

Chaminade University of Honolulu
Psychology 424: ¹⁹Abnormal Psychology
Instructor: Karen Hoffman, MSCP
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Text: Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology by Ronald J. Comer. Worth Publishers, 2002
(Third Edition).
Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology, Student Workbook by Katherine Nicolai and
Carmen R. Wilson VanVoorhis, Worth Publishers, 2002 (Third Edition).

Course Description:

An introduction to the major theories and concepts in the study of Abnormal Psychology which will provide the student with a broad overview of a variety of the psychological aspects of Abnormal Psychology. Exploration of the psychological aspects of abnormal behavior will allow the student the opportunity to develop a better understanding of self and society.

Course Objectives:

The student will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the scientific method.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts and principles of Abnormal Psychology.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the major factors affecting Abnormal Psychology and behavior.
- Develop an appreciation of the processes by which Abnormal Psychology is studied, analyzed and interpreted.
- Develop and understanding of cultural diversity.
- Be able to integrate knowledge about Abnormal Psychology into daily life, in order to enrich one's understanding of self and others.

Course Method:

The following teaching approaches will be utilized:

- Textbook Reading
- Study Guide Exercises
- Lecture/Discussion Format
- Audio Visual Materials
- Small/Large Group Discussions
- Guest Speakers
- Reflective Writing
- Independent Study

Expectations For Students:

1. CLASS ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED!!!! Ten bonus points will be added to final grade for perfect attendance. In order to earn the ten bonus points, you must be on time and be present in class for the entire session. This includes returning from breaks on time. If you leave early, you will be marked absent for the class period.
2. READ AND STUDY ALL ASSIGNMENTS!!!! You will be responsible for reading the course textbook and any additional readings given during the course. It is important to bring your textbook and study guide to every class session.
3. The student is expected to be responsive to new ideas and to participate in discussions and offer own viewpoints. Attitude counts.

Course Requirements:

Study Guide: Each week you will be responsible for all assignments in the Study Guide.

The Study Guide will be worth 100 pts.

Tests: Four examinations will be given. Each one will be worth 50 pts.

A Paper: A paper will be assigned relevant to course subject matter. The instructor must approve your topic. The paper should be typed, double spaced, and 5-7 pages in length. Be careful of grammar and spelling errors, as you will lose points for them. You also need to include a bibliography and cite references. Do not plagiarize!!!!
NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED!!!! Your paper will be worth 100 pts.

Class Presentations: Each week students will take turns presenting what they have learned in a particular chapter. You will need to write out your presentation in advance because you will not be able to use your textbook during the presentation. It is important to cover everything of importance in the chapter. There is no time limit. You will need to turn in your typed presentation when you are finished. You need to be ready with your presentation on the day it is due. You will lose points for a late presentation. Class members are encouraged to join in the discussion and presentation and the instructor will make appropriate comments or add information as required. This portion of the class is meant to be lively and interesting. YOU ARE NOT TEACHING THE CLASS!!! The presentations will allow the students the opportunity to apply the information in each chapter to real life situations, which will make our study of psychology more meaningful. The presentations will also give the instructor insight into how much of the material the student is grasping and understanding. Presentations will be graded as follows: Exceptional-100-90 Above Average-89-90
Average-79-70 Below Average-69-60 No Participation-0

Course Grading: After calculating the total possible points for the course, students will earn the following grade:

A-500-460

B-459-420

C-419-380

D-379-340

F-339 & Below

Psy. 424-----Abnormal Psychology Syllabus

- Week 1----Course Introduction, Requirements, Survey of Text.
Chapt. 1-Abnormal Psychology: Past and Present---Chapt. 1-Study Guide
Chapt. 2-Models of Abnormality---Chapt. 2-Study Guide
- Week 2----Chapt. 3-Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, Treatment---Chapt. 3-Study Guide
Chapt. 4-Generalized Anxiety Disorder and Phobias---Chapt. 4-Study Guide
Review for Test 1--Chapt. 1--4
- Week 3----Test 1--Chapt. 1--4
Chapt. 5-Panic, Obsessive-Compulsive, and Stress Disorders---Chapt. 5 Study Guide
Chapt. 6-Mood Disorders---Chapt. 6 Study Guide
- Week 4----Chapt. 7-Suicide---Chapt. 7 Study Guide
Chapt. 8-Psychosocial Factors in Physical Disorders---Chapt. 8 Study Guide
Review for Test 2--Chapt. 5--8
- Week 5----Test 2--Chapt. 5--8
Chapt. 9-Eating Disorders---Chapt. 9 Study Guide
Chapt. 10-Substance-Related Disorders---Chapt. 10 Study Guide
- Week 6----Chapt. 11-Sexual Disorders and Gender Identity Disorder---Chapt. 11 Study Guide
Chapt. 12-Schizophrenia---Chapt. 12 Study Guide
Review for Test 3--Chapt. 9--12
- Week 7----Test 3--Chapt. 9--12
Chapt. 13-Disorders of Memory and Other Cognitive Functions
Chapt. 13-Study Guide
Chapt. 14-Personality Disorders---Chapt. 14 Study Guide
- Week 8----Chapt. 15-Disorders of Childhood and Old Age---Chapt. 15 Study Guide
Chapt. 16-Law, Society and the Mental Health Profession-Chapt. 16 Study Guide
- Week 9----Review Test 4 Chapt. 13--16
Present Papers Orally
- Week 10---Test 4 Chapt. 13--16
Present Papers Orally
Closure