Psyc 110 (5) Abnormal Psychology

Section 23248, Spring Semester 2014

Instructor: Naomi Wagner, PhD
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Email: Naomi.wagner@sjsu.edu; psychprof1@yahoo.com
Office Hours: Mon-Wed 08:45-10:30 AM
Class Days/Time: Mon-Wed 10:30-11:45 AM
Classroom: DMH 356
Prerequisites: PSYC 100

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, chapter lecture notes, major assignment or handouts and study guides are posted on my faculty web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/people/naomi.wagner/
You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor).

Course Description
This course aims at introducing the student to the world of mental disorders and at providing the student with tools necessary to think critically about abnormal behavior. After the completion of the course, the student will be familiar with the various models of mental disorders, and will hopefully understand the connection between a model's principles and the studies, assessment tools, and the treatment approaches that stem from
that model. The strengths and weaknesses of the various theories of abnormal psychology will be explored. The presentation of the material will be organized around the diagnostic system of the DSM-IV-TR (2000). But since a new DSM is expected to be published this Spring (2013) we will identify the changes and assess their significance to the clinical world. We will discuss various diagnostic categories, their symptoms, etiology, and interventions, primarily the interventions that were found to be effective for a given disorder.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

This class is aimed at acquainting the student with the major theories of personality, with the historical factors related to their emergence, and with their current status as established by empirical findings. The current applications into a variety of real-life situations in attempts to better understand human behavior and human difficulties will also be addressed.

We will follow the textbook sequence of chapters and will allocate two weeks to each of the theories. The presentation of each theory will introduce its basic concepts, how these concepts are measured, how they are proposed to be applied, and results of studies that evaluated the theoretical concepts.

Course Content Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

LO1: be familiar with six approaches to understanding personality and individual differences in behavioral characteristics,

LO2: address the strengths and weaknesses of each approach

LO3: critically examine relevant empirical evidence associated with each theoretical approach

LO4: recognize the application of theoretical concepts into real life issues and in psychotherapy

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

• Instructor’s website: You will find lecture-notes (power-points) and learning objectives for each chapter at

http://www.sjsu.edu/people/naomi.wagner/

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
This course is based on the active participation of the student, and the main requirement is READING and ATTENDANCE. You are expected to read the assigned materials before class, so that the teacher can elaborate and expand. Because of time constraints it may not be impossible to cover all the segments of a given unit. However, you are responsible for all the assigned reading, as the exams will include questions from all part of the reading. Some parts of the chapters will be skipped, please see reading list below. Students are expected to:

• Maintain polite and considerate behavior toward their fellow students and the instructor.
• Not to text-message during class
• Not to make or receive phone calls
• Not to surf the Internet during class.
• NOT leave class to use their cell-phone.
Recording of Class Lectures

Common courtesy and professional behavior dictates that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. This permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor-generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.

Attendance:
Your regular attendance and participation are factors contributing to the successful completion of this course. If you do not attend class you will miss the opportunity to ask questions and to get clarifications. In addition, please make all effort to come to class on time. Tardiness disturbs the instructor and other students, and also deprives you of the short reviews of the previous lecture that are presented at the beginning of each class.

If you hold a full time job, please make all effort to attend class regularly, and to study each night for at least an hour and a half. Cramming before the test has not been very effective for most students. As you read, take notes and go over the material that has been discussed in class, pay attention to concepts, and examples of these concepts. Be familiar with important studies.

Teacher Availability:
Do not hesitate to e-mail me or to come by with questions. If you have not done so well on any of the tests, please come to see me ASAP, in order to go over test questions that you missed, so we can understand how you interpreted the questions, and devise strategies for doing better on the next test.

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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic_Calendars/. 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

Extra Credit:
Please note that I do not give extra-credits. You mastery of the subject matter as measured on the exams is the factor that counts.
Grading:
We will have 3 midterms and a final. Each midterm will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. Each question is worth 2 points. The questions are factual (specific information), conceptual (assigning a concept to a scenario), and applied (use the information to offer solution to a problem). Each midterm will cover about 3 to 4 chapters. Please bring a scantron (#882) and a pencil. The final will include 100 multiple-choice questions and will be selectively cumulative; that is, it will cover the central themes for each topic studied (you will receive a study guide).

