



PSY 316, SECTION 01E, ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

PSY 316 SYLLABUS: FALL 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Mr. Sinjin Roming

Office Location: Bennion HL, 201

Office Hours: In BIN 210 Wednesdays from 3-4 & Fridays 3-4:30 PM or by appointment

Office Phone: TBD

Office Fax: N/A

University Email Address: Sinjin.Roming@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

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

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required:

Comer, R. J., & Comer, J. S. (2024). Psychopathology: Science and practice (12th ed.). New York, New York: Worth Publishers.

Supplementary Readings:

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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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), 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.

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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.

1. There will be no toleration of immaturity, in any capacity. Please avoid disruptive and rude behavior.
2. 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 always maintain a mature and professional manner. Failure to do so will result in reporting to the dean.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Research Participation:

A goal of this class is to help you become familiar with psychological research. One way to obtain this goal is to have you participate in research studies. 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. All students in this class will be required to participate in the psychology department's participant pool or complete alternative assignments (see me for more information on alternative assignments). Students must complete a total of 6 experiment credits. However, if you complete your first 4 experiment credits without any “no-shows” you will receive 2 free *punctual participant credits*. In other words, if you show up to your experiments on time you will only need to complete 4 experiment credits. When you first sign into the experiment management system (EMS) you will be asked to take a prescreen. The prescreen takes about 20 minutes to complete. If you complete the prescreen in the first two weeks of the semester you will receive ½ free experiment credit. This can be combined with later experiments that are worth ½ credit.

If you fail to complete this portion of the class your grade will be lowered by one full grade. In effect, if you have an ‘A’ in the class but fail to complete your research participation (either through participating in research studies, alternative assignments, or a mixture of both) your final grade in the class will be a ‘B.’ More information about participating in research, such as how to log in to the EMS, is given at the end of this syllabus.

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Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students enrolled in 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 or Tips for Success in the Course

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.
 - 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

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Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

A = 451- 500 Points

B = 401- 450 Points

C = 351- 400 Points

D = 301- 350 Points

F = 300 & > Points

Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

Example:

Chapter Quizzes	10%
Paper	25%
Presentation	25%
Exams	30%
TOTAL	100%

Assessments

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 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.

Exams:

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.

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Assignments

Paper:

Each student will choose a topic from a provided list (in D2L) on which to write. Only 1 person can cover a topic—First come first serve. Sign-ups for topics due by Sept 20. 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:

TAMUC Waters Library Online Databases; Advanced Search
Google Scholar
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. Please submit your presentation by the Sunday prior to the week of your presentation. Presentations are worth 25% of your final grade.**

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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:

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<https://community.d2l.com/brightspace/kb/articles/5440-platform-and-user-role-requirements#:~:text=Manager%20Dashboard%20requires%20all%20users,automatically%20based%20on%20their%20attributes.>

LMS Browser Support:

<https://community.d2l.com/brightspace/kb/articles/5663-browser-support>

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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.

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.

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>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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

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

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response time during the week is within 24 hours. This excludes weekends and holidays.

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 are 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 can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

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>

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:

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Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy
[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

Artificial Intelligence

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

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:

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Office of Student Disability Services
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5930

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Website: <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

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

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

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

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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(Week of 8/26)	Chapter 1: Abnormal Psychology Past and Present	Quiz and tasks Due 9/15 at 11:59 PM
2 (Week of 9/2)	No Class Monday (Labor Day) Chapter 3: Models of Abnormality	Quiz and tasks Due 9/15 at 11:59 PM
3 (Week of 9/9)	Chapter 5: Anxiety, Models of Abnormality	Quiz and tasks Due 9/15 at 11:59 PM
4 (Week of 9/16)	Chapter 6: Disorders	Paper Topic Selected by 9/20 Exam 1 (Chapters 1,3,5) Due 9/22 11:59 PM
5 (Week of 9/23)	Chapter 7: Disorders	Quiz and tasks Due 9/29 at 11:59 PM
6 (Week of 9/30)	Chapter 9: Disorders Somatic Symptoms	Quiz and tasks Due 10/6 at 11:59 PM
7 (Week of 10/7)	Chapter 10: Eating Disorders	Exam 2 (Chapters 6,7,9,10) Due 10/13 at 11:59 PM
8 (Week of 10/14)	Chapter 11: Addictive Disorders	Quizzes and tasks Due 10/20 at 11:59 PM
9 (Week of 10/21)	Chapter 12: Sexual Disorders and Gender V	Quizzes and tasks Due 10/27 at 11:59 PM
10 (Week of 10/28)	Chapter 13: Schizophrenia and Related Disorders Final Presentations	Exam 3 (Chapters 11-13) Due 11/3 at 11:59 PM
11 (Week of 11/4)	Chapter 14: Treatments Final Presentations	Quizzes and tasks Due 11/10 at 11:59 PM
12 (Week of 11/11)	Chapter 15: Personality Disorders Final Presentations	Quizzes and tasks Due 11/17 at 11:59 PM

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13 (Week of 11/18)	Chapter 16: Disorders Children and Adolescents Final Presentations	Exam 4 (Chapters 14 and 15) Due 11/24
14 (Week of 11/25)	Final Presentations Monday No Class Wednesday and Friday (Thanksgiving Break)	ENJOY YOUR BREAK! WORK ON YOUR PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS!
15 (Week of 12/2)	Chapter 17 and 2: Disorders Aging and Cognition; Research in Abnormal Psychology Final Presentations	Quizzes and tasks Due 12/7 at 11:59 PM Paper Due 12/7 11:59 PM
16 (Week of 12/9)	FINAL EXAM	Exam 5 (Chapters 2, 16-17) Due 12/12 11:59 PM

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