CLP 3144: Abnormal Psychology
University of Florida Course Syllabus

Section 4443, Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, 10:40-11:30 (Period 4)
Room: PSY 130

COURSE INSTRUCTOR:

Kathleen Connelly, M.S.  
Office Hours: Monday, 11:30-1:30  
Room: Psychology 269

Email:  kec2c@ufl.edu (please only email through the Sakai system)

TEACHING ASSISTANT:

Terrence Spivey  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Room: Psychology Grad Longue (2nd floor)

Email: tspivey@ufl.edu (please only email through the Sakai system)

NOTES ABOUT EMAIL COMMUNICATION

• **STEP 1:** Before contacting anyone via email, please check to see if the answer to your question has been posted on Sakai or is contained in any course material, such as the syllabus. Also, contact a classmate to see if they know the answer to your question prior to contacting the teaching staff.

• **STEP 2:** All email correspondence for this class MUST take place through the Sakai system. Please email Kati and the Terrence through Sakai and do not use other forms of email.
  
  o **NOTE:** Please email Kati as soon as possible in the case of a serious medical condition, a family emergency, or other situation that will cause you to miss multiple classes.

• **STEP 3:** Proofread your email so that we can understand your question or concern and provide the assistance that you need. This means: do not use excessive abbreviations and check spelling/grammar/punctuation. Also, please make sure emails are respectful.

• **STEP 4:** Please wait at least 24 hours during the week or 48 hours on weekends or holidays for a response before emailing again. Due to the large volume of email we receive, it may take us some time to get to yours.

Description & Learning Objectives:

Welcome! I am excited to be spending the semester with each and every one of you. In this course, we will cover many topics integral to understanding abnormal psychology. One of my hopes is to help facilitate critical thinking about these various topics in abnormal psychology. This course is intended for students who have successfully completed general psychology and ideally have experience in at least one other psychology course.

In this course students are expected to learn about several aspects of abnormal psychology. Specifically, students will learn about the history of abnormal psychology and psychological theories of abnormal behaviors. Students are also expected to learn about landmark psychological research, current directions in research, and the practice of psychology - including assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. Further, cultural and societal contexts of psychopathology will be explored and discussed. Your involvement and investment in learning and participating is the best way to make this a rewarding and stimulating experience.
GENERAL EXPECTATIONS AND INFORMATION

First, you can expect this course to be challenging, interesting, and at times demanding. This course is designed to include different activities for learning and hence may challenge everyone in different ways. Though the tried and true standard of textbook reading will be necessary, it will not alone be sufficient to succeed in this course.

Second, please expect that some topics covered in the course will invoke new or difficult thoughts and/or feelings. Remember to be respectful of others' thoughts, opinions, and experiences. That being said, it is expected that students do not engage in the perpetuation of stereotypes, discrimination, prejudice, or other forms of bias and intolerance. Please see your instructor or teaching assistants if you have further questions or concerns regarding this expectation.

Finally, due to the nature and content of this course you may experience instances of discomfort as well as curiosity. If you encounter personal issues you would like to explore in further depth, I would recommend you consider speaking with a counselor at the UF Counseling & Wellness Center (http://www.counsel.ufl.edu, 352-392-1575) or at the Alachua County Crisis Center (352-264-6789).

For important dates, please see the Fall 2012 academic calendar: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/adfall1213.aspx

REQUIRED TEXT, READINGS, AND MATERIALS


COURSE WEBSITE

E-Learning System:
(http://lss.at.ufl.edu/)

The course web page can be found at http://lss.at.ufl.edu in E-Learning. You are expected to regularly check this site for information related to the course. Here, you will find information regarding upcoming assignments, grades, important announcements, and discussion boards that will help you communicate with classmates. E-Learning will enable you to get announcements about the course and to download some of the lecture notes prior to class. Note that the lecture notes do not replace note taking and should only serve as an outline to help you in taking detailed notes. Additionally, learning objectives are posted under the “Resources” section of E-learning (more details about learning objectives in the next section).

METHOD

Class meetings will involve discussion and participation by all members of the class (not just me). This type of active participation is both a better way to learn and a lot more interesting (and fun) than simply listening to lectures. To facilitate learning, it is important for you to prepare as much as possible for class meetings by conscientiously completing the reading assignments before the start of class. To help you prepare for class meetings, and for exams, I will provide learning objectives for each reading assignment (located in the “Resources” section of the class website). While doing the assigned readings, actively search for the information relevant to the learning objectives. Then, come to class prepared to discuss what you have learned and to ask any questions you might have about the learning objectives. The preparation for and participation during classes are intended to be learning activities. That means that your comments in class are not expected to always be correct. Making mistakes is part of the learning process. Some of this material is difficult and a certain degree of confusion, uncertainty, or misinterpretations is to be expected (in addition, in some cases there won’t be 'right' or 'wrong' answers, just points of view). So, don’t be afraid to be wrong.

