

## Syllabus for Abnormal Psychology 352J, Fall 2007

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Text: Kring, Davison, Neale, & Johnson (2006, 10<sup>th</sup> edition). Abnormal Psychology. Wiley.

Class schedule: FLP 536 M & W 5 - 6:15

Office hours: M and W 3-4:30 or by appointment, Flipse 454

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Other assignments</b>
8/22	Ch. 1: Introduction: What is abnormal behavior?	
8/27	Ch. 1: Historical overview	
8/29	Ch. 2: Current paradigms in psychopathology	
9/5	Ch. 2: Current paradigms in psychopathology	
9/10	Ch. 3: Classification and diagnosis	
9/12	Ch. 3: Clinical assessment	
9/17	Ch. 4: Research methods	
9/19	Ch. 4: Research methods	
9/24	Ch. 5: Anxiety disorders	
<b>9/26</b>	<b>Test 1</b>	
10/1	Ch. 5: Anxiety disorders	
10/3	Ch. 6: Somatoform and dissociative disorders	
10/8	Ch. 9: Eating disorders	
10/10	Ch. 9: Eating disorders	
10/15	Ch. 8: Mood disorders	
10/17	Ch. 8: Mood disorders and suicide	
10/22	Ch. 11: Schizophrenia	
10/29	Ch. 11: Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders	
<b>10/31</b>	<b>Test 2</b>	
11/5	Ch. 10: Substance-related disorders	
11/7	Ch. 10: Substance-related disorders	
11/12	Ch. 12: Personality disorders	
11/14	Film about schizophrenia	
11/19	Ch. 12: Personality disorders	paper due
11/21	Ch. 13: Sexual and gender identity disorders	
11/26	Ch. 16: Intervention	
11/28	Ch. 17: Legal and ethical issues	
<b>12/10</b>	<b>Test 3 (Final)</b>	

You are expected to follow the University of Miami honor code.

<b>Source</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Test 1	30%
Test 2	30%
Test 3	30%
Paper	10%

**Tests.** Class and book material will not entirely overlap; you are responsible for both sets of material. Make-up tests can only be given for specific reasons and must be scheduled in

ADVANCE. TESTS WILL NOT BE CURVED. Item analysis will be used to identify poor test questions, which will be eliminated from total grades. Test 3 (final exam) is cumulative.

**Paper.** Two-page summary (single spaced) of one of the autobiographies or films listed below (if you would like to review an autobiography or film that is not on the list, please review your choice with Dr. Joormann first).

Discuss the following issues:

1. Limit to half-page: Symptoms, Course, and Treatment

What specific symptoms did the person experience? What diagnosis seems most likely? What was the course of disorder (include age of onset, recurrence, length of episodes, severity)?

What treatment interventions were tried? How well did these work?

2. Limit to one page: Etiology

Then, choose one model of etiology, such as cognitive, environmental, or personality models, from your textbook. Discuss whether this model would adequately explain the symptom pattern and course of symptoms.

3. Limit to one-half page: Gaps in our understanding of etiology

What aspects of this person's symptoms were not explained by this model? Was there any evidence in the book that suggested that this model would not be an adequate explanation?

Additional discussion topics for movies:

What is the context and setting of the film? (e.g. mental hospital, living with family)

Provide as rich and detailed a description of the thoughts, feelings and actions of the main character(s) (at least one) and the life events that may have impacted him/her.

Do you consider the person(s) to be "normal" or "abnormal" based on the criteria discussed in class?

Does the main character(s) fit one particular type of classification of abnormal behavior?

Use at least one theoretical framework to provide an explanation for the person's behavior.

You must then choose a specific question that you are interested in pertaining to the disorder e.g. relationship of abuse suffered by the main character and the development of depressive symptoms. Review the pertinent empirical literature citing at least 3 additional articles or books pertaining to this question. Do not simply repeat information from your text!

Finally discuss how has the book/film helped you understand or broaden your perspective about human behavior and psychopathology.

### **Book Recommendations for Paper**

#### **Bipolar Disorder**

Jamison, Kay Redfield, *An Unquiet Mind*.

Hinshaw, Steven. *The Years of Silence are Over*.

#### **Eating Disorders**

Kransnow, Michael, *My Life As a Male Anorexic*.

Sargent, Judy, *The Long Road Back: A Survivor's Guide To Anorexia*.

Green, R. (1995). *Diary of a fat housewife: A true story of humor, heartbreak and hope*. New York: Warner.

Heater, S. H. (1983). *Am I still visible? A woman's triumph over Anorexia Nervosa*. White Hall, VI: Betterway.

**Major Depression**

Styron, William, Darkness Visible, Classic portrait of the novelist's chronic depression.  
Solomon, Andrew, The Noonday Demon.

**Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder**

Smith, Charles Regan, Up From Insanity: One Man's Triumph Over OCD.

**Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder**

Silverman, Sue William, Because I Remember Terror, Father, I Remember You .

**Schizophrenia**

Schiller, Lori and Bennett, Amanda (contributor), The Quiet Room: A Journey Out of the Torment of Madness.

Sheehan, Susan. Is There No Place On Earth For Me?

**Movie Recommendations for Paper**

**The hours**

**Leaving Las Vegas**

**A beautiful mind**

**Mr. Jones**

**As good as it gets**

**Ordinary people**