

SYLLABUS: ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY 830:340:01
PROFESSOR SHORS, DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Spring 2009, MTH (12:00-1:20)
Lectures are on the Livingston Campus, LSH Auditorium

TEXTBOOK: ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY: CORE CONCEPTS, 2008, by Butcher, Mineka and Hooley; available at Rutgers Book Store (Barnes and Noble in Ferren Mall in New Brunswick). The book is available unbound as a loose leaf copy with MyPsychlab. ([ABNORMAL PSYCH.LOOSELEAF W/MPL CRS.COMP](#)). The ISBN is 9780205542017. You should definitely get the book because this year it will be a strong component of the course.

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Paul Ciano is your teaching assistant. His email address is pciano@eden.rutgers.edu. His office hours are Friday 5-6:30 PM. Please visit him in room 221 in the Psychology building on Busch Campus (152 Frelinghuysen Road).

PLEASE SEE the TA FOR ALL QUESTIONS ABOUT EXAMS AND EXAM GRADES! If you need clarification about course content, please see me during my office hours (Tues 9-11 AM, 201, Psychology Bldg, Busch Campus) or contact me via email at shors@rutgers.edu.

Abnormal Psychology is the study of abnormal behavior, particularly as it manifests itself in mental illness. In this course, I will cover all the major mental disorders with an emphasis on neurobiological mechanisms as well as diagnosis and treatment. You are expected to learn and *remember* the material that we cover in class, much of which is in the book but some of which is not. There will be 3 exams. The first constitutes 25% of your grade, the second 35% and the third 40%. The exams are objective and consist primarily of multiple choice questions. I will only give a make-up exam if you provide me a *written* explanation of a *verifiable* emergency accompanied by a doctor's note. All make-up exams are given on a reading day during the final exam period and consist of short answer and essay questions. Good luck to you (all 400+ of you)!

TOPICS:

1. Abnormal Psychology over time (Chapter 1)
2. Causal factors and viewpoints (Chapter 2)
3. Clinical assessment (Chapter 3)
4. Stress and stress-related disorders (Chapters 4)
5. Panic and anxiety (Chapter 5)

First Midterm (February 19; 25% of final grade)

6. Mood disorders and suicide (Chapter 6)
7. Somatoform and dissociative disorders (Chapter 8)
8. Eating and sleeping disorders (Chapter 8)
9. Personality disorders (Chapter 9)
10. Substance abuse (Chapter 10)

Second Midterm (March 26, 35% of final grade)

11. Sexual disorders and dysfunction (Chapter 11)
12. Schizophrenia (Chapter 12)
13. Cognitive disorders (Chapter 13)
15. Disorders of childhood and adolescence (Chapter 14)

Third Midterm (May 4; 40% of final grade)