



**Abnormal Psychology  
PSYCO 239, B2  
Winter 2021**

**Instructor:** Dr. Shawn Douglas

**Office:** Online by Appointment. Please email at least *two days in advance* of a potential meeting, but see below for best meeting time.

**E-mail:** [stdouglas@ualberta.ca](mailto:stdouglas@ualberta.ca). Please include *course and section number* along with a subject heading.

**Web Page:** The course website is on eClass. Access can be found at <https://eclass.srv.ualberta.ca/portal/>. You must login with your CCID and password.

**Office Hours:** Available online (Zoom link on eClass). Monday 12-1PM as a starting point, but given the size of the class, appointments must be made in advance.

**Teaching Assistant(s):** Felicitas Kluger

**Email:** [kluger@ualberta.ca](mailto:kluger@ualberta.ca)

**Lecture Room & Time:** Tuesday and Thursday 3:30PM – 4:50PM Online

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**Course Description:** Nature and treatment of psychological disorders, such as cross-disciplinary perspectives and an emphasis on improving understanding of psychopathology in everyday life. **Prerequisites:** PSYCO 104 or SCI 100, and PSYCO 105. **Not open to students with credit in PSYCO 339. [Faculty of Arts]**

**Course Prerequisites:** It is the responsibility of the student to ensure they have the appropriate prerequisite(s) for the course.

**Technology Requirements/Recommendations for Remote Learning:**

For an optimal online learning experience, please review the University guidelines for [Technology for Remote Learning](#). If you have any questions or concerns about these requirements/recommendations, it is highly recommended that you contact the instructor at the beginning of term.

**Student Resources for Remote Learning:**

Online learning may be new to you. Check out tips for success and find out more about online learning on the [Campus Life](#) page, and specifically on the [Student Resources for Remote Learning](#) page.

**Course Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:** The instructor's goal is to provide access to some of the best available introductory material overviewing fundamental topics in psychology. Students are encouraged to consider these materials

not only as worthy of mastery but also as fundamental building blocks for future studies in psychology. Interactive participation through LearnSmart modules, and exams are designed to facilitate this aim.

**Required Textbook:** Nolen-Hoeksema. (2020). *Abnormal Psychology*, 8th Canadian edition, McGraw-Hill Education.

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**Recommended or Optional Learning Resources:** *See eClass for important resources and online study guides.*

### Online Homework Disclaimer:

Additional learning resources aimed at facilitating student learning and perhaps including formative assessment tools, are available from the textbook publisher and may be accessed for a fee paid by the student to the third party provider (e.g. the textbook company). Students choosing to access and use the online resources should note the following:

1. Registration in the system and any monetary transactions are of your own accord and not the responsibility of the University.
2. Students should be mindful of protecting their personal information and should be aware of how their personal information might be used and/or shared.
3. Students **SHOULD NOT** use their @ualberta email address or CCID to register into the system and instead use a non-identifying email address or account.

**Important Dates:** See the current Calendar for the [Academic Schedule, Dates, and Deadlines](#), which include the Registration Add/Drop deadline and Withdrawal date.

### Lecture Schedule & Assigned Readings:

Week/Dates	Topic	Readings	Lecture Only
1: Jan. 11-15	Looking at Abnormality	-----	
2: Jan. 18-22	Theories and Treatment of Abnormality Assessing and Diagnosing Abnormality	Chapter 2	<i>Chapter 3</i>
3: Jan. 25-29	The Research Endeavor Trauma, Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive And Related Disorders	Chapter 4	<i>Chapter 5</i>
4: Feb. 1-5	<i>Review Test One</i> <b>TEST ONE: February 4th</b>		
5: Feb. 8-12	Somatic Symptom and Dissociative Disorders Mood Disorders and Suicide	Chapter 6	<i>Chapter 7</i>

<b>6: Feb. 15-19</b>	<b>READING WEEK NO CLASSES</b>	
7: Feb. 22-26	Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders Personality Disorders	Chapter 8 <i>Chapter 9</i>
8: Mar. 1-5	<i>Review Test Two</i> <b>TEST TWO: March 4th</b>	
9: Mar. 8-12	Neurodevelopmental and Neurocognitive Disorders	Chapter 10
10: Mar. 15-19	Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders	<i>Chapter 11</i>
11: Mar. 22-26	Review Test Three <b>TEST THREE: March 25th</b>	
12: Mar. 29- Apr. 2	Eating Disorders Sexual Disorders and Gender Diversity	Chapter 12 <i>Chapter 13</i>
13: Apr. 5-9	Substance Use and Gambling Disorders Health Psychology Mental Health and the Law	Chapter 14 <i>Chapter 15</i> <i>Chapter 16</i>
14: Apr. 12-16	<b>FINAL EXAM REVIEW</b>	

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### Grade Evaluation:

Distribution of Grades												
Letter grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
% Range	≥95	90-94	85-89	80-84	75-79	71-74	67-70	63-66	60-62	55-59	50-54	<50
Grade points	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.0	0
Descriptor	Excellent			Good			Satisfactory			Poor	Minimal Pass	Fail

**\*NOTE\*** This table contains an approximate guideline for the course, however the instructor reserves the right to adjust this table and assign appropriate grades based on relative performance.

