

	Department of Psychology PSY 3021: Abnormal Psychology, Section 3 3 Unit Course
	Spring 2022

Meeting days: Tuesdays (01/18/22-05/03/22)	Instructor title and name: Morgan Shaw, Psy.D.; Adjunct Psychology Professor
Meeting times: 3:00-5:30pm	Phone: (858) 848-6722
Meeting location: Taylor 105	Email: mshaw@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Tuesday 4:30pm	Office location and hours: By appointment

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

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 is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Foundational Explorations Mission

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

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.

COURSE 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.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

Required: Comer, R.J., & Comer, J.S., (2019). Fundamentals of abnormal psychology – 9th edition. New York: Worth Publishers.

Recommended for reference: 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.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Grades will be based on the following:

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F Less than 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

Assignments:

- **Case Studies – 20% of final grade**

Students will be provided excerpts from real-life, de-identified psychological evaluation reports to review the client's history and testing results to identify and discuss diagnostic impressions and potential treatment considerations. There will be a total of four reports provided, each with a different focus and considerations. Students will be required to choose two (one each assignment) and provide a brief synopsis of their diagnostic considerations, using specific data points from the client's history and testing results. Students will also be asked to briefly discuss possible treatment considerations given what they know from the course material.

- **Quizzes – 10% of final grade**

There will be a total of two quizzes throughout the semester.

- **Midterm Exam – 25% of final grade**

Students will be given an exam that focuses on key terminology and concepts from both the readings and the lectures.

- **Research Paper – 20% 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, schizophrenia, etc.). Include:

1. Overview of the disorder (criteria, clinical presentation, etiology, prevalence rates, etc.)
2. Overview of a clinical model of intervention that is used to treat it
3. Inclusion of a discussion of a controversial or difficult dialogue regarding either the etiology or development of the disorder, presentation of the disorder, or treatment of the disorder (examples include: spiritual underpinnings of pathology, controversies around the development and treatment of dissociative identity disorder; psychotropic medications in the treatment of young children; development and treatment of personality disorders; methadone treatment for opioid dependence)

Three (3) 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. Papers must Times New Roman, 12pt font, double space, 1” margins. Between 5-7 pages in length.

- **Final Exam – 25% of final grade**

Students will be given a non-cumulative final exam focusing on material covered after the midterm.

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances. There will be a 10% deduction in points for each day that the assignment is late.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. 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 should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the Technology and System Requirements information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact student-tech-request@pointloma.edu. Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation.

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3 unit class delivered over 16 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 112.5 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](#).

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic/Chapters covered</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
Week 1: 01/11/2022	NO CLASS	Read Chapter 1
Week 2: 01/18/2022	Welcome! Overview of class	Read Chapters 2-3
Week 3: 01/25/2022	Models of Abnormality and Clinical Assessment	Read Chapter 4
Week 4: 02/01/2022	*Quiz 1 Anxiety Related Disorders	Read Chapter 5
Week 5: 02/08/2022	Trauma Related Disorders	Read Chapters 6 & 7
Week 6: 02/15/2022	Mood Disorders	* Case Study due
Week 7: 02/22/2022	MIDTERM	Read Chapter 10
Week 8: 03/01/2022	Substance Use Disorders	Read Chapter 12
SPRING BREAK 03/08/2022		Enjoy!

Week 9: 03/15/2022	Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders	Read Chapter 13
Week 10: 03/22/2022	Personality Disorders	Read Chapters 8, 9, & 11
Week 11: 03/29/2022	Somatic and Eating Disorders/Sexual Disorders and Gender Variations	*Case Study Due Read Chapter 14
Week 12: 04/05/2022	*Quiz 2 Disorders Common Among Children and Adolescents	Read Chapter 15
Week 13: 04/12/2022	Disorders of Aging and Cognition	Read Chapter 16
Week 14: 04/19/2022	Law, Society, and Mental Health	Review Chapters to identify questions for next week's review
Week 15: 04/26/2022	REVIEW FOR FINAL	*Research paper due
FINAL WEEK	FINAL EXAM	Tuesday, 4:30pm