Note that during class meetings we probably will not have time to discuss all the learning objectives, or all aspects of those learning objectives that we do discuss. Therefore, I will focus our class time on what I think is most difficult or likely to be misunderstood or on providing additional information not available in the readings. Note that, you are responsible for all information relevant to the learning objectives that is presented in the assigned readings (even if we do not discuss it during class meetings) and/or in class (even if it is not mentioned in the readings). Exams will include questions from the reading, lecture, and assignments. Therefore, if you feel confused or uncertain about any learning objective (whether or not it is discussed in class) it is your responsibility to let me know so that I can clarify that material for you. This can be done in class and/or by coming to see me during office hours.

I strongly encourage you to talk with me individually throughout the semester if you have any questions concerning course material or about how you are doing in the class. If you are having problems in the course, do not wait too long to talk
with me, come early in the semester while there is still time to improve. Of course, you are also welcome to come speak with me even if you are not having difficulties but are just interested in the material and would like further information. If you cannot make my posted office hours, I will be glad to make an appointment for another time. To make an appointment, just see me in class or send an email.

**Evaluation Criteria**

**Exams**
There will be two multiple-choice exams during the semester on the dates listed in the tentative schedule of the syllabus. Please also refer to the tentative course schedule for time and location information for the final exam, as this will be held outside of class time during finals week. The midterm and final exams will be composed of multiple choice questions. The midterm and final exams will cover information from the text and lecture material. The final exam will be cumulative.

**Mini-Tests**
There will be two multiple-choice mini-tests during the semester on the dates listed in the tentative schedule of the syllabus. Each mini-test will consist of 25 multiple choice questions, worth 2 points each. The mini-tests will assess your knowledge of material learned from the text and lecture.

**Mini-Test & Exam Rules**
1. Space permitting, sit with one chair between you and your neighbor.
2. No hats, no phones, no books, no ear buds!
3. No exams will be handed out after the first person hands in their exam!
4. You must present your UF ID to have your exam graded.

**Mini-Tests & Exam Make-ups**
Opportunities for make-up exams will only be given to students who had a documented illness; deaths in the immediate family and other documented crises; call to active military duty or jury duty; religious holy days; and official University activities. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness. **Please do not expect that a make up exam will be given.** In any of the previously mentioned circumstances, consideration for make-up exams will be given on a case by case basis. Please alert me as soon as you are aware of a conflict so that we can discuss the circumstances.

**In-Class Written Assignments**
There will be 10 unannounced, in-class writing assignments throughout the semester. Each written assignment will be worth 0-5 points each, and you may drop your two lowest-graded writings. You will receive 5 points (full credit) if your paper is turned in with more than 5 sentences that include information discussed in class AND with original thoughts integrated. You will receive 4 points (partial credit) if your paper has 4 sentences regarding information that was discussed in class with the addition of original thought. You will receive 3 points if your paper includes less than 4 sentences addressing information that was discussed in class with the addition of original thought. You will receive 2 points if your paper includes less than 3 sentences addressing information that was discussed in class OR original thought. You will receive no credit if you do not hand in an assignment.

**Writing Assignment Code:** Students will not put their names on these assignments, but will use a code. You will use a code that we will create the first day of class.

**Extra Credit**
From time to time, researchers ask me to offer extra credit for research study participation. However, these opportunities are **NOT** guaranteed and will be posted at the instructor’s discretion or as opportunities become available. **DO NOT** rely on extra credit to attain your desired grade. There is no make up for extra credit under any circumstances. **You will be ineligible for extra credit if you do not complete the midterm, final, or mini tests.**
GRADING
Points can be earned as follows, and grades will be assigned according to the scale listed below. If you have additional questions about grades at the University of Florida, please see the information at the following web address:

GRADING POINTS BREAKDOWN:

EXAMS (180 PTS.)
Midterm Exam
  80 pts
  40 questions
Final Exam
  100 pts
  50 questions

MINI TESTS (100 PTS.)
2 graded, announced multiple choice tests
  50 pts each
  25 questions

IN-CLASS WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS (40 PTS.)
8 graded, in-class, unannounced 1-5 minute writing exercises
  5 pts each
  10 possible; best 8 out of 10 count toward grade

TOTAL POINTS IN COURSE: 320

ESSENTIAL POLICY INFORMATION

THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
Please cooperate with me and your fellow students to create an environment that fosters learning and communication. We all should be respectful in our behavior and comments, and should eliminate disruptions that might be distractions. Disruptions to the learning environment include (but are not limited to): talking while others are speaking, reading newspapers, magazines, or unrelated course material in class, use of personal electronic devices during class (e.g., iPods, text messaging, etc.), eating disruptively in class, or otherwise behaving rudely. I understand that on rare occasions it might be necessary to either arrive to class late or to leave early. I do prefer that you come to class on those occasions when you must be a little late or leave a little early, rather than not attend at all. However, make every effort to avoid this if possible. On those occasions when it is necessary, please do so with as little disruption to the class as possible (e.g., take a seat near the door and enter/depart quietly).

