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Office Hours: By appointment, Tuesdays or Thursdays 7:45-8:45 pm

Teaching Assistants:
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*Office Hours and Locations will be posted on Courseworks

Course Description

This course presents an introduction to the study, diagnosis and treatment of pathological and maladaptive behaviors. We will review psychopathology as represented in the American Psychiatric Association’s Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (2000: 4th ed., Text Revision). Students will acquire critical insight into DSM-IV-TR through examination of the current debate over categorical vs. dimensional conceptualizations of mental disorders. In addition, we will integrate and review proposed revisions for DSM-V. The course is comprehensive in scope and will incorporate diverse theoretical perspectives, scientific research and socio-cultural issues which inform the conceptualization and treatment of psychological/psychiatric disorders.

Course Format

The introductory class sessions will provide students with a foundation in significant historical and contemporary issues including: a discussion of definitions of abnormality, descriptions of theoretical orientations and a critical analysis of the categorical assumptions inherent in DSM-IV TR. In this initial phase students will also be introduced to the process of clinical assessment, diagnosis and empirical approaches to psychopathology and psychotherapy. In the following lectures/discussions the major categories of psychological disorders will be reviewed in depth. Each class session will begin with a Case presentation. A patient’s presenting symptoms will be described and the course of treatment reviewed. This clinical picture will serve to personalize the disorder and familiarize students with presenting symptoms. In addition, students will gain an appreciation for the complex and often subjective components of diagnosis. An overview of the core symptoms and current theory and research related to etiology, course and treatment interventions will then be provided. The Biopsychosocial Model will guide our understanding. Psychopathology in the Adult is the central focus; however Child and Adolescent disorders will be integrated throughout the course.

Course Readings

Four books are required for the course. Each may be purchased at the Columbia Bookstore or Online.


**Additional readings will be distributed in class and/or posted on the Courseworks website. Listed below is a sampling of the texts from which readings will be taken.**


**Course Requirements**

**Examinations**

Each student will be required to complete two midterms and a final examination. The final exam is cumulative; however, emphasis will be placed on the final third of the course. If a student is unable to take an exam due to illness or emergency, documentation from a physician or college dean must be provided before the exam. A make-up exam may be taken only under these conditions. A zero grade for the missed exam will be calculated in the final average without such documentation.

**Book Reviews**

In an effort to better comprehend the subjective experience of mental disorders two memoirs/autobiographies have been assigned. Students are required to submit two Book Reviews on these memoirs. The details of this assignment will be discussed further in class.

Book Reviews must be submitted by the following deadlines, no late papers accepted! Hard copies must be submitted in class.

Book Review 1 (The Unquiet Mind): March 8
Book Review 2 (The Quiet Room): April 19
Your final average will be calculated as follows:

- Midterm 1 (20%)
- Midterm 2 (20%)
- Final Examination (40%)
- Book Reviews (20%, 10% each)

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DISCUSSION TOPIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Welcome to the Course!</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 19</td>
<td>Conceptualization of Abnormality</td>
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<tr>
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<td>DSM-IV Definitions of Mental Disorder</td>
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**Reading Assignment:**

Butcher, Chapter 1: Abnormal Psychology: An Overview
Maddux, Gosselin & Winstead: Conceptions of Psychopathology (Courseworks)

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>DISCUSSION TOPIC</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 24/26</td>
<td>Etiological Perspectives and Theoretical Orientation</td>
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**Reading Assignment:**

Butcher, Chapter 3: Causal Factors and Viewpoints

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>DISCUSSION TOPIC</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>The Psychotherapeutic Process: Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment</td>
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**Reading Assignment:**

Butcher, Chapter 4: Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis
Widdiger, T.A. In Maddux and Winstead: Chapter 5: Classification and Diagnosis: Historical Development and Contemporary Issues. (Courseworks)
Garb, Lilienfield & Fowler In Maddux and Winstead: Chapter 6: Psychological Assessment and Clinical Judgment. (Courseworks)

