

San Diego State University

Course Syllabus

<u>Course title:</u>	PSY 350 Abnormal Psychology
<u>Class dates:</u>	Mondays and Wednesdays: January 23, 28, 30; February 04, 06, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27; March 03, 05, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 31; April 07, 09, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30; May 05, 07, 12, 2008
<u>Class Time:</u>	2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
<u>Class Location:</u>	Arts and Letters, Room 105
<u>Instructor:</u>	Jonathan Venn, Ph.D.
<u>Office location:</u>	Life Sciences North, Room 24B (Basement)
<u>Office hours:</u>	Wednesdays 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.
<u>E-mail:</u>	jonvenn2@hotmail.com
<u>Prerequisites:</u>	PSYC 101 and the General Education requirement in Foundation II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Course Description/Objectives:

PSYC 350 provides an introduction to the study of abnormal behavior. Varieties of abnormal behavior will be described, as well as their causes, treatments, and methods of assessment. Historical, scientific, legal, and ethical issues will be addressed. The information conveyed in this course will be particularly valuable to persons entering careers in psychology, social science, health care, public health, criminal justice, or management. I hope that this course will increase your empathy for people who have behavioral difficulties, and that you will be inspired to contribute in some way to the ongoing efforts to reduce the stigma that continues to affect the lives and treatment of persons with abnormal behavior.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) observe human behavior and identify signs and symptoms of abnormal behavior;
- 2) speak and write the basic vocabulary that pertains to abnormal behavior;
- 3) differentiate varieties of abnormal behavior;

- 4) appreciate the personal, familial, and social impact of addictions and substance-related disorders;
- 5) identify scientific methods for the study of abnormal behavior;
- 6) discuss causal factors of abnormal behavior, and the theories upon which they are based;
- 7) identify treatment methods, including biological and psychological methods, and the theories upon which they are based;
- 8) critically read scientific and popular literature about abnormal behavior;
- 9) critically evaluate theories, methods, and research results related to abnormal behavior;
- 10) appreciate that psychiatric diagnosis is an evolving enterprise that changes and develops over time;
- 11) appreciate the role of development in abnormal behavior;
- 12) demonstrate awareness of the role of culture, gender, sexual orientation, and other diversity factors in analyzing and assessing abnormal behavior;
- 13) discuss landmark legal decisions that affect the lives of persons with abnormal behavior;
- 14) appreciate that abnormal behavior is a difficulty not only of individual human beings but also has a destructive impact on their families and is a major public health concern;
- 15) find ways to advocate for persons with abnormal behavior.

Grading scale:

A	94-100%	B-	80-83	D+	67-69
A-	90-93	C+	77-79	D	64-66
B+	87-89	C	74-76	D-	60-63
B	84-86	C-	70-73	F	Below 60

Methods of Assessment/Evaluation:

Participation	28 points	1 point for each of Lectures 02 - 29. Students who arrive late or leave early receive only ½ point. Participation points are counted by clickers. Please tell me immediately, in class, if your clicker is not working. Students have 7 days to notify me if their clicker malfunctions during class.
Homework: Goal Paper	1 point	Write your personal goal for what you wish to learn in this course. Include your major, and (if you do not object) your age and the state or country of your origin. Write complete, grammatical sentences. Papers with errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation will receive only ½ point credit.
Homework: Multiple Choice Questions	16 points	Multiple choice questions using the format given below. You will receive 1 point for each question.
Exam #1	25 points	20 multiple choice questions from Nevid Chapters 1-4 and 5 multiple choice questions from Freud Chapters 1-4.
Exam #2	25 points	20 multiple choice questions from Nevid Chapters 5-8 and 5 multiple choice questions from Freud Chapters 5-6.
Written Assignment	25 points	See below.
Essay Question	1 point	Students will submit one essay question suitable for use on Midterm Exam #2. Essay questions can be taken from any topic in Nevid Chapters 1-12, or in Freud Chapters 1-9. Be sure to include the chapter number and page number where the answer can be found. Do not write out the answer to the question, just submit the question.
Exam #3	25 points	20 multiple choice questions from Nevid Chapters 9-12 and 5 multiple choice questions from Freud Chapters 7-9.
Essay Exam	5 points	Students will answer one essay question from Nevid Chapters 1-12 or from Freud Chapters 1-9. Answers to essay questions must be written legibly in full sentences with proper grammar and punctuation.
Exam #4	25 points	20 multiple choice questions from Nevid Chapters 13-16 and 5 multiple choice questions from Freud Chapters 10-12.
	-25 points	Subtract your worst multiple-choice exam.
Total	151 points	

Instructional Technology:

We will make use of the following instructional technology:

1. e-mail:

The e-mail account for this course is jonvenn2@hotmail.com. Use this address for all your e-mail communication to me, including submission of homework and written assignments. Do not try to communicate with me through Blackboard. Do not try to communicate with me by hitting "Reply" to one of my own e-mails, because Blackboard requires me to use a different e-mail address when I send you an e-mail.

