# PSYC 3318: Abnormal Psychology

Spring 2023

## Instructor Information

### Instructor

Bonnie B. Laster, Ph.D. CCSP

### Office Number/Telephone Number

Life Science 426

817-273-2281

### Email Address

[bonnie.laster@uta.edu](mailto:bonnie.laster@uta.edu) ***\*official means of communication\* \*do NOT utilize Canvas inbox or Teams chat\****

**Faculty Profile**

https://www.uta.edu/academics/faculty/profile?username=lasterbb

**Office Hours**

MW 9:00-9:50 a.m.

TTh 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; or by appointment

## Course Information

### Section Information

PSYC 3318-001

### Time and Place of Class Meetings

T/Th 9:30-10:45 a.m.

NH 100

Face to face lecture

### Description of Course Content

### Major forms of psychopathology; Classification, etiology, and treatment of major disorders. Prereq: PSYC 1315.

### Student Learning Outcomes

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| --- |
| Students will identify, describe and discuss biological, psychological, social and political factors in the study of abnormal psychology. |
| Students will identify and describe the major concepts in psychopathology and abnormal development, distinguish among major theoretical orientations, and discuss empirical and historical trends. |
| Students will explore issues related to social and personal cognitive structures to encourage ethical and social responsibility in a diverse world. |

### Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials

Connect Access for Abnormal Psychology: Clinical Perspectives on Psychological Disorders (0812 Custom) Edition: 10th

ISBN: 9781266446627

Author: Whitbourne

Publisher: MCGRAW HILL CREATE (CUSTOM PUBLISHING)

*Students: The above resource is included in your tuition. The DSM-5 is not required for this course. However, if you choose to purchase one, that will be an additional cost.*

### Descriptions of major assignments and examinations

**Exams**: There will be 3 exams, each worth 50 points. Exams include multiple choice, short-answer, and essay questions requiring students to apply material from assigned readings, class discussions, and class lecture material (including video, discussions, and in-class assignments/activities).

**Case Studies:** Students will analyze 2 case studies and/or scenarios to apply concepts learned in class. The due dates will vary, but students will have until the next class period to work on a given study. In addition to being discussed in class, an email announcement will be provided directly after the class period in which an assignment is given (50 pts each). *\*\*Specific guidelines will be posted on Canvas and discussed in class\*\**

**Case Study Analysis**: Students will write a 3+ page paper analyzing a real or fictitious character using concepts and diagnoses from abnormal psychology. Students can select any character of interest from t.v., movies, fiction reading, video games, etc. (50 points) \*\* Specific guidelines posted on Canvas.\*\*

**Attendance/Participation**: Official attendance will not be taken. However, throughout the course of the semester we may have random in or out of class assignments which cannot be made up. While this work will not be “graded” per se, its completion will count toward your attendance/participation grade (5 points). Students missing class due to university-sponsored activities (e.g. athletic events, university sponsored travel, etc.) or documented illness will not be penalized; however, you will need to notify me in advance of such absences and it is your responsibility to obtain class notes/assignments, etc. from a fellow classmate (i.e., not me). *\*\*Specific guidelines will be distributed in class.\*\**

Technology Requirements

This course will utilize Canvas, Teams, and UTA email. Students can access tutorials on these tools by clicking on the “Get Started” Box on their Canvas Homepage. You will not need a webcam.

## Grading Information

### Grading

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment Category** | **Number of Graded Items** | **Point Value per Item** | **Total Points** |
| Exams | **3** | **50** | **150** |
| Case Studies | **2** | **50** | **100** |
| Case Study Analysis | **1** | **50** | **50** |
| Attendance/Participation | **1** | **5** | **5** |
| **Total Course Points:** | | | **305** |

### Final Grade Policy: This class will utilize an unweighted points system. Final grades will be calculated as a percentage of total points earned. To calculate individual student final grades, add up the total points earned on each graded item and divide that sum by the total maximum points for the course (270). Multiply by 100 to get the percentage. Final grades falling 9.5 and above will be rounded up (e.g., 89.5 will round to an A, 79.5 will round to a B, etc). Final grades falling below this will not be rounded up. There are no exceptions to this policy.

