



## **PSY 316 ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY**

PSY 316 SYLLABUS: SPRING 2024

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Dr. Maia Lamarque

**Office Location:** Talbot HL 313

**Office Hours:** TBD; By appointment

**Office Phone:** TBD

**Office Fax:** N/A

**University Email Address:** [maia.lamarque@tamuc.edu](mailto:maia.lamarque@tamuc.edu)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email

**Communication Response Time:** Within 24 hours (excluding weekends & holidays)

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

#### **Materials**

Textbook(s) Required:

Comer, R. J., & Comer, J. S. (2022). *Abnormal psychology* (11th ed.).  
New York, New York: Worth Publishers.

Supplemental Reading(s):

American Psychiatric Association (2022). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition Text Revision* (DSM-5-TR). Washington, DC: Author.

Software Required:

Internet access (e.g., computer, tablet, cellphone)

Access to Microsoft Word, Google Docs., or similar software

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Emphasis is placed first on a study of the fundamental principles of understanding and appreciating mental disorders. Secondary emphasis is placed upon the types of disorders, with regard for incidence, etiology (i.e., cause of), symptom presentation, therapeutic intervention(s),

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and prognosis (i.e., course of disease/disorder, recovery track expectation(s)).

Objectively, this course will serve as an introduction to the cognitive, behavioral, affective, and physiological symptomatology associated with psychological disorders. Students will have the opportunity to learn and discuss the historical foundations of abnormal psychology, assessment strategies, characterizations of current diagnostic systems, and contemporary psychological and psychiatric treatment procedures and approaches. Discussions and presentations will be guided through utilization of varying frameworks, with emphasis on the biological, social, and psychological determinants of psychopathology/psychological disorders; through analysis of psychopathology frameworks, students will actively interpret considerations for dynamic interplay between multiple causal and maintaining variables to pathological expression.

### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- (1) Identification of commonly used standards for identification of abnormal/pathological behaviors.
- (2) Identification of issues that may propose complications in abnormal behavior/symptom expression identification.
- (3) Discussion of the evolution surrounding historical trends in shaping identification and treatment of mental disease/disorder.
- (4) Description of current broad theoretical frameworks utilized in characterizing the etiology and maintenance of abnormal behaviors/symptoms.
- (5) Brief discussion of the nature of research surrounding the abnormal psychology concentration and emphasis put upon evidence-supported treatment approaches.
- (6) Identification of strengths and limitations of current diagnostic system(s) utilized in the United States.
- (7) Description of commonly used assessment methods, as well as associated strengths and weaknesses of assessment strategies for abnormal behaviors.
- (8) Discussion on general affective, cognitive, physiological, and behavioral symptoms associated with varying psychological disorders.
- (9) Identification of current etiological theories, assessments, and treatment strategies for psychological disorders.

### **COURSE SPECIFIC PROCEDURES/POLICIES ON STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Expectations for abiding by specified course procedures and policies regarding student behaviors (listed below) should be continuously met throughout the semester, with clear regard for how our behaviors and words may impact/influence our learning environment.

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- (1) There will be no toleration for immaturity, in any capacity; If a student's behavior is disruptive.
- (2) On the basis of respect: Given the nature of this course, we may discuss issues that some students may find embarrassing, uncomfortable, and/or "inappropriate." To remain in this class, you must remain respectful of others and maintain a mature and professional manner at all times. Failure to do so will result in reporting to the dean.

## **SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY**

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

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Students enrolled within this course will need access to the Internet, a means to write documents and create presentations (Microsoft Word/PowerPoint), as well as access to the TAMUC online Waters Library resources located on the TAMUC website.

### **Instructional Methods**

This course will be primarily conducted via face-to-face lectures, supplemented by online engagement via D2L.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES/TIPS FOR COURSE SUCCESS**

- (1) To succeed in this course, there are a few tips that I can offer:
  - (a) Show up to class: Majority of information about due dates, goals of the assignments, information that will be on the quizzes/tests, and grading will be discussed in class.

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- (b) Email: If something happens to go astray, or if you think something has gone wrong, please feel free to email me. I would rather receive emails throughout the semester, than an issue without solution towards the end of the semester.
- (c) Begin with the end in mind: If your end-goal is an A in the course, think about what kind of work ethic would help you accomplish this goal.
- (d) Avoid overworking yourself: Setting boundaries ahead of time to meet your goals for this semester is the way to avoid unnecessary stressors.
- (e) Turn something in whether you like it or not: If you skip an assignment, you will automatically receive a zero. A lower grade is better than no grade, in the long run.
- (f) Utilize both the required and supplemental readings/resources: Required reading(s) information will be on each quiz/test/assignment, and supplemental readings/resources may assist in clearing up any confusion in the required readings.
- (g) Active participation in class discussions will strengthen your abilities to apply the information, both in this class and in the future.

## **GRADING**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A= 90%-100%  
B = 80%-89%  
C = 70%-79%  
D = 60%-69%  
F = 59% or Below

Chapter Quizzes 10%  
Paper 25%  
Presentation 25%  
Tests 30%

### Chapter Quizzes:

Quizzes will be assigned in D2L during the week the chapter is covered. The quizzes will open on a Monday and close on a Sunday. Each quiz will consist of ten (10) multiple-choice questions. You will have twelve (12) minutes to complete each quiz, and all quizzes will be due by 11:59PM each Sunday. So, be sure that you have read the chapter! While these quizzes are technically "open book", be aware that the time limit imposed will make it difficult to look up the answers to each question. Therefore, I suggest that you read thoroughly and refresh your memory before attempting quizzes. Collectively, these

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quizzes will account for 10% of your final grade. Weeks toward the end of the semester that cover 2 chapters will still only have 10 questions (5 from each chapter). There will be 10 quizzes total throughout the semester.

