



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo

Department of Psychology

PSYCH 257: Psychopathology

Lectures: Tuesday, 6:30pm – 9:20pm EST, SJ2 1004

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Blackie
Office Location: TBD (currently remote)
Office Hours: by appointment
Email: rblackie@uwaterloo.ca

TEACHING ASSISTANT INFORMATION

Teaching Assistant: Shirley Ong
Office Location: TBD (currently remote)
Office Hours: by appointment
Email: s7ong@uwaterloo.ca

COURSE WEBSITE

Power-point slides and test grades will be made available on LEARN. Lectures will be held on campus. However, to accommodate students unable to attend physically, lectures will be available through Zoom. Please see the Zoom tab for a list of course meetings (please note: Zoom is often displayed in PST [pacific time]. This is the default. Please double-check that you are using EST). For the best learning experience, it is recommended that you come to campus (Zoom can freeze and you can miss parts of lecture). Please check the course website often and before each class, as I will post important announcements through the course website.

In the event that we return to remote learning, lectures will take place over Zoom. It is also possible that I could have to self-isolate, in which case the class would be held through Zoom.

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers an introduction to understanding, assessing, and treating mental illness from a psychological perspective. Course material will focus on various



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

categories of abnormal behaviour, including personality, anxiety, and mood disorders; schizophrenia; and substance abuse. Clinical methods of assessment, diagnosis, and intervention will also be considered.

COURSE GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Become familiar with the DSM-5, as well as the major disorders described within it.
2. Ability to understand and describe the methods used in assessing and diagnosing mental disorders.
3. Comprehend the various perspectives (e.g., psychological, biological, etc.) involved in understanding disordered behavior.
4. Describe the general ethical issues relating to treating patients.
5. Identify and describe evidence-based treatments for different mental health disorders.
6. Gain experience in reading, understanding, and critically evaluating journal articles in the area of abnormal and clinical psychology.

REQUIRED TEXT BOOK

Barlow, D.H., Durand, V.M., Stewart, S.H., & Lalumiere, M.L (2021). *Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach*. (Canadian Edition) 6th edition. Toronto: Nelson Education, Ltd.

If you need assistance with your online order, please email wstore@uwaterloo.ca. A member of the team will reach out as soon as possible.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS

ASSESSMENT	DATE	WEIGHTING
Test 1 (online; open-book)	May 31, 2022	29%
Test 2 (online; open-book)	June 21, 2022	20%
Test 3 (online; open-book)	July 19, 2022	29%
Article Summary Assignment	July 7, 2022	20%
Experiential Learning	By July 26, 2022	2%
Experiential Learning Bonus	By July 26, 2022	1% bonus
Total		100%



COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	May 3	Course Introduction	
2	May 10	Abnormal behaviour in historical context; An integrative approach to psychopathology	1 and 2
3	May 17	Clinical assessment and diagnosis; Research Methods	3 and 4
4	May 24	Anxiety; Preoccupation and Obsession	5 and 6
5	May 31	TEST 1 (online)	
6	June 7	Trauma and Dissociation; Mood	7 and 8
7	June 14	Eating; Sleeping	9 and 10
8	June 21	TEST 2 (online)	
9	June 28	Sex and gender; Substance use and impulse control	11 and 12
10	July 5	Personality; Psychosis	13 and 14
11	July 12	Neurodevelopment; Aging and cognition	15 and 16
12	July 19	TEST 3 (online)	

Online, Open-Book Tests

There will be 3 tests in this course. The tests will be written online and will be open-book tests. All tests are to be written during regular class time. Test 1 will cover chapters 1-6 (in addition to lecture information), and will be worth 29% of your final grade. Test 2 will cover chapters 7-10 (in addition to lecture information), and will be worth 20% of your final grade. Test 3 will cover chapters 11-16 (in addition to lecture information), and will be worth 29% of your final grade. Please note that because tests 1 and 3 cover more content than test 2, they are weighted more heavily towards your final grade.

Article Summary Assignment

You will locate and read the article specified under the Article Summary Assignment tab. You will also write a 600-word paper that summarizes the purpose, procedures, and outcomes of the article. Your goal is to emphasize comprehension of the article content and to communicate your thoughts clearly and concisely. The full assignment description, instructions, and grading scheme can be found on LEARN (under the content tab).



Experiential Learning

Experiential learning is considered an integral part of the undergraduate program in Psychology. Research participation is one example of this, article review is another. A number of undergraduate courses have been expanded to include opportunities for Psychology students to earn grades while gaining research experience.

Since experiential learning is highly valued in the Department of Psychology, students may earn up to 2% of their final mark in this course through research experience (i.e., course work will make up 98% of the final mark and research experience will make up the other 2% for a maximum grade of 100%). In addition, for those students who wish to sample a wider range of these experiences, a further "bonus" of up to 1% may be earned and will be added to the final grade if/as needed to bring your final grade up to 100%. **In total, students may add up to 3% to their final grade.**

The two options for earning research experience grades; participation in research through online and remotely operated (replacing in-lab) studies, and article review; are described below. Students may complete any combination of these options to earn research experience grades.

