from the text, lecture, supplemental readings and in-class discussion. One of the four exams, excluding the final exam, will be dropped.
2. Numerous in-class writing assignments covering lecture and discussion material (1 minute papers) to share with classmates and the professor in small groups.
3. Case analysis of two to three pages in length. Analysis must present a realistic range of behaviors that fits with a particular DSM diagnostic group. It must address biological, social and psychological elements and a particular treatment for the disorder should be recommended that is consistent with current literature.
4. Presentation of case analysis to the class (may be in dyads or small groups) for discussion and critique (during last two weeks of class)
5. Five or more unannounced quizzes over assigned readings and lecture.
6. Reading for class should be done prior to the corresponding class meeting. Quizzes and short papers as well as discussion will address these readings so students should be prepared.

Exams = 300 points

Final Exam = 100 points

In-class writing assignments (unannounced) = 50 points for completion only

Case Analysis write-up = 100 points

Unannounced quizzes = 100 points

Case presentation and discussion = 25 points (for completion)

Total = 650 points

A = 585 points

B = 500 points

C = 450 points

D = 385 points

F = below 385

**Class Attendance:** Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Attendance will be recorded however grades will be based on student performance on exams, presentation and written assignments. **In-class assignments and quizzes cannot be made up unless in accordance with SHSU policy.**

*A more detailed description of the following policies with links specific to each policy may be found at: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>*

**Academic Dishonesty Policy:** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource material.

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:** Students are expected to participate in and facilitate an environment of learning and to respect each other. To this end, students should refrain from any activity or behavior that distracts from the learning process (side conversations, falling asleep, etc.). **All electronic devices must be turned off and not visible during class.** Computers or recording devices may not be used to take notes unless in accordance with consultation by the Office of Services of Students with Disabilities.

**Students with Disabilities Policy:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they should not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. Please note that no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling center.

**Religious Holidays:** Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work.

**Visitors in the Classroom:** Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

**This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on blackboard.**

**TENTATIVE CALENDAR  
Abnormal Psychology  
Psychology 331  
Spring Semester 2008**

Date	Topic	Reading
<b>January</b>		
16	Introduction	
18,21	Research Methods	
23,25,28		
30	Assessment	
<b>February</b>		
1,4	Assessment	

6

8,11,13

15,18

20,22

25,27,29

**March**

3

5

7

10,12,14

17

19,21

24,26

28

31

**April**

2,4

7,9,11

14,16, 18

21, 23,

25

28,30th

**May**

2,5,7

**Exam 1**

Anxiety Disorders

Stress Disorders

Somatoform Disorders

Mood Disorders

Suicide

**Exam 2**

Eating Disorders

Spring Break

Eating Disorders

Substance Abuse Dx.

Sexual Disorders

**Exam 3**

Schizophrenia

Schizophrenia

Personality Disorders

Childhood and Adolescent Disorders

Disorders of Aging and Cognition

**Exam 4**

Case Presentations

Case Presentations