2. Blackboard

Power Point slides from the lectures will be posted on Course Documents, as well as other material.

Many students like to use Blackboard to monitor their grade. To view your grade on Blackboard go to: My SDSU / Tools / View Grades.

Participation points per Clickers should appear immediately at the end of class.

Grades from Homework and Written Assignment will be entered once per week, usually on Sundays.

Exam grades will be entered as soon as I can get them scored by computer, which usually will be less than one week after the exam.

If you need help using Blackboard, visit <http://its.sdsu.edu/bbsupport/student/index.html>.

3. Electronic Course Reserve

Some valuable chapters and journal articles have been placed on the Electronic Course Reserve. To view this material visit <http://ecr.sdsu.edu>. The password for this course is "hypnotic2."

4. Clickers

Clickers are keypads that wirelessly transmit student input to a receiver connected to a computer used by the instructor. We will be using this response system to take attendance and administer examinations. Therefore it is mandatory that every student buy a clicker and bring the clicker to every class period. The SDSU Information Technology Services (ITS) has a useful website <http://clicker.sdsu.edu> with more information and important links about the clickers. If you experience any trouble with your clicker or need help registering, please contact eInstruction at 1-888-333-4988.

You may also visit eInstruction at www.einstruction.com. Tech support for eInstruction is available at techsupp@einstruction.com.

Bring your clicker to every class period so that you can get participation points.

Homework:

1. E-mail an electronic copy of each homework assignment to me at jonvenn2@hotmail.com.
2. Your full name must be on every homework assignment so I will know who to credit.
3. Homework must be submitted prior to the beginning of the class period. Late homework will not be accepted.

Multiple Choice Questions:

Students will write multiple choice questions.

1. Every question must come from the textbook or from Sigmund Freud's *The psychopathology of everyday life*.
2. Each question must include the body of the question and four good alternative answers.
3. Do not write any "all of the above," "none of the above," "both a and b," "which one does not belong," or any similar alternatives. Only write questions in which the test-taker must pick out which one answer is correct.
4. Indicate which answer is correct by writing the author's name, chapter number, and page number from the book to the right of the correct answer.
5. Put the question into the body of your e-mail. Do not send homework as an attachment.
6. Put the name of the assignment in the subject line. For example, "HW01, "HW02," etc.
7. Please bring a paper copy of your question to class for discussion.
8. These questions may be used on your Midterm and Final Exams.

Here are two examples:

1. A person who has more than one personality has
 - A. Schizophrenia.

- B. a Personality Disorder.
 - C. Gender Identity Disorder.
 - D. Dissociative Identity Disorder. (Nevid, ch 7, p 211)
2. Neurosis is
- A. a nervous breakdown.
 - B. a type of panic disorder, with or without agoraphobia.
 - C. the same thing as bad nerves.
 - D. an old term that is no longer used in psychiatric diagnosis. (Nevid, ch 6, p 171)
3. Sigmund Freud wrote that the defense mechanism involved in the forgetting of proper names is
- A. denial.
 - B. repression. (Freud, ch 1, p 8)
 - C. sublimation.
 - D. reaction formation.

Written Assignment:

Submit your written assignment to me electronically at jonvenn2@hotmail.com. Double spaced. Font 11 or 12 point. Margins one inch or less. Length 5 to 6 pages. Make sure your full name is included so I know who to credit for your good work. To make this assignment meaningful to yourself, you may choose a topic relevant to your major. Examples will be given in class. Preference in grading will be given to students who use primary sources instead of secondary sources. Written assignments are due 03/26/2008. Late submissions lose one point for each day they are late.

