Advanced Abnormal Psychology
PSY 6306
Fall 2020

Instructor: Dr. Drew Curtis
Email: drew.curtis@angelo.edu Phone: 325-486-6932 Office: Academic204D
Office Hours: M 11-12, T 12-2, W 9:30-12; F: 8:30-1 or by appt.

Course Information

Course Description
An advanced study of normal versus abnormal behavior and examining the principles
dysfunction and distress in human behavior. In addition, the course will survey biological,
psychological, and sociocultural factors associated with behavioral
pathologies across the life-span.

Course Credits: 3 SCH

Required Text:
ISBN: 978-1-7924-2343-7

Recommended Text:

Course Objectives
1. Learn fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories
2. Learn to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
3. Develop specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in counseling

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, you should:

1. Have a deeper understanding of the major psychological perspectives on abnormal behavior
2. Be familiar with the essential diagnostic characteristics of major psychological disorders across the life-span
3. Be familiar with etiological factors and treatments associated with major psychological disorders
4. Be able to apply course material to case examples

**Course Delivery**

This is a face-to-face course with learning resources and supplemental materials posted in Blackboard. Additionally, the seat you choose on your first in-person date of attendance will be your permanent seat for the remainder of class. Please sit in that seat.

**Course Policies, Procedures and Format**

**Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class At Angelo State University**

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory [Facial Covering Policy](https://www.angelo.edu/health-and-safety/equipment-and-precautions/comfortable-face-coverings) to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct. Video: [https://youtu.be/4uecBgaCGQ](https://youtu.be/4uecBgaCGQ)

**Readings**

It is expected that each student will have the required reading completed before the class during which we will discuss the material (see course schedule). Some material in the text may be challenging upon first read, but lectures and discussions will be easier and more advantageous if you have read the assigned reading.

***If I feel the class is not keeping up with the reading, I will have the option to start giving quizzes at any time during any class. Just remember that reading prior to class is really to your benefit!
**Policies/Expectations**

1. Read the syllabus thoroughly. If anything is unclear, then read the syllabus. If you still have concerns, then contact the professor.
2. Students are expected to take responsibility for their success in class. You are encouraged to be **active participants** in the education process by asking questions and being alert in class.
3. Distracting or disrespectful students will be asked to leave the class (this includes use of cell phones and other electronic devices).
4. If you have any concerns related to this class, you are encouraged to speak with your instructor **in a timely manner. As a general rule, you should raise any issues within one week of receiving a grade or completing a given project.**
5. Students will be expected to access their email and Blackboard online classroom on a regular basis for announcements, course materials, assignments, and grades.
6. The instructor reserves the right to use plagiarism prevention software.

**Class Sessions**

- The majority of the class will be lecture and discussion.
- Class attendance is **mandatory.** This is a graduate level class and as such, it is expected that you will attend each class and contribute to class discussions and group activities. In order to have meaningful class discussions you must come to class having read the assigned material.
- You MUST take your own notes in class in order to pass.
- Media presentations and demonstrations may be used to help illustrate the concepts being discussed.
- Classes may include discussions, group projects, films, and activities.
- Questions and comments are always welcome! (Please be respectful.)

*DISCLAIMER: This class examines a variety of cultural and personal issues and may expose students to ideas and material that they may find disagreeable. If students are unable or unwilling to tolerate other perspectives or their own value systems in the context of the class, then they are encouraged to speak with the instructor regarding their concerns and may wish to reconsider their enrollment in the course. Should you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions at any time during the semester, please feel free to contact me.*

**Communication**

- Email is the **best** way to contact your instructor.
- All emails should include the course title or number in the subject line.
- All emails should include your first and last name.

**Technology Requirements**

To successfully complete this course, students need to access BlackBoard, for course materials and complete quizzes.
**Communication**
Email is the best way to contact your instructor and graduate teaching assistant. All emails should include “PSY 6309” in the subject line. All emails should include your first and last name.

**Grading**

**Evaluation and Grades**
Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (10):</td>
<td>50 (5pts each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Reactions/Participation (10):</td>
<td>50 (5 pts each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Studies:</td>
<td>200 (100pts each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam:</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Possible Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading System**
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes. The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- A = 450-500
- B = 400-449
- C = 350-399
- D = 300-349
- F ≤ 299

**Reading Reactions/Participation**
Students will prepare, each week, a response of discussion questions/reactions based on their readings. These questions/responses are meant to help you prepare for class discussions and as such you should read assigned readings prior to class. To earn a pass grade, you must be present, make at least one substantial comment or question, complete the reading reaction form, and/or participate in group activities. You will receive a fail if you do not complete the reading reaction form, are not in class, and do not contribute at all to the class activities. Your lowest reading reaction/participation grade will be dropped and you will not be given a grade for the first class.

Equally important to presenting a case is to observe a case, ask questions, and generate useful comments or dialogue. Thus, part of your reading reaction/participation grade will be earned through your participation in others’ case studies. You will need to speak once per presentation day. This may be in the form of questions or providing thoughtful commentary.

