



## **Psy316 51W Abnormal Psychology COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2021**

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Qingwei Wang, Ph.D.

**Class Time and Location:** Online

**Office Hours:** by email

**Psychology Office Phone:** 903-886-5940

**Psychology Office Fax:** 903-886-5510

**University Email Address:** [qingwei.wang@tamuc.edu](mailto:qingwei.wang@tamuc.edu)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** The primary means of communicating with the instructor during the course will be to exchange emails.

**Communication Response Time:** I typically answer emails within 24 hours, however, please allow 24 to 48 hours for a reply.

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

#### ***Materials - Textbooks, Readings, Supplemental Readings***

#### **Textbook Required:**

Barlow, D. H., Durand, V. M., and Hofmann, S. G. (2018) *Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach* (8<sup>th</sup> ed). Boston: Cengage Learning.

ISBN-13: 978-1305950443; ISBN-10: 1305950445

The syllabus and schedule are subject to change.

**Optional:**

American Psychiatric Association (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (5<sup>th</sup> ed)*. (DSM-5) American Psychiatric Publishing

ISBN-13: 978-0890425558; ISBN-10: 0890425558

***Course Description***

Emphasis is placed first on a study of the fundamental principles of understanding and appreciating mental disorders. Then a study of the types of disorders including incidence, causes, symptoms, therapy, and prognosis is made.

The objective of this course is to provide a survey of the cognitive, behavioral, affective, and physiological symptoms associated with psychological disorders. Students will have the opportunity to learn and discuss the historical foundation of abnormal psychology, assessment strategies, characteristics of current diagnostic systems, as well as contemporary psychological and psychiatric treatment strategies. Discussions and presentations will be guided using a framework emphasizing biological, social, and psychological causes of psychological disorders permitting consideration of the dynamic interplay between multiple causal and maintaining variables.

***Student Learning Outcomes***

1. Identify commonly used standards for identification of abnormal behaviors.
2. Identify issues that complicate identification of abnormal behaviors.
3. Discuss the evolution of historical trends in shaping identification and treatment of mental disorders.
4. Describe current broad-based theories used to characterize the etiology and maintenance of abnormal behaviors.
5. Briefly discuss the nature of research in abnormal psychology and the emphasis on evidence-supported approaches to treatment.
6. Identify the strengths and limitations of the current diagnostic system using in the United States.
7. Describe commonly used assessment strategies and the strengths and weaknesses associated with assessment strategies of abnormal behaviors.
8. Discuss the general affective, cognitive, physiological, and behavioral symptoms associated with various psychological disorders.
9. Identify current etiological theories, assessment, and treatment strategies for psychological disorders.

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## COURSE ASSESSMENTS

**Course assessments include the following parts:**

1. Class participation (Weekly Discussion Assignments).
2. Completion of quizzes.
3. Completion of a final term paper.

**Class Participation (Weekly Discussion Assignments):**

We cover a tremendous amount of information each week, therefore, participation at a high level is very critical to your performance in this course. All students are expected to participate regularly and daily (Monday through Friday, except perhaps the weekends). Throughout the course, the instructor will give several discussion topics each week. Each student is required to respond to at least one topic and post it on the discussion section of that week. Additionally, each student is required to respond in depth to at least one of your classmates' posts. Your Own Discussion Essay Post is worth 10 point each, and your Response to Your Classmates' Post is worth 10 points each. This means that, for each week, you will receive 20 points for your participation (2 posts). We have 15 weeks (excluding Final week), therefore, your class participation will make a total of 300 points toward your final grade.

**Grading Criteria for Discussion Essays:** Below is "Discussion essays will be graded as follows." Use this as a general idea of how papers will be graded.

**Discussion essays will be graded as follows:**

**10: Absolutely perfect**, no typos, beyond minimum requirements, additional references added, excellent knowledge of topic, clearly project completed with much forethought, the top paper in class, independent of class size, APA style is used appropriately, submitted on time, independent of excused or unexcused absence.

**9: Great job, no typos**, built upon minimum requirements, met reference requirements, good knowledge of topic, completed with forethought, good paper not one of the best in class, APA style requirements met.

**8: Good job**, writing good, although at times not too clear, offered basic understanding of major points, ideas at times choppy, few typos, APA style requirements met.

**7: Paper attempted but completed poorly**, several typos, not followed directions, paragraphs are sentences not paragraphs, no independent thought collection of quotes from others.

**Less than or equal to 6:** Paper not completed with forethought, numerous typos, student barely meeting minimum requirements, not reflective of college-level performance, numerous questions not addressed. Paper turned in, but too many distractions, not meeting minimum requirements.

**0 for no discussion question answered.** 0 for no discussion question answered by the due date.

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Each time you post a Discussion Essay, copy and paste the topic number and the question. In this way, everyone will know which question you are answering.

**Due dates** for your own discussion posts always fall on Friday (11:59PM) of each week, and your responses to other students' posts are due 2 days after the essays are due (Sundays, 11:59PM).

Do not wait until the last minute to post your discussions. Post an assignment early as opposed to the last minute. In addition, grades will be based on quality of responses, not length of responses.

**Quizzes:**

There will be 5 online quizzes, each worth 20 points toward your final grade. Quizzes will contain objective questions over material that is presented in the textbook and online lecture notes. Multiple choice format will be used.

Total of 7 quizzes will be available in D2L and students will be required to take 5 towards their final grades. If students choose to take all the 7 quizzes, 2 of them will be extra credits.

**Final Paper:**

Another major graded assignment for the course is a final paper (100 points). Each student will choose a review of a book that professes to depict the experience of a type of mental illness/psychological disorder. Each student will complete a book review according to the instructions provided by the instructor. Students will be supplied a list of acceptable readings from which he/she may choose, and the book must be chosen from this list. Detailed information on this final paper will be available later in D2L.