Examples:	Primary Sources:	All the psychology journals listed below <i>The psychopathology of everyday life</i> , by Sigmund Freud Any book that presents original work
	Secondary Sources:	Wikipedia Nevid, Rathus & Greene

Choose one of the following assignments:

1. Disorder. Choose any one disorder discussed in the text and review the history of our understanding and treatment of that disorder. When were the symptoms of this disorder first described? Who were the earliest clinicians or researchers who wrote about it? What were the early conceptualizations of the disorder? What is our modern understanding of the disorder? Critically evaluate at least one conceptualization of the disorder. How is it treated? How successful is the treatment? Use at least two references. Preference will be given to primary sources instead of secondary sources.
2. Treatment. Select one treatment method used in abnormal psychology. What disorders are treated with this method? How successful is it? Who invented it? Has it changed or developed over time? Who are some of the people who helped change or develop it, and how did they do that? Critically evaluate the method. How successful is it? Use at least two references. Preference in grading will be given to students who use primary sources instead of secondary sources.
4. Media. Abnormal behavior is often reported in the media. Select one prominent event that was covered by at least two news articles. Describe the story and the abnormal behavior that was exhibited. Discuss how psychology might explain the behavior. Critically evaluate the manner in which the story was presented in the media, including the reporting of any treatment efforts. Be sure to give your references. Try to use primary sources.
5. Psychological autopsy. Select one famous person, now deceased, who is believed to have demonstrated abnormal behavior. Discuss their symptoms. What might their diagnosis have been? Discuss how abnormal behavior affected their life, including their work and relationships. Discuss any treatment they received. Be sure to discuss what problems are involved in diagnosing a person in this manner. Use at least two references. Preference in grading will be given to students who use primary sources instead of secondary sources.
6. Journal review. Choose one article from one of the following journals, one article from the reference section of that article, and one article from the reference section of that (the earlier) article. Explain these articles. What psychological disorder is under discussion? What particular features of that disorder are under discussion? Describe the progress that has been made in studying, understanding, and/or treating this disorder. Describe the progress that needs to be made in the future.

List of journals:

Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology
Families, Systems, & Health
Health Psychology
International Journal of Play Therapy
International Journal of Stress Management
Journal of Abnormal Psychology
Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology
Journal of Counseling Psychology
Professional Psychology: Research and Practice

Psychoanalytic Psychology
Psychological Assessment
Psychological Services
Psychology of Addictive Behaviors
Psychotherapy: Theory, Research, Practice, Training
Rehabilitation Psychology

Required Texts:

Nevid, J. S., Rathus, S. A., and Greene, B. (2006). *Abnormal psychology in a changing world (Sixth Edition)*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall.

Freud, S. (1916, 2003). *The psychopathology of everyday life*. Mineola, NY: Dover.

Accommodations:

Students who have disabilities are encouraged to contact Disabled Student Services at 619-594-6473.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

San Diego State University seeks to foster a spirit of honesty and integrity. Any work submitted by a student must represent original work produced by that student.

“Cheating and plagiarism are serious violations of academic standards and, if they occur in connection with an academic program at SDSU, may warrant academic sanctions... as well as disciplinary sanctions... (such as probation, suspension, or expulsion...)” (SDSU Faculty Handbook 2006, p. 22)

For a definition of “plagiarism” you may consult page 449 of the General Catalog.

For guidance on how to accurately credit the work of other writers in your papers, please consult the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association.

If a student brings more than one clicker to class, it is considered cheating, and will result in a loss of participation points.

Proper Classroom Behavior:

Your full attention and your best manners are expected in class. Rude, disrespectful, or improper classroom behavior will not be tolerated and can result in a loss of participation points. Please do not interrupt someone who is speaking. If your cell phone or pager goes off in class, if you are text-messaging, if you are surfing the Internet, if you are wearing an earphone, if you are doing homework, or if you are otherwise distracting yourself or other students, you will lose

participation points. Eating and drinking in classrooms is not permitted and may result in a loss of participation points.

Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities:

Misconduct – whether it is related to cheating, plagiarism, or other improper behavior – will be reported to the Center for Students Rights and Responsibilities.

Make-Up Policy:

Any make-up exams or late assignments must be approved in advance by the instructor. Any make-up exams or late assignments not approved in advance by the instructor require a written excuse from a doctor. Written excuses must contain a legible doctor's name and telephone number because they may be verified.