Grades are unofficial until approved by the Department and/or Faculty offering the course.

### **Components of Course Grade:**

<b>Assessments</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Date</b>
Midterm #1	20%	Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>
Midterm #2	20%	Mar. 4 <sup>th</sup>
Midterm #3	20%	Mar. 25 <sup>th</sup>
Forum Posts	8%	Ongoing
Final Exam**	32%	(TBD)***

“There is no possibility of a re-examination in this course.”

WARNING: Students must verify this date on BearTracks when the Final Exam Schedule is posted.

### **Format of Tests and Exams:**

Exams will be held on eClass. Exams will be open book, multiple choice, and more detail will be added to eClass as we approach the exam date.

**Attendance:** Attendance is not required, however, it is imperative that you keep up-to-date with course material. Failure to do so will almost certainly negatively impact your grade average.

### **Representative Evaluative Material:**

Practice tests will be provided on eClass.

### **Missed Term Exams and Assignments:**

For an excused absence where the cause is religious belief, a student must contact the instructor(s) within two weeks of the start of Fall or Winter classes to request accommodation for the term (including the final exam, where relevant). Instructors may request adequate documentation to substantiate the student request.

A student who cannot write a term test or complete a term assignment due to incapacitating illness, severe domestic affliction or other compelling reasons must contact the instructor. Email within 48 hours of missed term test or deadline. In most circumstances, the weight will be distributed across other similar assessments (tests; final exam). Transferring the weight of missed work to the final exam could result in not being approved for a deferred final examination as they may not have completed the required 50% of term work. Instructors should warn students about this possibility.

In all cases, instructors may request adequate documentation to substantiate the reason for the absence, at their discretion.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the *Code of Student Behaviour*.

Deferral of term work/exams is under the discretion of the instructor, however, a student must apply to their Faculty for a deferral of a final exam, see below.

**Deferred Final Examination:** A student who cannot write the final examination due to incapacitating illness, severe domestic affliction or other compelling reasons can apply to their Faculty for a deferred final examination. Students who failed at the start of term to request exam accommodations for religious beliefs are expected to follow the normal deferred final examination process. Such an application must be made to the student's Faculty office within two working days of the missed examination and must be supported by appropriate documentation or a Statutory Declaration (see Calendar for information on [Attendance](#)). Deferred examinations are a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferred examination will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferred examination is a serious breach of the *Code of Student Behaviour*.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

### **Guidelines for Respectful Online Engagement:**

Students from many different backgrounds participate in courses at the University of Alberta. Sexist, racist, homophobic comments and other inflammatory remarks are not conducive to learning in our courses, and absolutely are not permitted. All participants are governed by the [Code of Student Behaviour](#). Be mindful when discussions involve controversial topics or issues, and consider the possibility that members of our community have themselves experienced some of these issues and/or very different realities because of these issues. Participate in a respectful and considered manner.

If you are witness to or the target of abusive or offensive behaviour in any course, please inform your instructor immediately. You may also contact the Psychology Undergraduate/Graduate Advisor, Associate Chair of Undergraduate/Graduate, or Chair.

**Academic Integrity:** The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult the [Academic Integrity website](#) for clarification on the various offences. If you have any questions, ask your instructor. All forms of dishonesty are unacceptable at the University. Any offence will be reported to the Associate Dean of

the Faculty, who will determine the disciplinary action to be taken. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#). Typical sanctions include conduct probation, a mark reduction or a mark of 0 on an assessment, a grade reduction or a grade of F in a course, a remark on the transcript, and a recommendation for suspension or expulsion from the University of Alberta.

**Exams:** Conducted online during the scheduled class time. Please let your instructor know ASAP if there are any conflicts.

Students should refer to the Calendar information on [Conduct of Exams](#) for more information.

**Recording and/or Distribution of Course Materials:** Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

## STUDENT RESOURCES:

**COVID-19 Updates:** Updates pertaining to university-related activities can be found on the [COVID-19 Information website](#).

**Student Services and Resources:** General information about various services, including academic, financial, health and wellness, safety, and career development, can be found on the website for [Current Students](#).

**Accessibility Resources (AR) (1 – 80 SUB):** The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. AR promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage. Eligible students have both rights and responsibilities with regard to accessibility-related accommodations. Consequently, scheduling exam accommodations in accordance with AR deadlines and procedures is essential, and adherence to procedures and deadlines is required for U of A to provide accommodations.

**Academic Success Centre (1-80 SUB):** [The Academic Success Centre](#) provides professional academic support to help students strengthen their academic skills and achieve their academic goals. Individual advising, appointments, and group workshops are available year round in the areas of Accessibility, Communication, Learning, and Writing Resources. Modest fees apply for some services.

**The Centre for Writers (1-42 Assiniboia Hall):** The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

**First Peoples' House:** [The First Peoples' House](#) provides an environment of empowerment for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit learners to achieve personal and academic growth.

**Health and Wellness Support:** There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

**Office of the Student Ombuds:** The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

## LEARNING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Psychology, Faculty of Arts, and Faculty of Science are committed to ensuring that all students, faculty, and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination, harassment, and violence of any kind. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. This includes virtual environments and platforms.

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) section of the University Calendar.

**Disclaimer:** Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and/or posted on the course website (e.g., eClass). The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

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