

**Psychology 3010: Abnormal Psychology
Weber State University**

Professor: Theresa Stueland Kay, PhD

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Email: via Canvas

*email is preferred method
of contact*

SPECIAL NOTE TO THE STUDENT:

Please note that this syllabus is a contract between you and me. Your decision to stay in this course is a statement that you are agreeing to abide by the policies described in this syllabus.

TEXTBOOK (Required):

Comer (2013). Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology, 8th Edition, Worth.

OBJECTIVES:

1. **Knowledge** of developmental psychological theory and research, as well as how such research is conducted.
2. **Application** of knowledge gained to further understand children, solve problems, and understand related social and public policy issues.
3. Development of **values** that include respect for diversity, the scientific attitude, intellectual curiosity, and appreciation of civic/social/global responsibility.
4. Development of oral and written communication skills.

GRADING:

All students have the potential to earn an "A" in this course. I make no effort to grade according to a "bell curve." Please note that while I might adjust exam scores according to overall class performance, I will not "bump up" borderline grades or make special arrangements with individual students to improve their grades. All students will be graded according to the following point system:

Modality	Points
Exam I	50
Exam II	50
Exam III	50
Exam IV	50
Poster Presentation Assignments	95
In-Class Assignments	50
Chapter Homework Assignments	80
TOTAL	425

Grading Scale: A 92+%, A- 90-91.9%, B+ 88-89.9%, B 82-87.9%, B- 80-81.9%, C+ 78-79.9%, C 72-77.9%, C- 70-71.9%, D+ 68-69.9%, D 62-67.9%, D- 60-61.9%, and E 0-59.9%

Exams:

The exams will consist of approximately 50 items. The exams are NOT comprehensive, and they will be designed to last approximately 1 hour. If you click on the Files tab in the Canvas home page for this course, you will find a study guide for each exam.

Exams will be based on all course materials available to you including, your textbook, PowerPoint presentations, and videos. You can find a study guide for each exam on Canvas.

You will be able to access the exams at any WSU Testing Center via ChiTester. If you are an ESL student, you can arrange to take the exams with the ESL office. If you are taking this course online and live far away from WSU, you can arrange to take your exams via remote proctor. Go to online.weber.edu and follow the directions for obtaining a remote proctor. Be sure you start this process immediately.

Each exam will be available to you from the beginning of the term until the deadline noted in Canvas. If you do not take the exam by the deadline, you have 2 business days (Saturday counts as a business day) to complete the exam, but a 20% penalty will be taken. If you see a later date in ChiTester, that is because it includes the 2-business-day window. You **MUST** adhere to the deadline noted in Canvas. **If you do not complete the exam by the end of the 2-business day window, your score will be a zero. There will be no way to make up lost points from late or missing exams, so you will want to take each exam on time.**

It is my expectation that you work alone and **NOT** use your textbook or any notes as you take the exams. Cheating on exams will result in immediate failure of the course and a report of your behavior to the department chair and the Dean of Students.

The class period on the day of or before an exam is due will be held in reserve. If we need that class session to complete necessary content for the exam, I will hold class. However, I won't hold class on such a day if we finish the necessary content. On such a day, I will plan on being on campus during that class period, and I will communicate relevant plans to you in class and/or via Canvas announcement.

Exam Missed Item Reviews:

Test preparation and taking are skills that can be strengthened with practice. Reviewing missed test questions can help you determine why you are missing items and how you can improve future performance. To that end, you can earn $\frac{1}{4}$ credit for each missed exam item you review, and these points will be extra credit. Please refer to Canvas for directions and deadlines. **I do not accept late Missed Item Reviews.**

Chapter Homework Assignments:

Homework assignments for each chapter will be available on Canvas. Each quiz will be available from the beginning of the semester until the date noted Canvas. You will have unlimited time to complete each assignment, and you can repeat each assignment as many times as you need to get the score you want. I will only record your HIGHEST score. You will be able to access the assignments from any computer that has an Internet connection. Since you will have so much time to complete the assignments, and since you have tremendous flexibility in terms of where you work on them, **late assignments will NOT be accepted.** Please note that each attempt at an assignment will give you different items. Some of the items on each assignment will be on the related exam. Therefore, it is in your best interest to complete each homework assignment multiple times.

Poster Presentation:

During the last week of the term, we will have 2 "poster sessions." Half of the students will present their posters, and the other half will ask questions of the presenters. The posters themselves will be based on 3 articles from peer-reviewed scientific journals. More detail about the poster presentation and preceding assignments can be found in Canvas.

****Please note that I use Turnitin to check for plagiarism. All article summaries MUST be submitted on Canvas via Turnitin.****

Extra Credit:

Completing Missed Item Reviews and more than 10 In-Class Assignments are the only ways to earn extra credit in the course. **There will be no other extra credit opportunities.**

WHAT IS THE WORKLOAD EXPECTATION FOR THIS COURSE?