### Exam Day/Assignment Policy: There will be NO make-up exams or assignment extensions except for extreme circumstances/emergencies (criteria professor’s discretion). The schedule notes the dates for all, giving you plenty of time to make arrangements accordingly. Any makeup exam/assignments that meet the extreme criteria must be scheduled IN ADVANCE of the due date. If, for whatever reason, extreme circumstances arise ON exam day, you are responsible for contacting me PRIOR TO THE START OF CLASS to apprise me of the situation. WAITING UNTIL THE TEST HAS BEEN ADMINISTERED/DUE DATE HAS PASSSED IS UNACCEPTABLE. Be prepared to provide documentation of the circumstance. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in an automatic “0” for that exam grade. University-related absences are exempted from this policy, but you are still required to notify me in advance of such a conflict.

**Technology note for exams and assignments:** All exams and assignments will be due via Canvas at **11:59 p.m. CST** on their designated due dates. To account for potential technology and other issues (loss of WIFI, laptop issues, cats playing with modem, boss calling you into work last minute, forgetting when the assignment was due, traveling, falling asleep unexpectedly, etc.), I **HIGHLY** recommend submitting **EARLY**. *Exams/assignments will not be available for submission past 11:59 p.m. Emailed assignments will not be accepted.*

## Course Schedule

As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. –B.B. Laster

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Subject** | **Reading** | **Assignment** |
| Tues Jan 17 | Intro/syllabus  Overview to Understanding Abnormal Behavior | Syllabus/course information |  |
| **Thurs Jan 19** | **Overview to Understanding Abnormal Behavior** | **Ch. 1** |  |
| **Tues Jan 24** | **Diagnoses and Treatment** | **Ch. 2** |  |
| Thurs Jan 26 | Con’t |  |  |
| **Tues Jan 31** | **Assessment** | **Ch. 3** |  |
| Thurs Feb 2 | Con’t |  |  |
| **Tues Feb 7** | **Theoretical Perspectives** | **Ch. 4** |  |
| Thurs Feb 9 | Con’t |  |  |
| Tues Feb 14 | Catch-up & Review |  |  |
| ***Thurs Feb 16*** | ***Exam 1*** | ***Ch. 1-4*** |  |
| **Tues Feb 21** | **Anxiety/OCD/Trauma/Stress** | **Ch. 8** |  |
| Thurs Feb 23 | Con’t |  |  |
| Tues Feb 28 | Con’t |  |  |
| ***Thurs Mar 2*** | ***Depressive and Bipolar Disorders*** | ***Ch. 7*** | ***Case Study 1 due to Canvas 11:59 p.m.*** |
| Tues Mar 7 | Con’t |  |  |
| Thurs Mar 9 | Con’t |  |  |
| ***Tues Mar 14-Thurs Mar 16*** | ***Spring Break – No Class*** | ***Woop!*** | ***Woop!*** |
| **Tues Mar 21** | **Dissociative & Somatic Disorders** | **Ch. 9** |  |
| Thurs Mar 23 | Con’t | Con’t |  |
| Tues Mar 28 | Catch-up & Review |  |  |
| ***Thurs Mar 30*** | ***Exam 2*** | ***Ch. 7-9*** |  |
| **Tues April 4** | **Personality Disorders** | **Ch. 14** |  |
| Thu April 6 | Con’t |  |  |
| Tues April 11 | Con’t |  |  |
| **Thurs April 13** | **Neurodevelopmental Disorders** | **Ch. 5** |  |
| Tues April 18 | Con’t |  |  |
| ***Thurs April 20*** | ***Schizophrenia Spectrum/Other Psychotic Disorders*** | ***Ch. 6*** | ***Case Study 2 due to Canvas 11:59 p.m.*** |
| **Tues April 25** | **Eating/Sleep/Impulse Control Disorders** | **Ch. 10** |  |
| Thurs April 27 | Con’t |  |  |
| ***Tues May 2*** | ***Catch-up & Review*** |  | ***Case Study Analysis due to Canvas 11:59 p.m.*** |
| ***Thurs May 4*** | ***Final Exam*** | ***Ch. 5, 6, 10, 14*** |  |

## Institutional Information

UTA students are encouraged to review the below institutional policies and informational sections and reach out to the specific office with any questions. To view this institutional information, please visit the [Institutional Information](https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php) page (https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php) which includes the following policies among others:

* Drop Policy
* Disability Accommodations
* Title IX Policy
* Academic Integrity
* Student Feedback Survey
* Final Exam Schedule

Grade grievance procedure: <https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/science/departments/psychology/degree-programs/graduate/graduate-resources/student-grievance-form>

Counseling and Psychological Services <https://www.uta.edu/caps/services/Lets%20Talk.php>

Students experiencing a crisis may call MAVS Talk 24 Hour Crisis Line 817-272-TALK (8255) or UTA Police: 817-272-3003

## Additional Information

### Email Response: UTA email is my official means of communication; Phone calls will not be returned in a timely manner. Do NOT use Teams chat to contact me. I will respond to emails within 24-48 hours.

