Instructor: Greg Berg, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 3:45-4:30 pm, 8:45-9:30 pm, and by appointment
Class Days/Time: Thursdays 6-8:45 pm
Classroom: DMH 348
Prerequisites: Psychology 001

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/people/Greg.Berg or accessible through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU. Grades and assignments will be posted on D2L.

Course Description
This course will survey abnormal psychology from several perspectives, including classification of a normal behavior, major theories of etiology, and treatment.

Learning Outcomes
The two primary goals of the course are to provide students with a broad understanding of psychological problems and develop critical thinking skills applicable to the study of abnormal behavior. In particular, my goal for this term is to foster critical thinking about the classification of psychopathology and how that affects treatment and research strategies.

Course Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
CLO1 – Critical thinking development: Historical context - to understand the importance of history and context when examining and classifying psychological distress
CLO2 – Knowledge based and application development: Understanding paradigms - to have a basic familiarity with the major paradigms as used in the assessment, classification, and treatment of psychological problems

CLO3 – Research Methods development: Clinical science: to understand the role of science (with its varying methods) in the study of abnormal behavior

CLO4 – Critical thinking and application: Assessment and classification - to understand the process of classification and its dependence on theoretical paradigms

CLO5 – Critical thinking and application: Assessment and classification - to be familiar with and critical of different types of assessment of abnormal behavior

CLO6 – Knowledge base and application development - Interventions - to develop a broad knowledge base of the different types of psychopathology and corresponding psychological, social, and biological interventions

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements…

PLO1 – Knowledge Base of Psychology – Students will be able to identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

PLO2 – Research Methods in Psychology – Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.

PLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology – Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.

PLO4 – Application of Psychology – Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.

PLO5 – Values in Psychology – Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook


Definition of a Credit Hour

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours
per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

As an example, the expectation of work for a 3-credit course is 150-minutes of direct faculty instruction and six hours of out-of-class student work each week.

**Classroom Protocol**

There are only a few real issues here, and they are easy. In general, the guiding principles are to be respectful and attend to what is going on in class. These issues are not typically a problem; that said, doing any of these will not be tolerated and will be grounds for dismissal from the class.

1. Be polite and respectful to the other people in the class, particularly when engaged in discussion. While I encourage an open discussion of many ideas, please refrain from using language that is prejudicial or hurtful to others.
2. Do not carry on conversations with others during lecture. (If you have a question or point to make, just say it so we can all hear it!)
3. Please turn off your cell phone for the time you are in class. If you need to receive an emergency call, let me know about it in advance. Never take a call and start talking during class.
4. Never use a cell phone during an examination period.
5. Do not text message during lecture.
6. Attend to the lecture material. Do not work on any other course material during class, including studying for other exams. If you use a computer, please use it for course related work during class time.
7. Do not sleep during class.

**Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.
Assignments and Grading Policy

Course Requirements

- Quizzes (9) 200 points
- Exams (3) 150 points
- Project 50 points
- Participation 100 points

On each date that a chapter is first assigned, a quiz covering that chapter will be given at the onset of class. Makeup quizzes can be taken for half credit.

Class assignments will be undertaken at various times throughout the semester. These assignments will be done in class in small groups, with all members receiving the same score. Students must be present in order to receive credit for these group assignments which cannot be made up unless exceptional circumstances exist. To gain the most from this course, students must maintain regular attendance, as much of the content is gained through class exercises, demonstrations, and discussions.

Two midterms will be given on the dates per the class schedule. The first midterm will cover the first three assigned chapters. The second midterm will cover the next three assigned chapters. The final will be non-cumulative and will cover the last three assigned chapters.

Grading will be based on a modified curve.

Project

Each student will be responsible for completing a project. The project may be in the form of a paper, a classroom demonstration, a video, or a multi-media presentation. The last three options may be done in groups of two or three. More details will be given on a separate handout. Check with me to clear your topic and to set a time for your presentation if you are conducting one.

Extra Credit
Each student will have the opportunity to complete one extra credit assignment worth up to a total of 10 points. Various options for this assignment will be announced throughout the semester.

**University Policies**

**Academic integrity**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University’s Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm, requires you to be honest in all your academic coursework. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/ to establish a record of their disability.

**Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.
Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to inspire them to become independent learners. The Center's tutors are trained and nationally certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). They provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring are available. Please visit the LARC website for more information at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/.

Student Success and Wellness

Attending to your wellness is critical to your success at SJSU. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of the workshops and programs offered through various Student Affairs Departments on campus such as Counseling Services, the SJSU Student Health Center/Wellness & Health Promotion Dept., and Career Center. See http://www.sjsu.edu/wellness or http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling/Workshops/ for workshop/events schedule and links to many other services on campus that support your wellness! You may go to http://events.sjsu.edu to register for any one of the workshops.

Diversity Statement
Consistent with the mission of the University, all students are welcome regardless of differing backgrounds and experiences including but not limited to age, disability and health status, ethnicity and race, family structure, geographic region, language, religious and secular beliefs, resident status, gender, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status. It is my goal to foster an environment in which diversity is recognized and embraced and every person is treated with dignity, respect and fairness. I hope that your academic experience in this class and at SJSU will provide you with the opportunity to gain knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in a diverse, global environment.