



**PSYC 3325**  
**Syllabus**  
**Abnormal Psychology**  
**Fall 2019**

Class: PSYC 3325 Abnormal Psychology  
Time: T/TH 9.30-10.50am  
Professor: Dr. Neal  
Email: lneal@dallas.edu  
Office hours: by appointment

**Course Description:**

This course is a study of abnormal behavior. This class will provide an overview of the history of abnormal behavior as well as an introduction to various mental disorders including their symptomology, cause, treatment and prevention. Psychopathology, development, assessment, and treatment are approached using major paradigms and research findings as they relate to a range of disorders as listed in the current *DSM*.

A variety of methods are used including a review of text book material, video clips, case studies, and class discussion. Students are expected to be prepared for class by reading the textbook and completing all assignments on time.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Dallas Christian College educates and mentors students to be people of influence, engaging in their calling to the work of Christ in the Church and in the world.

## **GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

Students will:

1. Communicate effectively in writing, using coherent content and appropriate organization, style, and grammar for the subject and audience
2. Communicate clearly and persuasively in speaking, constructing and conveying their message using appropriate techniques for the subject and audience
3. Understand themselves within various social contexts as they integrate into their Christian worldview the basic knowledge of these General Studies areas: Bible, history, literature, mathematics, science, and social science
4. Employ interpretation, analysis, evaluation, inference, and explanation in order to conclude, solve problems, and interpret events

## **PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

1. Knowledge base in psychology: Know the fundamental history, development, contemporary concepts and theories of psychology
2. Scientific inquiry and critical thinking: Understand the scientific method and demonstrate relevant analytical skills
3. Self-awareness, ethical and social responsibility: Be able to identify, articulate and analyse this in social, personal and professional settings
4. Integrate psychological and biblical perspectives: Be able to appropriately synthesize psychological knowledge and biblical perspectives.
5. Effective Communication: Develop communication and helping skills suitable for service in both secular and faith communities
6. Professional development: Be adequately prepared for graduate and professional training

## **COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

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

1. Define and understand the history of abnormal behavior.
2. Identify and have a basic understanding of the various mental disorders and their symptoms.
3. Become familiar with DSM classification
4. Develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the humanity of those suffering from mental disorders.

### **Required Text(s):**

Neal, L. (2019). *Abnormal Psychology Workbook*. Kings Institute  
Sue, et.al. (2014). *Understanding Abnormal Behavior 11<sup>th</sup> Ed.* Houghton-Mifflin

### **Course Assignments:**

Evaluation will be based upon performance in the following areas:

Workbook completion	30%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Literature review and Recorded Presentation	30%
Final Exam	20%

Note: All course work must be completed on time. If there are School recognized extenuating circumstances affecting performance in class, please negotiate with the instructor prior to assignment deadlines. Otherwise, late course work will not be accepted.

#### Workbook

Students are expected to complete the Abnormal Psychology workbook in full. This assignment is graded based on completion and sophistication of thought, comprehension and originality of ideas. Workbook completion is worth 30%.

#### Mid-term Exam

The mid-term assignment will include an exam to be completed individually by each student. The exam will test student retention of abnormal psychology terminology. The mid-term assignment is worth 20%

#### Literature Review & Final Video Project:

Each student will write a research paper, covering a mental disorder of the student's choice (each disorder can only be used once). The paper should give an overview of the chosen disorder (including diagnostic criteria, major symptoms). The first section should be minimum of three pages. Paper will also include a review of five articles concerning current trends in either etiology (cause) or treatment of the chosen mental disorder. For each article the student should identify type of study, participants in research, and results for each study. Paper should compare and contrast the various findings. The last section should include your analysis of the results and how they can be beneficial in the field of abnormal psychology and the course or treatment of the disorder covered.

Paper should be double spaced, written in APA format and must include a works cited page with at least 8 resources (no more than 2 internet resources). For help with APA format please visit <http://www.apastyle.org/> or visit the APA formatting document available on Moodle. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. A presentation of this paper must be recorded and submitted. This assignment is worth 30% of your final grade.

#### Final Exam:

There will be a final exam worth 20% of your total grade. This exam will cover questions pertaining to the material covered throughout the course.

**DCC Grading Scale:**

A = 96-100	C = 78-81
A- = 94-95	C- = 75-77
B+ = 92-93	D+ = 72-74
B = 88-91	D = 68-71
B- = 85-87	D- = 65-67
C+ = 82-84	F = 0-64

**Policies:**

All DCC grading, attendance, conduct and technology policies are adhered to in this class.

This syllabus is subject to change at the professors discretion.