

# Psychopathology

## PSY 6307



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### Instructor: Dr. Drew Curtis

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## Course Information

### Course Description

This course examines social, psychological, and biological factors that contribute to psychological disorders across the life-span. Emphasis will be placed on integrating scientific literature, theories, and the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders in applications of identification, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of psychological disorders. In addition, the course will present basic knowledge of psychopharmacological medications.

**Course Credits:** 3 SCH

**Prerequisite Course:** PSY 6306

### Required Texts:

American Psychiatric Association (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition*. Arlington, VA, American Psychiatric Association.

Lilienfeld, S. O. (1994). *Seeing Both Sides: Classic Controversies in Abnormal Psychology*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing.

### Recommended Texts:

Curtis, D. A. & Kelley, L. (2020). *Abnormal psychology: Myths of "crazy"*. (Revised 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.) Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt

Lilienfeld, S.O., & O'Donohue, W. T. (2007). *The great ideas of clinical science: 17 principles that every mental health professional should understand*. New York, NY, US: Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group.

### Course Objectives

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)
2. Learning to *analyze* and *critically evaluate* ideas, arguments, and points of view.
3. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course

## Student Learning Outcomes

<b>Student Learning Outcome</b> By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	<b>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</b>
Be able to think critically about current controversies in the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental disorders	Lectures, Discussions, Quizzes, Reading Reactions, Case Study, Exams
Have developed skills in assessing and classifying psychopathology including: using the DSM-5, differentiating diagnoses, and integrating multiple sources of information	Lectures, Discussions, Quizzes, Reading Reactions, Case Study, Exams
Be able to explain the characteristic features of the major forms of psychopathology	Lectures, Discussions, Quizzes, Reading Reactions, Case Study, Exams
Have an understanding of some of the ethical issues involved in the assessment and diagnosis of psychological disorders	Lectures, Discussions, Quizzes, Reading Reactions, Case Study, Exams

## Course Delivery

This is a face-to-face course with learning resources and supplemental materials posted in Blackboard.

## 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 6307” 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.

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Points</b>
Quizzes (10):	50 pts. (5 pts. each)
Reading Reactions/Participation (10):	50 pts. (5 pts. each)
Case Study:	100 pts.
Exams (3):	300 pts. (100 pts. each)
<b>Total Possible Points</b>	<b>500</b>

## 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/Professionalism/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 quizzes given throughout the semester. Each quiz will be worth 5 points and you will have no more than 10 minutes to complete the quiz. **NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES**

### **Case Studies**

You will receive a case and you will be expected to derive a case formulation, diagnosis, and treatment for each case. You will be graded on the accuracy of your diagnosis as well as the thought process you used in coming to that 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. After writing your case formulation, diagnosis, and treatment considerations you will present your case studies to the class on the respective dates. 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 topic and due date 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.
- Writing must be in APA style

### **Exams**

There will be 3 take-home essay exams. The final exam will consist of 2 parts (in-class component and a take-home component). The in-class component will be completed on the last day of class and the take-home component will be due the following week during the time of the final exam (submitted online). You are expected to work independently to complete these exams. To do well on these exams you will need to think critically about the course material and be able to integrate material across multiple topics. Exams will cover material from lectures, readings, activities, and class discussions.

**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

Date	Topic	Readings (pgs.)	Assignments Due
1/24	Understanding Psychopathology	Lilienfeld: 1-17; APA: 5-25	
1/31	Classification & Diagnosis	APA: 5-25; Lilienfeld: 18-30 BB: Readings	Q1 RR1
2/7	Culture & Psychopathology	Lilienfeld: 63-80 APA: 14-15; 749-760 BB: Readings	Q2 RR2
2/14	Psychotherapy Research	Lilienfeld: 267-282; 300-311 BB: Lilienfeld et al; Smith & Glass	Q3; RR3
2/21	Neurodevelopmental Disorders Schizophrenia Spectrum & Psychotic Disorders	Lilienfeld: 83-98 APA: 31-86; 87-122 BB: Article	Case Studies 1 & 2 <b>Exam 1 Due</b>
2/28	Bipolar Disorders Depressive Disorders	Lilienfeld: 245-266 APA: 123-188	Case Studies 3 & 4 Q4; RR4
3/7	Depressive Disorders Anxiety Disorders	Lilienfeld: 116-141 APA: 189-234	Case Studies 5 & 6 Q5; RR5
3/21	Anxiety Disorders Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders	APA: 189-234; 235-264	Case Studies 7 Q6; RR6
3/28	Trauma- and Stressor –Related Disorders Dissociative Disorders	Lilienfeld: 170-184 APA: 265-308	Case Studies 8 & 9 <b>Exam 2 Due</b>
4/4	Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders Eating Disorders Elimination Disorders	APA: 309-360 BB: Article	Case Studies 10 & 11 Q7; RR7
4/11	Sleep-Wake Disorder Sexual Dysfunctions & Disorders	APA: 361-460; 685-706 Lilienfeld: 223-233	Case Study 12 & 13 Q8; RR8
4/18	Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders Substance-Related Disorders	APA: 461-480; 481-590 Lilienfeld: 142-153; 328-346	Case Studies 14 & 15 Q9; RR9
4/25	Legal and Ethical Issues in Psychopathology Personality Disorders & Neurocognitive Disorders	Lilienfeld: 425-475; 196-207 APA: 645-684; 591-644	Case Study 16 Q10; RR10
5/2	Application of Diagnosis		
<b>5/12</b>	<b>Final Exam (Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-5:30p.m.)</b>		

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

# General Policies

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)<sup>2</sup>

## 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!**

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.

### **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](#).<sup>3</sup>

## **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](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu). For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).<sup>4</sup> 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](mailto: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](#)<sup>5</sup> for more information.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)<sup>6</sup> 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

## **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](#)<sup>8</sup> 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](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form), Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210, Phone: 325-942-2022, Email: [michelle.boone@angelo.edu](mailto: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](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

## **End of Syllabus**

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- <sup>1</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/>
- <sup>2</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/>
- <sup>3</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>
- <sup>4</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/>
- <sup>5</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>
- <sup>6</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>
- <sup>7</sup> [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing\\_center/academic\\_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)
- <sup>8</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>