

Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring

Course Prefix: PSY

Course Title: Abnormal Psychology

Year: 2025

Course and Section #: 2300 x03

Credits: 3

Course Description

Foundation course for psychology majors. Examines the psychology of abnormal behavior, historical explanations and current biological and psychological theories of abnormal behavior. Emphasizes the description of mental disorders according to the American Psychiatric Association *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, 5th Edition*.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Sandi Williams

Student Learning Outcomes

- Explain fundamental aspects of the etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of mental disorders.
- Describe professional competencies in psychology including ethical standards of behavior, the scientific foundations of assessment and treatment, and cultural competence.
- Discuss socially-held and personally-held stigmas related to mental health, and the effects of those stigmas on individuals with mental disorders.
- Apply critical skills such as written communication, ability to work with others, problem-solving, and lifelong learning skills.

Course Materials and Texts

This is an online course using the integrated Waymaker program with textbook from Lumen.

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Discussions:

Discussions will be opportunities to explore topics together. Posts to the discussion should add significantly to the conversation and support your point of view. *Comments that do not add significantly to a discussion will receive **no credit**.* It is okay to disagree in a discussion. In fact, much learning happens when we disagree. However, we need to be respectful and keep our online classroom a safe place to learn.

Due dates for discussions correspond with the initial postdate which is a **Friday**. Follow up comments are due by **Sunday**. The follow up comments will not have a due date so it's up to you to remember to do them.

Assessments:

All Quizzes are on Canvas. It is all based on the reading. No midterm or final.

The following grading standards will be used in this class:

| Grade | Percent |
|--------------|----------------|
| A | 94-100 |
| A- | 90-93 |
| B+ | 87-89 |
| B | 83-86 |
| B- | 80-82 |
| C+ | 77-79 |
| C | 73-76 |
| C- | 70-72 |

| | |
|----|-------|
| D+ | 67-69 |
| D | 63-66 |
| D- | 60-62 |
| E | 0-59 |

Late Work Statement:

To help with when life gets in the way of your educational pursuits, I have created a way for you to have an additional 4 days to turn in work for a 20% reduction in possible points per day. This percentage is an automated reduction starting at 12:01 am each day that it is late. Access to the Module is cut off on the 4th day at midnight of that week - 4 days after the initial post. Once the Module closes, you will no longer be able to participate in that Module.

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

All course reading including with the integrated textbook.

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Module 0: Course Orientation

Module 1: Understanding Abnormal Behavior

Module 2: The Etiology and Treatment of Mental Disorders

Module 3: Anxiety Disorders

Module 4: Obsessive-Compulsive and Stressor-Related Disorders

Module 5: Dissociative and Somatic Symptom Disorders

Module 6: Mood Disorders

Module 7: Eating and Sleep Disorders

Module 8: Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders

Module 9: Sexual Deviations and Dysfunctions

Module 10: Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders

Module 11: Personality Disorders

Module 12: Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence

Module 13: Neurocognitive and Other Disorders

Module 14: Psychological Research

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

All work in this course must be your own. AI programs are not suitable substitutes for your own thoughts. You may use an AI program to help you find information on your topic and check grammar and spelling but you may NOT use an AI program to write your discussion posts, answer questions or respond to your classmates posts, or complete any other assignments in this course.

Please note that the material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise problematic. For example, AI-generated language programs are known to "hallucinate", i.e. create references to non-existent resources. Beware that use of AI may also stifle your own independent thinking and creativity.

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.