



MIDWESTERN

STATE UNIVERSITY

Syllabus
Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 3603, section 101
Fall 2021

Professor: Michael A. Vandehey, Ph.D. Office: O'donohoe 112
Office Hours: By appointment only. Phone: 397-4026
Due to the pandemic, I prefer to interact with individuals via email, phone, or
Zoom. I have a family member with risk factors.
Class Time: MWF 12:00-12:50 Location: PY 102

I check D2L email sporadically. Please email me at:
michael.vandehey@msutexas.edu.

Goals: Think about abnormal behavior across multiple dimensions.

1. Learn about the transition from 5 axes of diagnosis to 1 (DSM-IV to DSM 5).
2. Understand the different approaches to abnormal behavior.
3. Diagnose based upon limited information (vignettes).

Organize and master a large amount of information.

1. Tests will cover information from the text and lecture.

Improve on APA 7th Edition writing skills and library search skills.

- a. Title page
- b. Headings
- c. In-text citations
- d. Reference page(s).
- e. Use the library.
- f. Become familiar with book, journal, and internet references.

Texts: Comer, R. J. (2018). *Abnormal Psychology* (10th Ed.). New York, NY: Worth Publishers.

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Ed.). (2020).

Stapler: papers must be stapled and will not be accepted unless stapled.

Course Requirements: Grades will be based on your performance on 1 exam, a final, and a paper.

Each exam will be worth 100 points. Tests will be multiple choice and essay. Multiple choice answers will be marked on Scantrons, I will provide space for essay answers. I reserve the right to change the tests in any way to better assess the class at any point during the semester.

The paper will be 5-7, double-spaced, typewritten pages (excluding the title page and references) and is worth 100 points. It must be written in APA 7th edition format (citing in paper, reference page, use of headings, title page, etc.). **Seven** references are required and may not include general psychology, developmental, abnormal, etc. textbooks (you may use these texts if you already meet the initial 7-reference requirement). References may include academic books and peer review journals. Please use the DSM-5 as one of your references. Only **two** references may come from internet sites. **Please keep a full photocopy of every reference.** I reserve the right to request your full references if concerns about the paper arise. Finally, **1-2** small quotes are appropriate; however, large quotes are not original work and will not count toward the 5-page minimum (this may come up as students cite large sections of the DSM-5). Papers will lose 1 grade level for every day they are late.

IN ADDITION to turning in a **physical copy** of one's paper, all papers must be turned in electronically to TurnItIn.com through D2L. In class instruction will be given close to the pre-read due date.

The following outline is an *example* of possible sections:

1. Introduction/definition of disorder
 2. History of the disorder
 3. Diagnostic criteria/differential diagnosis
 4. Treatment/Prognosis
 5. Conclusion (not a rewrite of the introduction. It is to be a place for the student to present one's own ideas based upon an integration of the information learned).
- * On occasion, a student wishes to discuss personal/family experience with a disorder. This is acceptable provided it is less than 2 pages and does not count towards the 5-page minimum.

300 points are possible and grade ranges are as follows:

A = 300-270

B = 269-240

C = 239-210

D = 209-180

F = 179 or lower

Note: Students with disability must be registered with Disability Support Services before accommodations can be provided. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact me and must provide documentation by Disability Support Services. The Director of Disability Support Services serves as the ADA Coordinator and may be contacted at (940) 397-4140, TDD (940) 397-4515, or 3410 Taft Blvd., Clark Student Center 168.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Midwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's disability and complies with Section 504 and Public Law 101-336 (Americans with Disabilities Act) in its admissions, accessibility, treatment and employment of individuals in its programs and activities.

A copy of the ADA Compliance Document is available online at [disability faq](#). It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor of any disabling condition that will require modifications. Students who require special accommodations must register with Disability Support Services before these accommodations can be provided. An Accommodation Request Form can be obtained at [Accommodation Request](#).

Make-up Policy: If an make-up exam is granted (instructor discretion), it will be essay in nature and can be scheduled with me. I need one week to prepare the exam; thus, the earliest a make-up exam can be taken is one week after the initial exam. See the 2019-2020 Student Handbook on Class Attendance Policy. [Student Handbook](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor. Students may access D2L via any open computer lab at MSU Texas.