**Quizzes**
There will be 10 online quizzes given throughout the semester. Quizzes are accessible through Blackboard. Quizzes are implemented to promote and assess students’ knowledge of terminology.
and fundamental principles and theories. Each quiz will be worth 5 points and you will have 30 minutes to complete the quiz. You are unable to work with anyone else or use information from anyone else on your quizzes; you must work alone. You are responsible for taking each quiz by the required deadline. Do not wait until the last minute to take your quizzes. Sometimes quizzes can lock up, and only the instructors can unlock them. If this happens, notify the instructor immediately via email. Failure to notify the instructor will result in a zero for the quiz. Quizzes will cover material from the previous lecture to reinforce learning. **NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES**

**Case Studies**

You will receive 2 case studies. You will be expected to write a case formulation, diagnosis, and treatment for each case. You will be graded on the accuracy of your diagnosis as well as the conceptualization and integration of research and supporting literature you used in deriving your diagnosis. You will also be graded on the research used to support your suggested treatment. Therefore, it is important to discuss how you derived your conclusions. Along with your case study write-up, you will have some discussion questions for each case that you will need to answer. You will additional instructions can be found on Blackboard.

- Check the syllabus schedule for project due dates. You will be assigned cases and respective due dates (on the syllabus schedule). You will know your first case by the end of the second class, at the latest. Failure to complete the project on the assigned due date will result in a zero.
- While consultation is very important in the profession, you must do this assignment alone. The value of this assignment is to see your conceptualization and understanding of the material.
- Writing must be in APA style

**Exam**

There will be 1 final, comprehensive exam given at the end of the course. The final exam will consist of true/false and multiple choice questions that will cover material from lectures, readings, activities, and class discussions from the entire semester.

**Make up policy for exams:** Make up exams will **ONLY** be allowed for emergency situations (in other words, a doctor’s appointment is not an emergency). It is the student’s responsibility (BY EMAIL WHEN POSSIBLE) to contact the professor within 24 hours to reschedule. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the exam. Make up exams will be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor and will be scheduled as quickly as possible. Make-up exams will cover the same material, but are in a format of the instructor’s choice, such as ORAL or comprehensive fill in the blank/essay exams.

**Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/17</td>
<td>Introduction/ Understanding Abnormality: A Look at “Crazy”</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Q1; RR1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/24</td>
<td>Theory Informs Treatment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Q1; RR1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/31</td>
<td>Assessment and Diagnosis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Q2; RR2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/31</td>
<td>The Value of Research: A Good Consumer</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/14</td>
<td>Neurodevelopmental and Elimination Disorders</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Q3; RR3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/14</td>
<td>Schizophrenia Spectrum and Psychotic Disorders</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/21</td>
<td>Depressive and Bipolar Disorders</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Q4; RR4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/21</td>
<td>Case Study 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/28</td>
<td>Anxiety Disorders, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, and Related Disorders</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Q5; RR5</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/5</td>
<td>Trauma and Dissociative Disorders</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Q6; RR6</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/12</td>
<td>Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Q7; RR7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/19</td>
<td>Eating Disorders</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Q8; RR8</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/26</td>
<td>Sleep Disorders</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Q9; RR9</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/2</td>
<td>Sexual Dysfunctions, Gender Dysphoria, and Paraphilic Disorders</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Q10; RR10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Substance-Related, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/9</td>
<td>Neurocognitive Disorders</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Personality Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myths and Controversies in Practice, Ethics, and Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/16</td>
<td>Psychomythology and Film</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/20</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM (Friday, November 20th 3:30p.m.-5:30p.m.)</strong></td>
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</table>

**Syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor**

### General Policies

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Video: [https://youtu.be/4uecCBgaCGQ](https://youtu.be/4uecCBgaCGQ)

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:
- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)

### Student Responsibility and Attendance

**Professionalism**

Students are expected to strive for professionalism in and outside of the class. Students should strive for professionalism defined by Competency Benchmarks in Professional Psychology:

1. Integrity
2. Deportment
3. Accountability
4. Concern for the welfare of others
5. Professional identity

It is expected that each student will have the required reading completed before the class during which we will discuss the material (see course schedule). Some material in the text may be challenging upon first read, but lectures will be easier to follow if you have read the chapter. **If I feel the class is not keeping up with the reading, I will have the option to start giving quizzes at any time during any class. Just remember that reading prior to class is really to your benefit!**

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11. Students will be expected to access their email and Blackboard online classroom on a regular basis for announcements, course materials, assignments, and grades.
12. The instructor reserves the right to use plagiarism prevention software.

**Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy**
Due dates and times for assignments are posted. Failure to complete quizzes or assignments will result in a zero for those assignments. Your lowest reading reaction/participation grade will be dropped and you will not be given a grade for the first class.

**Make up policy for exams:** Make up exams will ONLY be allowed for emergency situations (in other words, a doctor’s appointment is not an emergency). It is the student’s responsibility (BY EMAIL WHEN POSSIBLE) to contact the professor within 24 hours to reschedule. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the exam. Make up exams will be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor and will be scheduled as quickly as possible. Make-up exams will cover the same material, but are in a format of the instructor’s choice, such as ORAL or comprehensive fill in the blank/essay exams.

**Academic Integrity**
Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU. The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university’s [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**
ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as
provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is: Dallas Swafford: Director of Student Disability Services, Office of Student Affairs, 325-942-2047, dallas.swafford@angelo.edu, Houston Harte University Center, Room 112.

Incomplete Grade Policy
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Copyright Policy
Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.
Syllabus Changes

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner: Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form, Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210, Phone: 325-942-2022, Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

End of Syllabus

1 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/
2 https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/
3 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
4 https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/
5 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures
6 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
7 https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php
8 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of