CELL PHONE POLICY
Use, or the ringing/buzzing, of cell phones or other electronic devices is particularly disruptive. Please turn off these devices and store them out-of-sight before class begins. These absolutely must be turned off and out-of-sight during exams. If you feel the need to text your friend during our class time, please step out in the hallway to do it.

TALKING POLICY
It is disruptive and disrespectful to me and to your fellow students when you talk while someone else is talking. If you are talking out of turn during class while I am lecturing or a classmate is asking a question or making a comment, you will be asked to leave class so as not to interrupt others’ learning.

Repeated violations of any of these policies may result in a reduction of your final grade.

ATTENDANCE
I respect the fact that you have a life outside of this class. Therefore, there will not be an official attendance policy. I am more concerned about you learning class material. Therefore, if you choose not to attend class, you may miss graded in class assignments, information regarding upcoming tests, and further explanation of difficult concepts. You will not be able to make the in-class assignments up. If you are unable to attend class, feel free to contact a classmate regarding missed material. You are responsible for the work that you missed.
ADA POLICY
If you are a student with a disability and would like to request disability-related accommodations, you are encouraged to contact me and the Disability Resource Center as early in the semester as possible. The Disability Resource Center is located in 001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall). Their phone number is 392-8565.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA STUDENT HONOR CODE
The University of Florida Student Honor Code outlines the University’s expectations for the integrity of students’ academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Student Honor Code and for living up to their pledge to “hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” (University of Florida Student Honor Code, found at http://regulations.ufl.edu/chapter4/4017.pdf). I will pursue any violations of this policy to the fullest extent possible. **If I discover any cheating on a class assignment, you will receive a 0 for that assignment – period.**

EXTRA HELP
Contact me as soon as possible for extra assistance if you discover you are having trouble. I will gladly reserve time to meet with you after every class if necessary. Please contact me to set up a more convenient time if necessary.

EXTRA INFORMATION
I am available at any time to recommend additional resources to any student wishing to explore this material in greater depth.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES
Please check your calendars against the course syllabus. Any student having a conflict in the exam schedule, or feeling that they will be disadvantaged by missing a class due to religious observance, should contact me as soon as possible so that we can make any necessary arrangements.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT
Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. **They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further.** They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.
## Tentative Class Schedule

Please note changes will be made as necessary but the instructor will make all attempts to follow the below listed schedule. YOU are responsible for making yourself aware of any changes. They will be announced in class and on e-learning (Announcements feature).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Assignments</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/22</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/24 &amp; 8/27</td>
<td>Introduction to Abnormality</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/29 &amp; 8/31</td>
<td>Theories and Treatment of Abnormality</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/5 &amp; 9/7</td>
<td>The Research Endeavor</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Assessing and Diagnosing Abnormality</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/12</td>
<td><strong>Mini-Test #1 (Chapters 1-4)</strong></td>
<td>STUDY! ☺</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/14, 9/17, &amp; 9/19</td>
<td>Anxiety Disorders</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/21 &amp; 9/24</td>
<td>Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/26, 9/28, &amp; 10/1</td>
<td>Mood Disorders and Suicide</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/3, 10/5, &amp; 10/8</td>
<td>Schizophrenia and Related Psychotic Disorders</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/10</td>
<td><strong>MIDTERM</strong></td>
<td>STUDY! ☺</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/12, 10/15, &amp; 10/17</td>
<td>Donna 17th</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/19, 10/22, &amp; 10/24</td>
<td>Childhood Disorders</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/26 &amp; 10/29</td>
<td>Cognitive Disorders and Life-Span Issues</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/31</td>
<td><strong>Mini-Test #2 (Chapters 9-11)</strong></td>
<td>STUDY! ☺</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/2 &amp; 11/5,</td>
<td>Eating Disorders</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
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<td>11/7 11/14 &amp; 11/16</td>
<td>Laurie 7th and 14th</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/19, 11/26, &amp; 11/28</td>
<td>Sexual Disorders (Orgasm Incorporated – quest female sexual dysfunction pill)</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/30 &amp; 12/3</td>
<td>Substance-Related and Impulse-Control Disorders</td>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/5</td>
<td>Health Psychology</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/11</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM 7:30am-9:30am</strong></td>
<td>STUDY! ☺</td>
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