



Point Loma Nazarene University
Department of Undergraduate Psychology

**Psychology 321 (Section 3)
Abnormal Psychology (3 units) Fall 2018**

Instructor: Gimel Rogers, Psy.D.	Meeting Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays
Phone: 323-230-3540	Meeting Times: 9:00pm-10:15 a.m.
Email: grogers@pointloma.edu	Meeting Location: Liberty Station Rm. 202
Office Location: Culbertson Hall	Final Exam: Thursday, December 13 7:30am
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment	

University Mission Statement: Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Course Description:

A general view of the various definitions and forms of psychopathology is presented in a historical, sociopolitical, and cross-cultural perspective. The purpose and history of various diagnostic systems will be discussed. Using the DSM-5 as the main paradigm, some of the most prevalent psychopathologies of our culture will be explored. The purpose and usage of DSM-5 will be studied. Focus will be on building a cognitive diagnostic competence of, as well as an effective understanding and comfort with, the various mental health disorders. Attention will also be given to etiology, epidemiology, and treatment.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Student will demonstrate an understanding of clinical diagnosis from the DSM-5, through application of completing a clinical history, mental status exam, and intake evaluation.
2. Student will demonstrate competency in describing in detail the diagnostic criteria, onset, course of illness, as well as treatment interventions for a chosen psychopathology diagnosis.
3. Student will demonstrate competency in case presentation of the diagnostic criteria, onset, and course of illness for a category of DSM-5 disorders through class presentation.
4. Student will demonstrate the capacity to work collaboratively with peers and interact appropriately with the professionals in the mental health field.

Course Text:

Comer, R.J. (2016). *Fundamentals of abnormal psychology – 8th edition*. New York: Worth Publishers.

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, (DSM-5)*. Fifth edition. This book is available on-line and through the library.

Course Requirements:

1. Participation – 10% of final grade

Students are expected to attend and participate in class. Students should arrive on time and are expected to attend class in its entirety. In addition, students should arrive prepared to contribute to the discussion based on both their completion of the reading assignments and their varied life experiences. It is possible to miss TWO classes and still receive an A in the participation category. A level participation requires that you come to class consistently, arrive on time and stay until the end, and verbally participate based on having read and reflected on the week's readings.

2. Position Paper – 10% of final grade

Summarize both the *Descriptive* and the *Dynamic* approaches to Mental Health. Identify what you think is the most useful model and why. Describe your personal attraction/interest in this model in terms of your own personality style. Approximately 2 - 3 pages in length.

3. Case Studies – 30% of final grade

Students will be given case students to determine the diagnosis, identify a differential diagnosis, and one treatment modality based on the DSM-5. No more than 2 pages in length.

4. Mental Health Professional Interview – 15% of final grade

Student will interview a therapist, social worker, or psychologist. The Interview should include questions concerning their education and training in counseling, types of disorders they have worked with, their theoretical orientation, strategies they have found helpful, method of assessment, challenges of working with certain populations or disorders and strategies for addressing those challenges, examples of treatment goals with their clients, cultural influences they have noticed in their work with clients, determining factors for termination, and approach to self-care. Based on your interview, you should write a 4-5 page paper summarizing the experience. Include some quotations from the interviewee as well as your personal thoughts and feelings on their responses. Attend to body language and silences as well. Select three points from the readings to connect with the responses that the interviewee provides. **Of note, cover and reference pages are not included in the page count. Papers must Times New Roman, 12pt font, double space, 1" margins.**

5. Research Paper – 25 % of final grade

Students will choose a particular clinical disorder that they would like to learn about in more depth. (e.g., eating disorders, depression, anxiety, personality disorder, trauma, etc.). Include: a. description of the disorder (criteria, clinical presentation) and b. three different clinical model of intervention you would use to treat it. Be sure to specify how each intervention is different. Five (5) additional references in APA format in addition to the required books are required for this paper, and references must be no more than 10 years old. **Of note, cover and reference pages are not included in the page count. Papers must Times New Roman, 12pt font, double space, 1” margins. Papers are to be six to eight pages.**

6. Final Exam – 10% of final grade

The final exam will be cumulative and will include an array of questions.

Grading:

Participation: 10%
 Position Paper: 10%
 Case Studies: 30%

Research Paper: 30%
 Final Exam 20%
Total: 100%

Percentage Score

A	=	93-100%	B+	=	88-89%	C+	=	77-79%	D+	=	62-64%
A-	=	90-92%	B	=	84-87%	C	=	70-76%	D	=	55-61%
			B-	=	80-83%	C-	=	65-69%	D-	=	50-54%
									F	=	Below 50%

Psychology 321 Tentative Schedule/Content Outline

Date	Topic / Associated Readings	Assignments Due
8/30	Introductions / Syllabus Review / Pre-knowledge	
9/4	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology	
9/6	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology	Position Paper
9/11	Classification of Psychopathology	
9/13	Classification of Psychopathology	No Class
9/18	Anxiety Disorders & Obsessive Compulsive	
9/20	Anxiety (cont.) & Somatoform	
9/25	Trauma-Stressor Related Disorders	
9/27	Trauma-Stressor Related Disorders	Video
10/2	Mood-Related Disorders	Case Study #1
10/4	Mood-Related Disorders	
10/9	Suicide & NSSI	
10/11	SUDs	
10/16	SUDs	
10/18	Schizophrenia Spectrum & Other Psychotic Disorders	Case Study #2, Turn in via email by 9:15a.m.
10/23	Schizophrenia Spectrum & Other Psychotic Disorders	
10/25	Mental Health Professional Paper Discussion	Papers Due & Presentations
10/30	Mental Health Professional Paper Discussion	Presentations
11/1	Personality Disorders	
11/6	Personality Disorders	
11/8	Sexual Disorders & Gender Identity Disorder	Case Study #3
11/13	Feeding & Eating Disorders	

