

**Nova Southeastern University
Center for Psychological Studies**

Course Outline

Course & Title: PSY 584, Diagnosis and Treatment of Adult Psychopathology

Credit Hours: 3

Location/Section: Palm Beach/PB2

Dates: May 2, 3, 4, 2008
May 16, 17, 18, 2008

Instructor: Barry L. Hensel, Ph.D.
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Class Meeting Times:

Fridays	6:00 PM-10:00 PM
Saturdays	8:30 AM- 6:00 PM
Sundays	8:30 AM- 5:30 PM

Required Texts:

American Psychiatric Association (2000). Quick Reference Guide To The Diagnostic Criteria From DSM IV TR. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association Press.

Butcher, J., Mineka S. and Hooley, J. (2007). Abnormal Psychology (13th Edition). Needham Heights, Ma: Allyn & Bacon

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the definition and study of abnormal or maladaptive behavior, including a broad range of psychopathology relevant to the adult and aged populations.. Emphasis will be placed on a descriptive review of the major DSM-IV disorders, supplemented with theoretical considerations of etiology and treatment approaches.

Course Objectives:

- A. Recognize and classify psychopathology within the DSM-IV diagnostic system.
- B. Understand the primary etiological factors and theoretical models proposed for the major psychiatric disorders.

- C. Knowledge of ethical treatment approaches for each disorder.
- D. Knowledge of the basic psychotropic medications used in the major disorders for the purpose of making proper referrals and monitoring side effects.
- E. Be able to describe how each major psychiatric disorder will present on the mental status exam.
- F. Be able to follow APA style in producing a written assignment that surveys an area of psychopathology that will be assigned.

Calendar of Assignments:

Prior to the first weekend of class read Butcher et.al. chapters 3, 5, 6, 8, 11, and 12.

Friday

- Introduction and overview to the course
- Lecture on abnormal behavior through history
- DSM IV
- Biopsychosocial viewpoints: The paradigms (major emphasis)

Saturday

- Biopsychosocial viewpoints (continued)
- Causal factors in abnormal behavior
- Case histories to practice analyzing causation
- Stress and adjustment disorders
- Anxiety based disorders; videotape (major emphasis)
- Somatoform and dissociative disorders
- Personality disorders; videotape (major emphasis)

Sunday

- Personality disorders (continued)
- Alcohol use disorders
- Other addictive disorders
- Case histories to practice classification
- Mid-term examination

Prior to the second weekend of class please read chapters 4, 7, 13, 14, 15, 17(section on **pharmacologic approaches**, 609-621) and 18(sections on **Prevention**, 642-651 and **controversial legal issues**, 652-661)

Friday

- Mood disorders (major emphasis)
- Suicide
- Case histories to practice classification

Saturday

- Sexual dysfunction
- Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders(major emphasis)
- Brain disorders and other cognitive impairments
- Clinical assessment (light emphasis)
- Case histories to practice classification

Sunday

- Mental status examination
- Psychotropic medication
- Prevention
- Legal issues
- Final examination
- Written report due

Written Assignments

- A. Mid-term examination, multiple choice style questions plus case vignettes to classify
- B. Final examination, multiple choice style questions plus case vignettes to classify
- C. Written report of 7 pages (minimum) ; see description in note #5

Grading Criteria

A.	Mid-term exam	40%
B.	Final exam	45%
C.	Written report	10%
D.	Professionalism/participation	5%

Notes:

1. The DSM IV is a tool you will use for diagnostic classification in your clinical work starting with your practicum. We will use it frequently in class . You should look it over to familiarize yourself with its contents before class, especially the concept of multiaxial classification. I will present material on the specific diagnoses. **The major focus of this course is to be able to classify abnormal behavior with the DSM-IV.**
2. The tests are multiple choice over the content of reading and lectures plus a few case histories that require you to make a DSM-IV diagnosis. There is a strong emphasis on the descriptive characteristics of each diagnostic category. Therefore you should strive to recognize the essential features of the diagnostic categories that have been assigned.
3. The midterm will have an emphasis on causation which I will lecture on in class. (Chapter . Understanding of the psychosocial viewpoints will be important. There is also an emphasis on anxiety disorders and personality disorders the first weekend.

4. Given the amount of material you should strive to have a broad understanding of abnormal behavior, its causation and the DSM classification system by carefully reading the assigned text chapters. The lectures and class activities will build on this base and will focus on the descriptive features of each diagnosis.

5. A typewritten report of at least 8 pages on one of the following choices

- a) Description of the treatment approaches to an eating disorder
- b) An analysis of stress and lifestyle on health problems including treatments
- c) An overview of effective treatment approaches to either an anxiety disorder, a mood disorder, or a personality disorder
- d) Any topic on psychopathology you choose, approved by the instructor.

Use APA format and at least two references besides your text

6. If you have questions you can feel free to call or e-mail me.

Bibliography PSY 584

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