



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

# PSY 275 Abnormal Psychology

Fall 2023

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 56 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:**TBA

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course will provide an overview of the scientific study of psychopathology. It mainly concerns the leading categories of mental disorders among adults, children and adolescents, including the description and classification of these disorders, the leading theories and evidence explaining their origins, and some of the treatments for these disorders. Legal and ethical issues pertaining to the assessment and treatment of mental illness will also be mentioned.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the categories and descriptions of the leading mental disorders
2. Recognized how mental disorders are assessed in individual cases, and the leading
3. evidence-based methods of treatment
4. Apply critical reasoning skills to apply theoretical concepts and empirical evidence to the understanding of mental issues, including hypothetical clinical cases

## **PREREQUISITES**

PSY 100 Introduction to Psychology

## **GRADING**

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

**ITEM**

**POINTS**



2 Quizzes	20 Points
2 Assignments	20 Points
Midterm Test	25 Points
Final Exam	35 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$ .

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### **Required Texts:**

Susan Nolen-Hoeksema, *Abnormal Psychology*, 6th Edition, McGraw-Hill, 2013.

### **Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:**

None

## COURSE TOPICS

<b>MODULE</b>	<b>TASKS</b>
Module 1	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 1: Historical Perspectives on Abnormality Topic 2: The Emergence of Modern Perspectives & Modern Mental Health Care Topic 3: Approaches Along the Continuum & Biological Approaches Topic 4: Psychological Approaches & Sociocultural Approaches <b>Assessments:</b> Quiz#1
Module 2	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 5: Assessment Tools & Challenges in Assessment Diagnosis Topic 6: Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Acute Stress Disorder Topic 7: Generalized Anxiety Disorder & Separation Anxiety Disorder & Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Topic 8: Characteristics of Depressive Disorders <b>Assessments:</b> Assignment#1



Module 3	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 9: Characteristics of Bipolar Disorder & Theories of Depression Topic 10: Treatment of Mood Disorders Topic 11: Suicide Topic 12: Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders <b>Assessments:</b> Midterm Test
Module 4	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 13: Genetic Contributors to Schizophrenia Topic 14: General Definition of Personality Disorder Topic 15: Cluster A: Odd-Eccentric Personality Disorders & Cluster B: Dramatic-Emotional Personality Disorders Topic 16: Civil Commitment <b>Assessments:</b> Assignment#2 Quiz#2
Module 5	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 17: Patients' Rights Topic 18: Competence to Stand Trial Topic 19: Guilty but Mentally III Topic 20: Mental Health Care in the Justice System <b>Assessments:</b> Final Exam

## ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.



## **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

## **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

## **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:



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Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.