- a. Brightspace (maker of D2L) has tutorials available on YouTube. Please go to [Brightspace YouTube](#) for additional help.

College Policies and Procedures

Can be found at the bottom of the MSU home page or at [Human Resources Policy](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without

following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. Any evidence of cheating will result in a grade of "F" and being reported to the [Dean of Students](#).

Student Code of Conduct

MWSU's official policy in the University's Code of Student Conduct on page 52, states:

Instructor Drop: An instructor may drop a student any time during the semester for excessive absences, for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to dropping the student from the class. An instructor's drop of a student takes precedence over the student-initiated course drop of a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of either WF or F through the first 9 weeks of a long semester, the first 6 weeks of a 10-week summer term, or the 12th class day of a 4 or 5 week summer term consisting of 20 days. After these periods, the grade will be an F. The date the instructor drop form is received in the Office of the Registrar as the official drop date. A student dropped from a class by a faculty member for disruptive behavior has the right of appeal to the Student Conduct Committee through the Student Conduct office.

Midwestern State University Student Honor Creed

"As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so."

As students at MSU, we recognize that any great society must be composed of empowered, responsible citizens. We also recognize universities play an important role in helping mold these responsible citizens. We believe students themselves play an important part in developing responsible citizenship by maintaining a community where integrity and honorable character are the norm, not the exception.

Thus, We, the Students of Midwestern State University, resolve to uphold the honor of the University by affirming our commitment to complete academic honesty. We resolve not only to be honest but also to hold our peers accountable for complete honesty in all university matters.

We consider it dishonest to ask for, give, or receive help in examinations or quizzes, to use any unauthorized material in examinations, or to present, as one's own, work or ideas which are not entirely one's own. We recognize that any instructor has the right to expect that all student work is honest, original work. We accept and acknowledge that responsibility for lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty fundamentally rests within each individual student.

We expect of ourselves academic integrity, personal professionalism, and ethical character. We appreciate steps taken by University officials to protect the honor of the University against any who would disgrace the MSU student body by violating the spirit of this creed.

Written and adopted by the 2002-2003 MSU Student Senate.

Travel Plans: Please do not make travel plans that would hinder your access to a computer or the internet. You are responsible for maintaining electronic(s) equipment and internet access every day during this semester including finals week.

Notice: Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Tentative Reading and Exam Schedule

Days of Class

Reading Assignment

8/23-10/13:

Semester Overview/Course Requirements
Chapter 5: Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive, and Related Disorders

-In children 516-519

-*Body Dysmorphic Disorder will be discussed with Chapter 11 pp. 147-149*

Chapter 6: Disorders of Trauma and Stress

-ADHD: pp. 529-534

-Autism: pp. 534-541

-*Dissociative Disorders will be discussed with Chapter 14 pp. 172-186*

Chapter 7: Depressive and Bipolar Disorders

-In children pp. 519-522

DSM-5

Depressive Disorders; Bipolar and Related Disorders;

Impulse-Control Disorders;

Autism Spectrum Disorder;

Anxiety Disorders; Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders

Trauma- and Stressor-Related Disorders

9/6

Labor Day, no classes

9/27

Last day to file for December graduation

10/4

Last day to file for May graduation

TEST: 10/15 MC and Vignettes

Topics due Wednesday 10/20

10/18-12/3

Chapter 11: Eating Disorders

-Body Dysmorphic Disorder pp. 147-149

Chapter 16: Personality Disorders

Chapter 14: Schizophrenia and Related Disorders

-Dissociative Disorders pp. 172-186

Chapter 13: Sexual Disorders and Gender Variations

DSM-5

Eating Disorders

-body dysmorphic disorder

Personality Disorders;

Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders;

Dissociative Disorders

Sexual Dysfunctions; Gender Dysphoria;

Paraphilic Disorders

10/25

Last day for "W"

11/24-11/26

Thanksgiving break, no classes

12/6-10

Finals Week

**Preread (optional) FIRST FINAL DRAFT: Monday 11/1*

Physical paper and e-copy due: Monday 11/22

Final Exam: Wednesday, December 8th 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.