
ABNORMAL & CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY in Fall 2019 (PY2043)

Course Code	PY2043	Professor(s)	Paschale Mccarthy
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	PL-104
Class Schedule	R: 15:20-18:15 in PL-4	Office Hours	14.00-15.00 Thursday
Credits	4	Email	pmccarthy@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2019	Office Tel. Ext.	839

Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive overview of the field of abnormal and clinical psychology, including a review of the new developments in understanding different forms of psychological disorders. The intricate interplay of biological, psychological, developmental, and social factors in the development, maintenance and treatment of psychopathology in the individual will be explored. Case studies will be employed to illustrate how psychological disorders play out in the life of the individual, and how an individual experiences the disorder on a subjective, personal level. An integrative, multidimensional perspective is highlighted in this course to foster critical thinking.

Course Learning Outcomes

To develop an overview of the field of clinical and abnormal psychology and the major psychological disorders

To understand the use of categorical systems of psychopathology, as well as the benefits and limitations of such systems.

To become familiar with the historical, cultural and social trends in the field of psychopathology.

To promote an understanding of the relationship between psychological theories and their interpretation of psychological disorders.

To promote a greater awareness and understanding of mental disorders and their impact on the individual in society.

To develop empirical, analytical and inferential skills to help to evaluate data.

General Education

Course Outline

CLASS SCHEDULE: (subject to change)

September

Week I – 2nd – 6th

Introduction to Abnormal/Clinical Psychology: Historical and Theoretical Overview

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 1

September 8th – last day to drop/add courses online

Week II – 9th – 13th

Conceptualizing Psychopathology/ how do we think about “abnormal psychology” Theories and Paradigms in Psychopathology

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 2

Week III –16th – 20th

Assessment and Diagnosis in Clinical Psychology. Classifications Systems. Introduction to Anxiety and Trauma; case study analysis of PTSD.

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 3. DSM-5 selected readings

Week IV –23th – 27th

Anxiety and its Disorders; Trauma and PTSD

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 5 Articles provided.

Collaborative Presentations begin

Week V –30th – 4th

Obsessive and Somatoform Disorders; Dissociative Disorders

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 6. Articles and case histories provided.

October

Week VI –7th – 11th

Mood and its Disorders; Suicide

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 7; An Unquiet Mind.

Journal articles provided.

Week VII –14th – 18th

MIDTERM EXAMINATION

Research Proposals Due

October 18th, Mid-semester grades due

Week VIII – 21st – 25th

Eating Disorders: Anorexia Nervosa, Bulimia, Binge Eating Disorder

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 8

Journal articles provided.

Week IX - 28th – (1st)

October 30th – November 3rd, fall break (no classes)

November

Week X - 4th – 8th

1. Sexual Disorders and Gender Dysphoria

2. Substance Related Disorders (Guest lecturer on addiction and treatment)

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 10 and 11

November 4th, last day to withdraw from a course /no credit option

Week XI – 11th – 15th

Personality Disorders

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 12

November 11th – 12th, Armistice Break (no classes)

Week XII– 18th – 22nd

Psychosis and Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorder

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 13

Week XIII– 25th – 29th

Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Reading: Abnormal Psychology Chapter 14

December

Week XIV – 2nd – 6th

Student Research Presentations

FINAL EXAM THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 15.30

December 6th, last day of classes

December 7th- 11th, reading days

December 12th – 18th, Final Exams_

January 2nd, all grades due

Textbooks

This course doesn't have any textbook.

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member

might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

The final grade for this course will be determined by the following formula:

20% Midterm Exam (Short Answer & Multiple Choice Questions & Case Analysis)

40% Final examination (Multiple Choice Questions, Essay Questions Case Study Analysis)

10% Collaborative presentation-students to present and discuss topic.

20% Research Paper: 8-10 pages. Double-spaced. APA format.

10% Class attendance and participation. This is a very important aspect of this course as cases are discussed in workshop format.

Other