#### Paper :

Each student will choose a topic from a provided list (in D2L) on which write. Only 1 person can cover a topic—First come first serve. Sign-ups for topics due by Jan 31<sup>st</sup>. These topics will be directly related to the course content. Each student will choose a perspective on which their personal research will be focused. In other words, you will be researching and presenting on a general topic that you select from the list, but you will also be focusing on research and literature within a particular perspective. A helpful goal of this assignment is to prepare you for finals (your presentation to the class). You will be using the information you find for your paper to aid in your presentation. Keep in mind, this assignment is worth 25% of your final grade. The rubric for this assignment can be found on the course page in D2L. **\*You will submit this assignment on D2L under the "Paper Submission" heading\***

Recommended resources include: (1) TAMUC Waters Library Online Databases; Advanced Search; (2) Google Scholar; and (3) Research Gate.

#### Final Presentation:

Presentations will cover the topic you selected at the beginning of the semester. Presentations will be given during the last two or three weeks of the semester. This will be considered your "final" assignment. Presentations will consist of short timed summaries. You must present for a minimum of 5 minutes or you will receive points deduction for time. You may not surpass 7 minutes or you will receive points deduction for time. You will create a visual presentation using Adobe or other similar software (e.g. Prezi) to present to the class (audio) as you discuss your summary. You will need to submit a copy of your visual presentation to the Discussion board in D2L and in the box assigned for the presentation. Failure to submit a copy of your visual presentation will result in points deduction. Presentations are worth 25% of your final grade.

#### Tests:

There will be 4 tests throughout the semester. Each test will be open to take for 1 week on D2L, and will close (be due) on the following Sunday at 11:59 PM. Each test will cover material from 3 chapters (e.g. 1-3, 4-6, etc.). We will not test over the last chapter. Tests will consist of 60 multiple choice questions (20 questions per chapter). You will have 120 minutes to complete each test. No need to fear if you do not like your initial test score. You are allowed to take each test 2 times; Whichever score is higher is the one I will use for the gradebook.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

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## LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements:

### LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

### LMS Browser Support:

<https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser-support.htm>

### YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## 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

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:  
<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

You can contact me via email address listed on the syllabus. I am willing to work with you to the best of my abilities and accommodate your needs as a student. My average response time during the week is within 24 hours. This excludes weekends and holidays.

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## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!** Failure to complete quizzes and tests by the due date will result in a score of zero in the gradebook. There are no extra credit assignments in this course, so attendance and coursework is a must. If you follow the course schedule outline, there is a high possibility that you will succeed!

### **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/student\\_guidebook/Student\\_Guidebook.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/student_guidebook/Student_Guidebook.pdf)

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

#### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01 .

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generaltnformation/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.R0.1Q

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.1QGraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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/>

**The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)**

## 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,

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an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 41 1.2031, 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.

### **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

Week		Topic	Graded Work
1	01/10 01/14	Chapter 01: Abnormal Psychology Past and Present	Quiz and tasks Due 1-21-24 at 11:30 pm
2	01/15 01/21	Chapter 02: Research in Abnormal Psychology	Quiz and tasks Due 1-21- at 11:30 pm
3	01/22 01/28	Chapter 03: Models of Abnormality	Quiz and tasks Due 1/28 at 11:30 pm
4	01/29 02/04	Chapter 05: Anxiety, Models of Abnormality	Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3) Due 02/04
5	02/05 02/11	Chapter 06 and 07: Disorders	Quiz and tasks Due 02/11 at 11:30 pm
6	02/12 02/18	Chapter 09: Disorders Somatic Symptoms	Quiz and tasks Due 02/18 at 11:30 pm

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7	02/19 02/25	Chapter 10: Eating Disorders	Exam 2 (Chapters 6,7,9,10) Due 02/25 at 11:30 pm
8	02/26 03/3	Chapter 11: Addictive Disorders	Quizzes and tasks Due 3/3 at 11:30 pm
9	03/04 03/10	Chapter 12: Sexual Disorders and Gender V.	Quizzes and tasks Due 3/10 at 11:30 pm
		SPRING BREAK	
10	03/18 03/24	Chapter 13: Schizophrenia and Related Disorders Final Presentations	Exam 3 (Chapters 11,12,13) Due 03/24 at 11:30 pm
11	03/25 03/31	Chapter 14: Treatments Final Presentations	Quizzes and tasks Due 03/31 at 11:30 pm
12	04/01 04/07	Chapter 15: Personality Disorders Final Presentations	Quizzes and tasks Due 04/07 at 11:30 pm
13	04/08 04/14	Chapter 16: Disorders Children and Adolescents Final Presentations	Quizzes and tasks Due 04/14 at 11:30 pm
14	04/15 04/21	Chapter 17: Disorders Aging and Cognition Final Presentations	Exam 4 (Chapters 14,15,)Due 04/21 at 11:30 pm
15	04/22 04/28	Chapter 2: Research in Abnormal Psychology Final Presentations	Quizzes and tasks Due 04/28 at 11:30 pm
	04/29 05/03	Study period	

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16		Final Exam	Exam 5 (Chapters 16,17,2) Due 05/06

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