The final grade is calculated as the number of correct items on the 4 tests, divided by 250 (total number of questions)

The grading scale:
A+ 98-100%
A  93-97
A- 90-92
B+ 87-89
B  83-86
B- 80-82
C+ 77-79
C  73-76
C- 70-72
D+ 67-69
D  63-66
D- 60-62
F   <60

Exam Dates:
Midterm 1: Wed, February 26, 2014
Midterm 2: Wed, April 9 2014
Midterm 3: Wed, May 7, 2014
Final: Thursday, May 15, 2014, 09:45-12:00

Make up exams:
Please note exam dates and plan your trips and events accordingly. You will be allowed to reschedule an exam ONLY upon the presentation of documented medical reason, or if you have a mandatory, documented school activity.

Homework:
Assignments: Weekly homework consists of the assigned reading, and responding to the Learning Assignments that are posted on the Instructor’s website.
These assignments are designed to enable the student to process the information more efficiently and to retain it better. They cover main concepts and issues related to these concepts. You are not obligated to do these assignments, and you do NOT get any credit point. It is YOU who is going t midterms.

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, located at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website 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 Integrity 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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center (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 at http://www.at.sjsu.edu/asc/ located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab 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 DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.
SJSU Peer Connections
The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) and the Peer Mentor Program have merged to become Peer Connections. Peer Connections is the new campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring. Our staff is here to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. Students are encouraged to take advantage of our services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.

SJSU Writing Center
The SJSU Writing Center is located in Suite 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 staff can be found at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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| 1    | Jan 27-
     Jan 29  | Introduction to the class Chapter 1 Abnormal Behavior Cont-d                                             |
| 2    | Feb 3-
     Feb 5   | Models of abnormal behavior ch 2 (Only biological) Cont-d chapter 2                                       |
| 3    | Feb 10-
     Feb 12 | Chapter 3 pp. 66-67 Biological research Cont-d chapter 3 pp. 77-82 Diagnosis and classification          |
| 4    | Feb 17-
     Feb 19 | Chapter 4 Anxiety Disorders Cont-d chapter 4                                                              |
| 5    | Feb 24-
     Feb 26 | Chapter 5 Trauma and Stress-related disorders Cont-d chapter 5                                               |
| 6    | March 3-
    March 5  | Cont-d chapter 5 Psychophysiological Disorders **Midterm #1 chapters 1,2,3, 4, 5 (w/o psychophysiological)** |
| 7    | March 10-
    March 12 | Chapter 5 psychophysiological Chapter 6 Somatic 147-158                                                   |
| 8    | March 17-
    March 19 | Chapter 7 Depressive and bipolar Disorders Cont-d chapter 7                                               |
| 9    | March 24-
    March 26 | **Spring Break**                                                                                          |
| 10   | March 31-
    April 2  | Cont-d chapter 7 Chapter 8 Suicide                                                                         |
| 11   | April 7-
    April 9  | Cont-d chapter 8 **Midterm #2 chapters 5 (psychophysiological) 6, 7, 8**                                    |
| 12   | April 14-
    April 16 | Chapter 11 Schizophrenia Cont-d chapter 11                                                                |
| 13   | April 21-
    April 23 | Cont-d chapter 11 Chapter 14 Personality Psychopathology                                                   |
<p>| 14   | April 28         | Cont-d chapter 14                                                                                         |</p>
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<td>April 30</td>
<td>Chapter 15 Disorders of childhood (Autism, Mental Retardation, Conduct disorders, ADHD)</td>
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<td>May 5</td>
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<td>May 7</td>
<td><strong>Midterm #3 chapters 11, 14</strong></td>
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<td>May 12</td>
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