San José State University  
College of Social Sciences  
Abnormal Psychology, FALL 2016  
Psychology 110

Instructor: Joelle R. Maletis, MA.Ed, MA., LMFT

Office Location: CLARK 160

Telephone: (408) 375-5803 Private Phone Number

Email: joelle.maletis@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: MW 1:30 - 2:30 pm; by appointment

Class Days/Time: MW 4:30 - 5:45 pm

Classroom: Washington Square Hall Room 207

Prerequisites: Psyc 001

From the SJSU Catalog: Description: What is considered normal and abnormal in human behavior and psychological functioning. Emphasis on psychological, social and biological determinants of human behavioral and psychological deviance. Prerequisite: PSYC 001.

This course is designed to provide you with an overview of the range of human behaviors described as “abnormal.” We will discuss the definition of normality and abnormality, how these definitions have changed over time, and models of understanding human behavior and suffering. We will also discuss specific syndromes and diagnostic categories of psychopathology and will survey some of the treatments used for these disorders. You need to have taken Psychology 1 to enroll in and get credit for this course.

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:

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**

Previous editions and texts by other authors are not acceptable for this course.

**Office Hours:** I will have regular office hours as posted at the top of this syllabus. If you cannot make one of these times, you can call, email, or see me after class to set an appointment. I want to be available to you. Please use the email address at the top of this syllabus. If you call or email me, you can generally expect a response back in 48 hours during the week. If you call or email on a Friday, over the weekend, or holiday, you will not hear back from me until the next business day (typically Monday).

With office hours it is first come, first served. If you do not want to wait or were not able to see me, please set a time with me individually. During office hours we can discuss course questions, psychology as a career, or other topics of interest to you. Please note that I am a busy professor as well as a private practice LMFT, but I absolutely want to make time for our meetings. If I am unavailable at a time you try to see me, let me know, and we will make time to meet together.

**Canvas and E-Campus:** This course is entirely on Canvas. You are responsible for regularly checking the website. Announcements will be made there.

**Class Materials:** All of the material shown on the overheads in lectures may not be available on the course website for you to download. These materials are not, I repeat, are not, meant to be a substitute for coming to class. Please remember that these notes are for your convenience. I may add material or make slight changes to the notes that you download. When this occurs, I expect that you will simply take additional notes on the material that I provide in class. If you can’t make it to class, check the web page. You are responsible for the information and materials to do well in the class; please **do not email me for missing class unless it’s an on-going emergency.**

**Assignments and Grading Policy:** *There isn’t extra credit assigned for this course.*

The grading scheme for this course is determined as follows:

- A+ = 100-99%
- A  = 98-93%
- A- = 92-90%
- B+ = 89-87%
- B  = 86-83%
- B- = 82-80%
- C+ = 79-77%
- C  = 76-73%
- C- = 72-70%
- D+ = 69-67%
- D  = 66-63%
- D- = 62-60%
- F  = 59-0%
**Exams:** There will be 3 exams and 2 quizzes offered on Canvas during the assigned class times. The exams will cover both readings from the text and class lectures. Each exam will be given during the lecture period, on canvas, and you will have 1 hour and 30 minutes to complete the exam. The final exam will count the same as any other exam. The final *will be* cumulative.

You will be allowed to reschedule an exam *only for* medical reasons or if you have a mandatory school activity. However, you must bring me a note to that effect from a doctor or from the school advisor of that activity (such as the coach). Please contact me prior to the day of the exam if you cannot make the exam time.

**Classroom Protocol:** The information in the syllabus is for your convenience. Any portion of it may change as seems appropriate, especially the dates on which the tests occur. You are responsible for keeping current on any deviations from the class syllabus, again, particularly rescheduling of tests. Check Canvas if you cannot be in class and want to check the times for exams, etc. Generally, I will lecture in class, and participation is highly encouraged. Participation makes the class much more interesting and allows you to develop your critical thinking skills. Questions are welcome at any time.

**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. 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.

**Attendance:** Attendance is not required, but it is strongly encouraged. I expect you to come to every class. If you do not attend classes, you will definitely miss material that will appear on the exams. Class is also the time to have any questions answered that you may have. Material not presented in class but which appears in assigned readings will also be included on the exams. The exams tend to cover a bit more from lecture than the text, but the text will be represented. The lectures are not a simple reiteration of the text and will contain different material. If you see contradictions between the lecture and the material in the text, please do not hesitate to ask about this in class.

**Classroom Etiquette:** 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 bring out 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.

7. Do not sleep during class.

**Professional Communication:** The best method of contacting me is via email. Please allow 1-2 business days for a response. I do not typically respond to email on weekends. Email is NOT a place to get extensive help with exam questions. If you have specific questions about an upcoming exam with respect to material covered, please ask questions during my office hours if I’m not available during class time.

**Email:** As a University student, you are encouraged to engage in professional communication with faculty, staff, and your fellow students. This is especially important in electronic mail notes that you might send. When sending email, I would encourage you to create an email account that includes your name (e.g., Joe.Student@internet.com). If you do not create such an email, be certain to include your name in the correspondence. Please be sure to follow the following basic guidelines when communicating in a professional capacity:

**Personal Computer (Laptop) Use:** All of the notes for the course are available for you to print out and bring to class. In general you do not need to have a laptop for the class lectures. If you prefer to take notes on your laptop, you need to see me for permission to bring the laptop to the class. **You cannot use a laptop or any computer device in class unless you have spoken to me first.** Without exception, laptop users will sit in the first two rows of the classroom. You may never connect to the internet during class or use your computer for personal or entertainment purposes during class time.

Attending class is something you have paid to do. I will attend to the lecture, and the assumption is that you will, too. If you do not or cannot attend to the lecture, you should not come to class that day. This is not to be anti-technology or unduly cruel, it is to share expectations of professional meeting and interactions that are part of any job. If you use your smart-phone, computer, or other device to connect to the web or text during class, you will be asked to leave the class. If you do this a second time, you will not be allowed to take the next exam.
University Policies

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 year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/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/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material:
University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course. 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. Please ask before you record a lecture. Do not share recorded material from mylectures without notifying me in advance.

Academic integrity: Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf 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 Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of your disability.

In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the
Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to SJSU students with disabilities and the University's continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus.

**Student Technology Resources:** Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at [http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/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

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their 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](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) for more information.

**SJSU Writing Center:** The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at [http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter). For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing
SJSU Counseling Services: The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.