In this course, you should expect to spend a total of 42 hours on "in class" activities. In-class activities for an online class include reading PowerPoint presentations, viewing videos I provide; and checking discussions, checking emails, and checking announcements on a regular basis, and taking exams. Additionally, you should plan on spend a minimum of 84 total hours doing "homework" throughout the semester, which include reading the text and documents, completing homework, and studying for exams. That equals 126 hours, which is the

university standard in-and-out-of-class workload expectation for a three-hour course under the semester system. If you are taking this course in a 7-week block, please be aware that it will be a very busy term for you.

MISCELLANEOUS:

While every effort will be made to adhere to the course outline, all times, topics, and subjects covered will be at the instructor's discretion and could change. Advance notice will be given if a change is necessary.

From time to time, I may need to be absent to participate in a professional conference. Please note that such participation is part of my job. If such an absence is necessary, you will be notified of it and any changes to the course schedule as soon as possible.

You have my permission to make audio recordings of my lectures for class purposes only. Using such recordings for any other purpose is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, and may result in disciplinary action under PPM 6-22.

Email is the best way to communicate with me. I will try to respond to emails within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours on weekends. Please be professional when you send email messages to your professors. Such emails should include a) an appropriate subject line (e.g. Psych 1010 and brief reason for email), b) address to the recipient (e.g. Dear Dr. Kay), 3) the use of full sentences in the body of your email, 4) and ending (e.g. Sincerely, Thank you) with your name.

I use the gradebook through Canvas. You are strongly encouraged to check your grades on a regular basis to ensure that you are properly receiving credit for your work. It is much easier to correct errors during the semester. If you notice an error, I will be happy to correct it once you provide evidence of the mistake. **Please keep everything your instructor returns to you, as this will be the only proof you have that you completed an assignment.**

I use the Announcements tool in Canvas to convey information (e.g. the need to cancel class if I am sick) to all students. I recommend that you check Canvas on a regular basis to receive these announcements. **YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING THE INFORMATION COMMUNICATED IN CLASS AND ON CANVAS.**

It is the instructor's expectation that the work you submit is in fact your work. Cheating on exams will result in immediate failure of the course, as well as other possible disciplinary action. Plagiarism is representing the work of someone else as your own by taking sentences, paragraphs, or sections from other sources without using quotation marks or appropriate references. I will use Turnitin on written assignments to detect plagiarism.

Please consult the instructor if you have any questions about appropriate referencing of material.

Appropriate classroom behavior is vital to a productive learning environment. Behaviors such as a) arriving late, b) leaving early, c) holding private conversations, d) sleeping, e) reading other material, f) playing games with or communicating via cell phone or PDA, or g) doing other work are very rude and distracting to the instructor and your peers. The same principle holds true for cell phones and pagers going off in class. The instructor will intervene with such behaviors as appropriate. If they persist, offending students will be encouraged to drop the course.

At WSU, we value the diversity of the campus community, and we try to create an environment that encourages freedom of expression. Because a university is a setting in which inquiry and testing of new ideas occurs, it is essential that every person feel safe to express ideas that may differ from other WSU community members. This balance of respect for others and freedom of expression is not always easy to achieve, but we must challenge ourselves and each other in an atmosphere of mutual concern and respect. Consequently, expressions or behaviors that disparage one's ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, age, or disability are in conflict with WSU's mission and will not be acceptable in classroom discussion.

Emergency Closure: If for any reason the university is forced to close for an extended period of time, we will conduct our class via Canvas. Look for announcements on Canvas. Code Purple is a good way to be alerted to campus closures, and you are encouraged to sign up for it.

DISABILITY NOTICE:

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in Room 181 of the Student Services Center (or Room 221 at the Davis Campus). SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats upon request. Please refer to SSD's website for more information: <http://weber.edu/ssd>

Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Content	Deadlines
1	1/6-1/10	Course Introduction, Abnormality	
2	1/13-1/17	Assessment & Anxiety	Poster Topic 1/17
3	1/20-1/24	Anxiety	Exam I & Homework, 1/24
4	1/27-1/31	Stress Disorders	Exam I Missed Item Review, 1/31
5	2/3-2/7	Mood Disorders	Poster Articles, 2/7
6	2/10-2/14	Suicide	Exam II & Homework, 2/14
7	2/17-2/21	Eating Disorders	Article Summary 1, 2/21 Exam II Missed Item Review, 2/21
8	2/24-2/28	Eating Disorders & LGBT	
Spring Break	3/2-3/6		
9	3/9-3/13	LGBT & Psychotic Disorders	Article Summary 2, 3/13
10	3/16-3/20	Psychotic Disorders	Exam III & Homework, 3/21
11	3/23-3/27	Childhood Disorders	Exam III Missed Item Review, 3/27 Article Summary 3, 3/27
12	3/30-4/3	Childhood Disorders & Legal/Ethical Issues	
13	4/6-4/10	Legal/Ethical Issues	
14	4/13-4/17	Poster Presentations	Poster Presentations
Finals Week			Exam IV & Homework, 4/22 Exam IV Missed Item Review, 4/23

