

Psychology 6307.010 – Psychopathology - Fall, 2009

Dr. Bill Montgomery, Professor of Psychology

Course Syllabus

Office: Academic Building, Room 204G
Office hours: 8:30-9:30 am, 1-2 p.m., Monday – Friday
(Other times by appointment)
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Course description: This course provides an introduction to the description, classification and study of psychopathology. In addition, we will explore various theoretical approaches to the causes and treatments of psychopathology. Methods of instruction include lectures, group discussion, student papers, illustrative videos, and multiple-choice examinations.

Course objectives:

1. Introduce standard assessment practices for the diagnosis of mental disorders.
2. Develop competence in the use of DSM-IV-TR for the classification of psychopathology.
3. Provide an overview of the symptoms, demographic features, and typical progression of the major forms of psychopathology.
4. Balance a scientific, diagnostic approach to psychopathology with a humane appreciation for the “real life” experiences of people who suffer from mental disorders
5. Review the major theoretical approaches to the causes and treatment of psychopathology.
6. Develop classification and assessment skills through in-class discussions, student papers, and multiple-choice examinations.

Assignments: All course assignments will be made in class and posted on **Blackboard** (<http://blackboard.angelo.edu>). Various course documents, assignments, quizzes and announcements can also be accessed online through **Blackboard**.

Course evaluation:

- Online examinations (4; 50 points each).....200
 - Online chapter quizzes (15; 10 points each).....150
 - Chapter discussion questions (70; 2 points each).....140
 - Case studies (10; 12 points each).....120
 - Class presentation (20 points).....20
 - Role play & interview (20 points).....20
- Total = 650**

You can access your course grade at any time through **Blackboard** (<http://blackboard.angelo.edu>). Click on “Grade Center”, then “My Grade”.

Class attendance: I strongly encourage you to attend this class on a regular basis! Your grade will be adversely affected by being absent, as you will receive no more than ½ credit for the chapter discussion questions and case studies if you are not present to discuss them in class. **Absences from class will not be excused for any reason, but points lost by missing class can be made up by earning extra credit.**

Extra credit opportunities: A maximum of 20 extra credit points (to be added to your raw point total) can be earned during the course of the semester through various means (see “Course Information” in Blackboard).

Required Text: *Abnormal Psychology* (Halgin & Whitbourne, 6th edition; 2010)
ISBN# 978-0-07-337069-9

Recommended Text: Quick Reference to the Diagnostic Criteria from DSM-IV-TR
American Psychiatric Association (2000)
(Order from www.Amazon.com for \$30)

Honor Code: Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at <http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf>.

Disabilities: Persons with disabilities that warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center (942-2193), in order to request such accommodations prior to their being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

*** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of Dr. Montgomery in the event of extenuating circumstances.