11/15	Disorders of Childhood & Adolescence	
11/20	Disorders of Aging & Cognition	Research Papers due
11/22	Thanksgiving	No Class
11/27	Discussion of Research Papers	
11/29	Post Knowledge	
12/4	Video	
12/6	Final Exam Review & End of Semester Celebration	
12/13	Final Exam	

Course Policies:

1. Exams and Quizzes: There will be no make-ups for any exam or quiz without prior written permission from the instructor.

Final Examination Policy:

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Faculty members may file a written report which may result in de-enrollment in the event that a student is absent for more than 10 percent of class meetings. If the absences exceed 20 percent, students may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. A complete description of the PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy can be found online.

Lateness: I understand that circumstances beyond your control might cause you to be late to class. Please don't let being late deter you from attending class. But, please, don't make it a habit.

Cell Phones: Please make certain to turn your cell phone ring to vibrate prior to lecture and that it is put away unless previously discussed with the instructor.

Missed Exams/Assignments: Make-ups for missed exams secondary to illness will be allowed only if the instructor is notified of the illness prior to the scheduled administration of the exam and a letter from a physician confirms the illness. Make-ups for missed exams secondary to other unforeseeable and extraordinary circumstances will be at the discretion of the instructor. Late assignments will be given a 10% deduction for every day that they are late.

Professionalism Policy:

One important aspect of professionalism is learning the norms of appropriate dress. For instance, being mindful of attire and how it affects the learning space. Another aspect of professionalism, is being mindful of timeliness and use of technology in class. One goal of developing your professional identity is how you choose to represent yourself. During this semester, I encourage you to create your own professional identity when attending class. It should be noted, during your presentations, business or business casual attire is required. Further, as an institution of higher education, the University has the obligation to combat racism, sexism, and other forms of bias and to provide an equal educational opportunity for all who seek it. The APA Code of Ethics and the Academic Code shall be the guiding principles in dealing with speech or actions that, when considered objectively, are inappropriate, abusive and insulting.

Course Credit Hour Information:

Following the PLNU Credit Hour Policy, to meet the identified student learning outcomes of this course, the expectations are that this 3 unit course, delivered over a 5 week semester will approximate 9 hours/week classroom or direct faculty instruction. In addition, out of class student

work will approximate a minimum of 6 hours each week. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

Copyright Policy:

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside of the class may violate the law. More information on the PLNU Copyright Policy can be found online.

Academic Integrity and Dishonesty Policy:

Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course.

Faculty will follow and students may appeal using the procedures in the University Catalog. A complete copy of the Academic Honesty Policy is available online.

FERPA Policy:

In compliance with federal law, neither your PLNU student ID nor your social security number will be used in publically posted grades or returned sets of assignments without your written permission. In addition, in compliance with FERPA policy, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the "Information Release" section of the student portal. Further, when contacting me via phone, do not leave any personal information on my voicemail.

Academic Accommodations:

Any student in this course who has a disability that might prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should meet with an advisor in the Disability Resource Center within the first two weeks of class to initiate disability verification and discuss accommodation that may be necessary to ensure full participation in the successful completion of course requirements. The Disability Resource Center can be contacted by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu.

Information Literacy:

Information literacy is defined as "a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information" (American Library Association, 1989). In this course, teaching and learning processes will employ the following information literacy standards, as endorsed by the American Association for Higher Education (1999), the Association of College and Research Libraries (2000), and the Council of Independent Colleges (2004). The students in this course will:

1. Determine the nature and extent of the information needed.
2. Access needed information effectively and efficiently.

3. Evaluate information and its sources critically and incorporates selected information into his or her knowledge base and value system.
4. Individually or as a member of a group, use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose.
5. Understand many of the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information and accesses and uses information ethically and legally.

Use of Library:

This course may require students to complete course assignments using resources available from the University Libraries. [Research Guides](#) and assistance for this course are available online.

Expectations for Psychology 321 regarding academic integrity in this class:

- Expectations are consistent with those outlined in the academic policy.
- Collaboration is permitted in preparing for examinations.
- Any material (including but not restricted to textbook, other texts, journals, magazines, websites) incorporated into writing assignments (reaction papers, term paper, other non-examination writing assignments) must be properly cited. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.

Consequences for violations of academic integrity in this class:

- Consequences are consistent with those outlined in the academic integrity policy.
- Any type of plagiarism will result in an “F” for the particular assignment in question.
- Cheating during an examination will result in an “F” grade for the particular examination in question.
- The instructor reserves the right to issue a grade of “F” in the class for violations of the Academic Integrity Policy. This includes, but is not limited to: repeated violations of the Academic Integrity Policy, cheating of any sort during examinations and quizzes, turning in assignments not written by the student, among other violations.