Option 1: Participation in Psychology Research

Research participation is coordinated by the Research Experiences Group (REG). Psychology students may volunteer as research participants in remotely operated (replaces in-lab) and/or online (web-based) studies conducted by students and faculty in the Department of Psychology. Participation enables students to learn first-hand about psychology research and related concepts. Many students report that participation in research is both an educational and interesting experience. Please be assured that all Psychology studies have been reviewed and received ethics clearance through a University of Waterloo Research Ethics Committee.

How to earn extra marks for your Psychology course(s) this term by participating in studies ...

- You will earn "credits" which will be converted to "marks" (1 credit = 1%)



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

- You can schedule your remotely operated (replacing in-lab) and ONLINE studies using the "Sona" website.
- **FOR THE WINTER 2022 TERM ALL OF YOUR CREDITS** can be earned through ONLINE AND REMOTELY/ ONLINE OPERATED (replacing in-lab) studies. This could change as advice on in lab studies progresses.

Educational focus of participation in research

To maximize the educational benefits of participating in research, students will receive feedback information following their participation in each study detailing the following elements:

- Purpose or objectives of the study
- Dependent and independent variables
- Expected results
- References for at least two related research articles
- Provisions to ensure confidentiality of data
- Contact information of the researcher should the student have further questions about the study
- Contact information for the Director of Ethics in the Office of Research Ethics should the student wish to learn more about the general ethical issues surrounding research with human participants, or specific questions or concerns about the study in which s/he participated.

Participation in remotely operated (replaces in-lab) studies has increment values of 0.5 participation credits (grade percentage points) for each 30-minutes of participation. Participation in ONLINE studies is worth .25 credits for each 15-minutes of participation. Researchers will record student's participation and at the end of the term the REG Coordinator will provide the course instructor with a credit report of the total credits earned by each student.

How to participate?

Study scheduling, participation and grade assignment is managed using the SONA online system. All students enrolled in this course have been set up with a SONA account. You must get started early in the term.

For instructions on how to log in to your SONA account and for a list of important dates and deadlines please, as soon as possible go to:



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

[Participating/SONA information: How to log in to Sona and sign up for studies](#)

**** Please do not ask the Course Instructor or REG Coordinator for information unless you have first thoroughly read the information provided on this website.****

More information about the REG program in general is available at: [REG Participants' Homepage](#) or you can check the [Sona FAQ](#) for additional information.

Option 2: Article Review as an alternative to participation in research

Students are not required to participate in research, and not all students wish to do so. As an alternative, students may opt to gain research experience by writing short reviews (1½ to 2 pages) of research articles relevant to the course. The course instructor will specify a suitable source of articles for this course (i.e., scientific journals, newspapers, magazines, other printed media). *You must contact your TA to get approval for the article you have chosen before writing the review.* Each review article counts as one percentage point. To receive credit, you must follow specific guidelines. The article review must:

- **Be submitted before the [last day of lectures](#) . Late submissions will NOT be accepted under ANY circumstances.**
- Be typed
- Fully identify the title, author(s), source and date of the article. A copy of the article must be attached.
- Identify the psychological concepts in the article and indicate the pages in the textbook that are applicable. Critically evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article. If inappropriate or incorrect, identify the error and its implications for the validity of the article. You may find, for example, misleading headings, faulty research procedures, alternative explanations that are ignored, failures to distinguish factual findings from opinions, faulty statements of cause-effect relations, errors in reasoning, etc. Provide examples whenever possible.
- Clearly evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article.
- Keep a copy of your review in the unlikely event we misplace the original.



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Make-up Tests: In the event that you are unable to write a test (due to illness or religious accommodations), you must contact the instructor via email immediately (either before or on the day of the test). Failure to do so will result in a test score of zero. To have a test/midterm rescheduled, you must provide proper documentation (a UWaterloo Verification of Illness (VOI) must be submitted; please see the UWaterloo Policy on Illness and Missed Tests).

Electronic Device Policy: Please restrict laptop use to note-taking during lectures and keep your cell phones on silent mode. Texting, tweeting, snapchatting, shopping, etc. are distracting to others. Please be respectful to your classmates.

Attendance Policy: It is highly recommended that you attend class on a regular basis. Although your attendance will not be monitored or evaluated, regular attendance is encouraged.

Academic Integrity: To maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and its Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW) are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity](#) webpage [for more information](#).

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline](#). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [University of Waterloo Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. [Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances](#).

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals](#).

Note for Students with Disabilities: The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), collaborates with all academic



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Turnitin.com: Text matching software may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES:

Mental Health Services aim is to provide holistic programming and services to help you lead a healthy and balanced life. We strive to provide a secure, supportive environment for students of all orientations and backgrounds.

Students suffering from problems with anxiety, depression, problems with sleep, attention, obsessions or compulsions, relationship difficulties, severe winter blues, etc., may make an appointment by phone or in person. Appointments are usually available within two days of initial contact with one of our medical doctors. All contacts are completely confidential.

Contact Health Services

Health Services Building

Call 519-888-4096 to schedule an appointment

Call 1-866-797-0000 for free 24/7 advice from a health professional

Contact Counselling Services

Needles Hall Addition, NH 2401

Call 519-888-4567 x 32655 to schedule an appointment

counserv@uwaterloo.ca

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.