### Face Covering Policy

*Students and instructors are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings while on campus, particularly inside buildings. If a student needs accommodations to ensure social distancing in the classroom due to being at high risk, they are encouraged to work directly with the Student Access and Resource Center to assist in these accommodations.* *Masks may be obtained at the Central Library or the E.H. Hereford University Center’s front desk.*

### Attendance

At UTA, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator of student success. Each faculty member is free to develop their own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As instructor of this course, I will not take official attendance. However, while UTA does not require instructors to take attendance, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to verify Federal Student Aid recipients’ attendance in courses. UT Arlington instructors will report the last date of attendance as part of the final grading process, when assigning a student a grade of F. Attendance may be based on evidence of academic engagement such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Canvas. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients. Additionally, various random in or out of class assignments may be administered which cannot be made up. These assignments will not be graded individually, but will contribute to the student’s overall participation grade.

Distance education courses require regular and substantive online interaction and participation. Students must participate in online course activities to demonstrate attendance; logging into an online class is not sufficient by itself to demonstrate attendance

### Emergency Exit Procedures

Should we experience an emergency event that requires evacuation of the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, do not take an elevator but use the stairwells instead. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Evacuation plans may be found at [Evacuation Route Maps (Buildings)](http://www.uta.edu/campus-ops/ehs/fire/Evac_Maps_Buildings.php).

### Academic Success Center

The Academic Success Center (ASC) includes a variety of resources and services to help you maximize your learning and succeed as a student at the University of Texas at Arlington. ASC services include supplemental instruction, peer-led team learning, tutoring, mentoring and TRIO SSS. Academic Success Center services are provided at no additional cost to UTA students. For additional information visit: [Academic Success Center](https://www.uta.edu/student-success/course-assistance). To request disability accommodations for tutoring, please complete this [form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q1vcXL7XqkyBc3KeOwpi2ccSjcIXpSJAqJFuDEhczLlUMVVHRVRIVlJJWDZJWlVYOUgxNjRPODdLVS4u).

**The** [**IDEAS Center**](https://www.uta.edu/ideas/) (https://www.uta.edu/ideas/) **(**2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **FREE** [tutoring](https://www.uta.edu/ideas/services/tutoring/index.php) and [mentoring](https://www.uta.edu/ideas/services/mentoring/index.php) to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. Students can drop in or check the schedule of available peer tutors at www.uta.edu/IDEAS, or call (817) 272-6593.

### The English Writing Center (411LIBR)

The Writing Center offers **FREE** tutoring in 15-, 30-, 45-, and 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Register and make appointments online at the [Writing Center](https://uta.mywconline.com/) (https://uta.mywconline.com). Classroom visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see [Writing Center: OWL](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library’s 2nd floor [Academic Plaza](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) (http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the [library’s hours](https://library.uta.edu/hours) of operation.

### Librarian to Contact

Each academic unit has access to [Librarians by Academic Subject](http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php) that can assist students with research projects, tutorials on plagiarism and citation references as well as support with databases and course reserves.

## Emergency Phone Numbers

In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Dept at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381

## Library Information

### Research or General Library Help

Ask for Help

* [Academic Plaza Consultation Services](https://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza)(library.uta.edu/academic-plaza)
* [Ask Us](http://ask.uta.edu/)([ask.uta.edu/](http://ask.uta.edu/))
* [Research Coaches](https://library.uta.edu/subject-librarians) (http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach)

Resources

* [Library Tutorials](https://library.uta.edu/how-to) ([library.uta.edu/how-to](http://library.uta.edu/how-to))
* [Subject and Course Research Guides](https://libguides.uta.edu/) ([libguides.uta.edu](http://libguides.uta.edu/))
* [Librarians by Subject](https://library.uta.edu/subject-librarians) (library.uta.edu/subject-librarians)
* [A to Z List of Library Databases](https://libguides.uta.edu/az.php) (libguides.uta.edu/az.php)
* [Course Reserves](https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course_reserves)(https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course\_reserves)
* [Study Room Reservations](https://openroom.uta.edu/)(openroom.uta.edu/)