**Extra Credit (Weekly Journal Entry):**

Students are encouraged to keep a reflective journal weekly throughout the course. For each journal entry, one extra credit point will be awarded. A maximum of 15 points can be earned. These extra points are determined at the discretion of the instructor.

Detailed information on this weekly journal can be found under FAQs section in the course content part in D2L.

**Research Participation (Extra Credits):**

Participating in research studies contributes to students and faculty at A&M - Commerce, your understanding of how research is conducted, and human knowledge in general. For this course, participating in research through SONA system will be extra credit. You will have the opportunity to earn up to 20 points depending on the amount of research you participate in. Each credit hour of research will be worth 5 extra credit points that will be added to your total pool of points. So, for example, if you participate in

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4 credit hours of research, you will earn the full 20 extra points. For more information, please visit D2L and check the extra credit research participation documents once available.

**Late Work:**

Students are required to submit each assignment by the close date indicated in the course outline. Late work will not be accepted without a verifiable excuse. Regardless of the reason, points will be deducted on all late work.

<b>GRADING</b>
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Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

**Grading:**

Class Participation	300 points
Quizzes (20x5)	100 points
Final Term Paper	100 points
Total	500 points

Maximum Extra Credits: 2 quizzes (40 points), SONA Research (20 points), Weekly Journal Entry (15 points)

- A = 500 - 450
- B = 449 - 400
- C = 339 - 350
- D = 349 - 300
- F = <300

<b>TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS</b>
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This is an online class. The following technological resources are required:

- Internet access (high speed preferred)
- Word Processing software (Microsoft Word preferred)
- A myLeo email account

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## Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

## Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

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## Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version.  Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - \*For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

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Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
  - [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
  - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
  - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

**Interaction with Instructor:** Please feel welcome to contact me by email ([qingwei.wang@tamuc.edu](mailto:qingwei.wang@tamuc.edu)). All email should receive a response within 48 hours. If you have not received a response then assume your email did not go through and please try again to make contact. All email should include student's last name, first name, course name and brief description of the reason for contact.

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## Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “[click here](#)” to submit an issue via email.

## System Maintenance

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

# COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### ***Student Conduct and Respect:***

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook). The classroom is a scholarly environment and students are expected to behave accordingly. Expressions of ideas, thoughts, opinions, etc. are encouraged, but have to be done in a scholarly and respectful manner. Email your instructor whenever you have any problems or concerns regarding this course. Your feedback (both positive and negative) is more than welcome. We should strive to respect and value the diversity that exists in TAMUC classrooms (e.g., age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability, geographic, backgrounds, political orientation, sexual orientation).

### ***Academic Honesty:***

Scholastic dishonesty may involve, but is not limited to, one or more of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, use of annotated texts or teacher's editions.

***Plagiarism*** is the use of an author's words or ideas as if they were one's own without giving credit to the source, including, but not limited to, failure to acknowledge a direct quotation.

***Cheating*** is the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination, illicitly obtaining examination questions in advance, copying computer or Internet files, using someone else's work for the assignments as if it were one's own, or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course.

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**Collusion** is intentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to, providing a paper or project to another student; providing an inappropriate level of assistance; communicating answers to a classmate during an examination; removing tests or answer sheets from a test site, and allowing a classmate to copy answers.

**Academic dishonesty could result in a “zero” grade on the particular assignment or test.**

***Withdrawing from/dropping Psy316:***

Students are responsible for following University procedures to drop a class. If you stop participating in the class for any reason, you must initiate the process of dropping, or you will receive a failing grade. DO NOT wait until the last minute to drop the class. Plan to take care of this several days ahead of time, so that you will have the time required to get the forms signed, submitted, etc.

***The last date for Spring 2021 withdraw is March 19.***

***Syllabus Change Policy***

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

**University Specific Procedures**

**Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)  
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

**TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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## **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

### [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **ADA Statement**

### **Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

The syllabus and schedule are subject to change.

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Also, as we are online, I am not sure whether this applies: you should not come to campus if you are ill, and when on campus you are expected to wear a face-covering.

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## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

### Course Calendar/Outline

Week	Date	Topic	Notes
1	01/11- 01/17	Syllabus/Chapter 1 Historical Context	
2	01/18- 01/24	Chapter 2 An Integrative Approach	
3	01/25- 01/31	Chapter 3 & 4 Clinical Research and Diagnosis & Research Methods	Quiz 1 on Chapter 1&2
4	02/01- 02/07	Chapter 5 Anxiety Disorders	
5	02/08- 02/14	Chapter 6 Somatoform Disorders Dissociative Disorders	Quiz 2 on Chapter 3, 4, & 5
6	02/15- 02/21	Chapter 7 Mood Disorders	
7	02/22- 02/28	Chapter 8 Eating Disorders	Quiz 3 on Chapter 6 & 7
8	03/01- 03/07	Chapter 9 Physical Disorders	
9	03/08- 03/14	Chapter 10 Sexual Dysfunctions	Quiz 4 on Chapter 8 & 9
10	03/15- 03/21	Chapter 11 Substance related d/o	

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11	03/22- 03/28	Chapter 12 Personality Disorders	Quiz 5 on Chapter 10 & 11
12	03/29- 04/04	Chapter 13 Schizophrenia	
13	04/05- 04/11	Chapter 14 Neurodevelopmental Disorders	Quiz 6 on Chapter 12 & 13
14	04/12- 04/18	Chapter 15 Neurocognitive Disorders	
15	04/19- 04/25	Chapter 16 Mental Health Services	Final Paper due by Sunday (04/25) at 11:59PM
16	04/26- 04/30	Final Week	Quiz 7 on Chapter 14, 15, & 16 Wrap up

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