

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY of HONOLULU

Course Syllabus

Course Name: ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY *PSY 42420*

Course Description: This course presents an exploration of the major theoretical areas in the helping professions, specifically, an overview of the major diagnostic categories of the DSM IV TR. Students learn the theoretical basis for each of the major theories, the approach to change, and the techniques and interventions used by practitioners of these theories.

Schedule: Thursday 1730 to 2140

Required Text: ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY Second Addition

Faculty: Roger O'Guin

Telephone/Mail: 234-5645; PO Box 136 Kailua, HI 96734

Availability: Evenings/Weekends

Assignments:

- Week 1 Chapters 1 & 2
- Week 2 Chapters 3 & 4
- Week 3 Chapters 5 & 6
- Week 4 Chapters 7 & 8
- Week 5 Chapters 9 & 10
- Week 6 Chapter 11
- Week 7 Chapter 12
- Week 8 Chapter 13
- Week 9 Chapter 14
- Week 10 Chapter 15

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY: Attendance is important because this course has been designed to be participatory. Attendance includes being on time and participating. Because this is an accelerated class and due to university policy, attendance at all class sessions is mandatory. One absence will affect your grade because you will lose participation points for each missed class. You will also be penalized points (i.e. 10% of the grade for the assignments that were due for the missed workshop). It is the responsibility of the student to check in for attendance if late arriving to class. Turn OFF All pagers and cellular phones when coming in to class. This syllabus is your contract with the instructor. Should you lose it, it is your responsibility to obtain another one.

GRADING:

Term Paper...one third of grade.

Term papers will be seven pages in length, typed, and double spaced. Keep in mind that this is a university level curriculum. Poor grammar, poor syntax, poor punctuation and misspellings do not lend themselves to this level of academics. Term papers are due by week eight (8). The topic of individual papers will be chosen by the student, however, the content of the thesis must be consistent with a philosophy from the text and must include one or more characters from a film shown in class or from the film list provided. Late papers will forfeit 10% of total points awarded if not turned in 48 hours from the date due.

Reaction papers...one third of grade.

Each weeks reading assignment will correlate with the text and the class schedule. For instance, week 2 will be spent critiquing chapters 3 & 4, therefore, weekly summaries need to be complete prior to coming to class. Students should be prepared to verbally participate on the topics from the previous weeks reading and hand in the appropriate summaries. Insure that all papers have your name, the chapter number, and appropriate format and paragraph headings. Papers are an individual effort.

Participation...one third of grade.

Students should be prepared to openly and objectively discuss each section of the text weekly. All classes will consist of open dialogue on the materials studied the previous week. This includes working in groups to discuss case studies. Each student will have a case to present and examine in group weekly. This is an important third of your grade because it replaces standard mid term and final examination measurements.

Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade
95+	A	73-75	C
91-94	A-	70-72	C-
87-90	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	65-69	D
79-82	B-	0-66	F

All written work will be according to APA guidelines. Your grade will be based on style, content and format including such items as clarity of communications, sentence and paragraph construction, punctuation, spelling, and grammar. If you are unable to complete course work and have submitted seven passing assignments, you, the student, can negotiate an incomplete grade. It must be negotiated before the end of class. If it is due to a death or illness, a doctors letter will be required.

The scientific method is a set of assumptions and rules about collecting and evaluating data. The explicitly stated assumptions and rules enable a standard, systematic method of investigation that is designed to reduce bias as much as possible. Central to the scientific method is the collection of data which allows investigators to put their ideas to an empirical test, outside of or apart from their personal biases. In essence, stripped of all its glamour, scientific inquiry is nothing more than a way of limiting false conclusions about natural events.

Scientific research has four primary goals: To describe behavior, to predict behavior, to determine the cause of behavior, and to understand or explain behavior. All final papers therefore, need to objectify these goals.