Class Schedule and Assignments:

	DATE	TOPICS	REQUIRED READING	ASSIGNMENTS DUE	AUDIO VISUAL	EXAM SCHEDULE
1	01/23	Introductions Syllabus				
2	01/28	Research Methods	Nevid 1 Freud 1	Goal Paper HW01: one multiple choice question from Nevid 1 or from Freud 1		
3	01/30	Perspectives	Nevid 2 Freud 2	HW02: one multiple choice question from Nevid 2 or from Freud 2		

4	02/04	Classification Assessment	Nevid 3 Freud 3	HW03: one multiple choice question from Nevid 3 or from Freud 3		
5	02/06	Classification Assessment	Nevid 3 Freud 3			
6	02/11	Treatment	Nevid 4 Freud 4	HW04: one multiple choice question from Nevid 4 or from Freud 4	Carl Rogers V6271V (47 min)	
7	02/13	Treatment	Nevid 4 Freud 4		Frederick Perls TV6272V (32 min)	
8	02/18	Treatment	Nevid 4 Freud 4		Albert Ellis V6276V (37 min)	
9	02/20	Health Stress Adjustment Disorders	Nevid 5 Freud 5		Speaking Out (SO): HIV	Exam #1
10	02/25	Anxiety Disorders	Nevid 6 Freud 5	HW05: one multiple choice question from Nevid 5 or from Freud 5	SO: Panic, Social Phobia, OCD, OCD, PTSD	
11	02/27	Anxiety Disorders	Nevid 6 Freud 5	HW06: one multiple choice question from Nevid 6 or from Freud 5	SO: Panic, Social Phobia, OCD, OCD, PTSD	

12	03/03	Dissociative Disorders Somatoform Disorders	Nevid 7 Freud 5	HW07: one multiple choice question from Nevid 7 or from Freud 5	Philip Zimbardo: Discovering Psychology: The Mind Hidden and Divided SO: Eve	
13	03/05	Dissociative Disorders Somatoform Disorders	Nevid 7 Freud 6		SO: Hypochondriasis	
14	03/10	Mood Disorders Suicide	Nevid 8 Freud 6	HW08: one multiple choice question from Nevid 8 or from Freud 6	SO: MDD, Depression, BPAD, BPAD with Psychotic Features, Self-Harm	
15	03/12	Mood Disorders Suicide	Nevid 8 Freud 6		SO: MDD, Depression, BPAD, BPAD with Psychotic Features, Self-Harm	
16	03/17	Substance-Related Disorders	Nevid 9 Freud 7		SO: Alcoholism, #2 Therapists	Exam #2
17	03/19	Substance-Related Disorders	Nevid 9 Freud 7	HW09: one multiple choice question from Nevid 9 or from Freud 7	SO: Alcoholism, #2 Therapists	
18	03/24	Eating Disorders Obesity Sleep Disorders	Nevid 10 Freud 8	HW10: one multiple choice question from Nevid 10 or from Freud 8	SO: Anorexia, Bulimia, Anorexia, Nutritionist	

19	03/26	Gender Sexuality	Nevid 11 Freud 8	Written Assignment	SO: GID		
	03/31	S P R I N G R E C E S S					
	04/02						
20	04/07	Gender Sexuality	Nevid 11 Freud 8	HW11: one multiple choice question from Nevid 11 or from Freud 8			
21	04/09	Psychosis	Nevid 12 Freud 9	HW12: one multiple choice question from Nevid 12 or from Freud 9	SO: Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective, Schizophrenia		
22	04/14	Psychosis	Nevid 12 Freud 9	One essay question from Nevid 1-12 or from Freud 1-9	SO: Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective, Schizophrenia		
23	04/16	Personality Disorders	Nevid 13 Freud 10		SO: APD, BPD	Exam #3	
24	04/21	Personality Disorders	Nevid 13 Freud 10		SO: APD, BPD	Essay Exam	
25	04/23	Childhood Adolescence	Nevid 14 Freud 11	HW13: one multiple choice question from Nevid 13 or from Freud 10	Time's Lost Children (17465) TV503V SO: Autism, ADHD, Sexual Abuse, Autism, #2 Doctors		
26	04/28	Childhood Adolescence	Nevid 14 Freud 11	HW14: one multiple choice question from Nevid 14 or from Freud 11	SO: Autism, ADHD, Sexual Abuse, Autism, #2 Doctors		

27	04/30	Aging Cognition	Nevid 15 Freud 12	HW15: one multiple choice question from Nevid 15 or from Freud 12	SO: Alzheimer's	
28	05/05	Aging Cognition	Nevid 15 Freud 12		SO: Alzheimer's	
29	05/07	Forensic Abnormal Psychology	Nevid 16 Freud 12	HW16: one multiple choice question from Nevid 16 or from Freud 12		
30	05/12					Exam #4

Note: Assignments are subject to change as needed.