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<th>DATE</th>
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<td>February 2/7/9</td>
<td>Anxiety Disorders</td>
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**Reading Assignment:**

Butcher, Chapter 6: Panic, Anxiety, and Their Disorders
Butcher, Chapter 15 (pages 536-539): Anxiety Disorders in Children and Adolescents
Butcher, Chapter 5: Stress and Physical Mental Health
Oltmanns, Cases 1, 2, 3

**Spotlight Theoretical Conceptualization and Treatment Approach:**

Psychoanalytic and Psychodynamic Interventions for Anxiety Disorders
Behavioral Therapy for Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
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| February 14/16/21/23 | Mood Disorders             | *Reading Assignment:*  
  **Required:**  
  Butcher, Chapter 7: Mood Disorders and Suicide  
  Butcher, Chapter 15 (pages 539-542): Childhood Depression and Bipolar Disorder  
  Oltmanns Cases 6, 7  
  **Supplemental:**  
  Young, J.E., Rygh, J.L., Weinberger, A.D. & Beck, A.T. Cognitive Therapy for Depression. (Courseworks)  
  **Spotlight Theoretical Conceptualization and Treatment Interventions:**  
  Psychopharmacology for Mood Disorders and Cognitive Therapy for Depression  

| February 28 | MIDTERM EXAMINATION ONE  
  Chapters 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 15 (Noted Sections) |
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<td>March 1/6</td>
<td>Eating Disorders</td>
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| *Reading Assignment:*  
  Butcher, Chapter 9: Eating Disorders and Obesity  
  Oltmanns, Cases 15, 16  
| March 8     | Somatoform Disorders                             |
| *Reading Assignment:*  
  Butcher, Chapter 8: Somatoform Disorders and Dissociative Disorders (Somatoform Sections Only)  
  Oltmanns, Case 8  
| March 12-16 | SPRING BREAK                                     |
| March 20/22/27 | Personality Disorders                          |
| *Reading Assignment:*  
  **Required:**  
  Butcher, Chapter 10: Personality Disorders  
  Butcher, Chapter 15 (pages 533-536): Oppositional Defiant Disorder and Conduct Disorder  
  Oltmanns, Cases 18, 19, 20  
|
**Supplemental:**


**Spotlight Theoretical Conceptualization and Treatment Intervention:**

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) for Borderline Personality Disorder

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<th>March 29</th>
<th>Dissociative Disorders</th>
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**Reading Assignment:**

Butcher, Chapter 8: Somatoform Disorders and Dissociative Disorders (Dissociative Sections Only)
Oltmanns, Case 5

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<th>April 3</th>
<th>MIDTERM EXAMINATION TWO Chapters 8, 9, 10, 15 (Noted Sections)</th>
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<th>April 5</th>
<th>CLASS WILL NOT MEET</th>
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<tr>
<th>April 10</th>
<th>Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders</th>
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**Reading Assignment:**

Butcher, Chapter 12: Sexual Variants, Abuse and Dysfunctions
Oltmanns, Cases 12, 13, 14

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<th>April 12/17</th>
<th>Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders</th>
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**Reading Assignment:**

Butcher, Chapter 13: Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders
Oltmanns, Cases 9, 10

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<th>April 19/24</th>
<th>Substance-Related Disorders</th>
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**Reading Assignment:**

Butcher, Chapter 11: Substance-Related Disorders
Oltmanns, Case 11

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<th>April 26</th>
<th>Course Summary</th>
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| May 8 7:10-10:00 pm | FINAL EXAMINATION Cumulative with emphasis on Chapters 11, 12, 13 |
“How we conceive of psychopathology and related terms has wide-ranging implications for individual, medical and mental health professionals, government agencies and programs, and society at large.”


WELCOME TO ABNORMAL BEHAVIOR!!!!!