Psychology 4305 (D20)
Abnormal Psychology
Fall 2018

Instructor: Dr. Ellen C. Melton
E-mail: emelton@angelo.edu
Phone Conferences by Scheduled Appointment

Required Text:

ISBN: 0-978-1-5249-0408-1

Location:

The Blackboard website for this class is located at: http://blackboard.angelo.edu.
This class will be conducted entirely online through the Blackboard site.

Important Note: To communicate with me by email, please do so from your angelo.edu email account. As per ASU policy, I will not respond to emails from your personal email address.

Catalog Description:

A study of historical and modern views of abnormal behavior. The course is designed to give an understanding of abnormal behavior, its etiology, prevention, symptoms, classifications, and treatment.

Course Overview:

The course will include written assignments over chapter material and case studies of individuals suffering from psychological disorders. In an online class, since there are no lectures, you will depend heavily on your textbook. Self-motivation and self-initiation are required for successful online learning. Please pay close attention to the assignment due dates.

Course Objectives:

- Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends).
- Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course.
- Learning to apply course material to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions.
- Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.
- Developing skill in expressing myself orally or in writing.

Attendance:

In order to successfully complete an online class, the student must visit the Blackboard course site on a regular basis, and participate in all classroom discussions and assignments. All course work has specific due dates available under the Assignment and Classroom Discussion tabs, and on the course calendar. Late submission of any assignment will result in a reduced grade for the assignment, which will continue to reduce over the course of the semester (see Grading Rubric).
Course Grading System:

Acknowledgment & Introduction: 50 pts. = 50 pts.
Chapter Material: 2 @ 100 pts. = 200 pts.
Chapter Discussion Boards: 12 @ 50 pts. = 600 pts.
Case Studies 12 @ 100 pts. = 1200 pts.
Course Evaluation: 50 pts. = 50 pts.

Total Points = 2100 pts.

There are no extra credit opportunities for this class.

Grading Rubric:

Final grades will be based on the following scale and there will be no curves or concessions:

A = 90% and above
B = 80% - 89%
C = 70% - 79%
D = 60% - 69%
F = 59% and below

Late Assignment Reduction Schedule:

1 week late = 10% penalty after assignment is graded
2 weeks late = 20% penalty after assignment is graded
3 weeks late = 30% penalty after assignment is graded
4 weeks late = 40% penalty after assignment is graded
5 weeks late = 50% penalty after assignment is graded
6 weeks late = unacceptable. Grade = 0.

*In other words, it is very important for you to stay current with your work, and it will be impossible to wait until the last week of class to turn in your assignments and pass this class.

The Academic 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 which warrant academic accommodations must contact the Office of Student Services (325 942-2191), Room 203-B in the Hardeman Building, 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.
Tentative Course Calendar

Week 1: Aug. 27 – 30
Acknowledgment & Introduction - Discussion Board (DB)

Week 2: Sept. 3 - 7
Chapter 1: Understanding Abnormality: A Look at ‘Crazy’ - Dropbox & DB

Week 3: Sept. 10 - 14
Chapter 2: Theory Informs Treatment
Chapter 3: Assessment, & Diagnosis
Chapter 4: The Value of Research: A Good Consumer - Dropbox & DB

Week 4: Sept. 17 - 21
Chapter 5: Neurodevelopmental & Elimination Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 5: Sept. 24 - 28
Chapter 6: Schizophrenia Spectrum & Psychotic Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 6: Oct. 1 - 5
Chapter 7: Depressive & Bipolar Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 7: Oct. 8 – 12
Chapter 8: Anxiety Disorders, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder & Related Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 8: Oct. 15 - 19
Chapter 9: Trauma & Dissociative Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 9: Oct. 22 – 26
Chapter 10: Somatic Symptom & Related Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 10: Oct. 29 – Nov. 2
Chapter 11: Eating Disorders
Chapter 12: Sleep Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 11: Nov. 5 – 9
Chapter 13: Sexual Dysfunction, Gender Dysphoria, & Paraphilic Disorders - Dropbox

Week 12: Nov. 12 - 16
Chapter 14: Substance Related, Impulse-Control & Conduct Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 13: Nov. 19 - 23
Thanksgiving Week – No Assignment: Eat & Enjoy!

Week 14: Nov. 26 – 30
Chapter 15: Neurocognitive Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 15: Dec. 3 – 7
Chapter 16: Personality Disorders - Dropbox & DB

Week 16: Dec. 10-14
Chapter 17: Myths & Controversies in Practice, Ethics, and Law - Dropbox

*Course Evaluation Assignment - At some point in the last few weeks of the semester, you will receive an email from Austin.hobbs@angelo.edu with the course evaluation attached. Please do not delete this email, as completing the course evaluation is an assignment for this class. IMPORTANT: You will need to send me an email after completing the course evaluation giving me one of the questions that you answered from the evaluation – NOT how you answered the question, as your answers are confidential, just one of the questions so that I will know to give you credit for the assignment.