# PSYC 3318: Abnormal Psychology

Summer 2021 – Section 001

## Instructor Information

### Instructor(s)

Mitchell Meltzer, MSCP, PhD

### Office Number

LS 307

### Office Telephone Number

817-272-9634

Google Voice number (probably the fastest and most reliable way to reach me): 817-523-8148

### Email Address

[mitchell.meltzer@uta.edu](mailto:mitchell.meltzer@uta.edu)

*\*Please note that I may not respond to questions that can be answered from looking at the syllabus.\**

### Faculty Profile

### <https://www.uta.edu/psychology/people/mitchell-meltzer.php>

### Office Hours

I will be holding virtual office hours (by appointment only) or through Google Voice (817-523-8148).

## Course Information

### Section Information

PSYC 3318, 001

### Time and Place of Class Meetings

Lectures will be pre-recorded and posted on Canvas by 10:30 AM (Monday through Thursday) on the day to which they pertain in the syllabus schedule. Students can call me using my Google Voice number (817-523-8148) or via email ([mitchell.melzer@uta.edu](mailto:mitchell.melzer@uta.edu)) if they are having playback issues.

Exam reviews will be held live in Microsoft Teams and can be accessed using this link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/l/channel/19%3ac20f2dd240ed423cbd82945acb6c02aa%40thread.tacv2/General?groupId=f248e478-fc15-4012-a7b1-0c3015120049&tenantId=5cdc5b43-d7be-4caa-8173-729e3b0a62d9>

You must request to join this Team before you can access it for review sessions. You must submit your request to join no later than 24 hours prior to the first exam review. If you are unable to attend the review, it is your responsibility to obtain information about what was covered from fellow students and/or the video recording about what was covered.

### Description of Course Content

### Primary objective is to provide students with an introduction to the study of abnormal psychology.

### Student Learning Outcomes

(a) to familiarize students with the multiple causes of psychopathology as viewed from a number of different theoretical perspectives;

(b) to illustrate an integrative view of research in the area of abnormal behavior; and

(c) to discuss intervention and prevention strategies for psychological disorders.

### Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials

Durand, V. Mark and Barlow, David H. (2016). Essentials of Abnormal Psychology, 8th Ed. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-1-337-61937-0

You do not need any special access codes/cards with the textbook,

Articles for assigned reading/reviews/papers will be posted on Canvas throughout the semester

### Descriptions of major assignments and examinations

1. Case study: Each student will review one of two clinical case studies posted in Canvas by the professor during the semester. You may complete both and take your highest grade as your assignment grade. You will be required to diagnose the patient, describe a possible biopsychosocial etiology for their diagnosis, and propose a course of treatment. An example case study is posted on Canvas. 45 percent of your grade will be based on this assignment.
2. There will be three open-book exams with 40 multiple choice questions each which are not cumulative (they will each primarily cover information presented since the previous exam). You may use any resource you wish to answer the questions except another person (either a family member, friend, or classmate). **They will be available from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM in Canvas on their respective dates, and you will have 90 minutes to complete each of them, meaning that you should begin no later than 7:30 PM.** 50 percent of your grade will be based on your average score across these three exams. I strongly recommend completing the exam review crossword puzzles that have already been posted in Canvas for each exam
3. Participation and attendance will be worth 5 percent of your grade. Attendance will be assessed by recording the names of students who view the lecture and exam review videos *in their entirety* within 48 hours of the day to which they correspond in the syllabus (for instance, the video for July 13 must be viewed by midnight on July 15).

### Technology Requirements

Canvas will be an important resource throughout the semester, so you will need to be proficient in the use of Canvas to perform well. Your assignments, grades, and supplemental readings will be posted through Canvas. Make sure you have access to Canvas. Canvas support is available 24/7 by calling 1-855-597-3401 or by clicking on the “?” icon on your Canvas Dashboard. Additionally, you will need to download Microsoft Teams to your computer. Finally, your computer must have internet access, a word processor, and PowerPoint.

## Grading Information

### Grading

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

90% to 100% = A

80% to 89% = B

70% to 79% = C

60% to 69% = D

<60% = F

Please note that Canvas improperly calculates your overall grade in the “Assignments”, “Discussions”, “Quizzes”, “Imported Assignments”, and “Total” columns on the grade sheet, and I cannot change the formula it uses to my own. The correct formula for figuring out what your overall course percentage will be at the end of the semester is the following:

Best Case Study % x .45 + Exam Average % x .50 + Attendance % x .05

If, at any time, your performance drops below satisfactory levels, see “Student Support Services,” below for potential remedies.

### Make-up work:

Lecture attendance is required. No make-up opportunities for exams or assignments will be given unless documentation is received for a University-approved absence and arrangements are made with me ***prior*** to your absence. Requests to make-up work for any other reason that does not fall under university excused absences such as a serious medical emergency or other extenuating circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis after documentation is received and are at the discretion of faculty approval. You must make-up missed work within 5 working days. Students who miss a class meeting(s) for any reason or miss portions of classes due to tardiness or early departure will **still be held accountable for all of the material that is covered** during those sessions, including materials presented in lecture that are not in the book.If you miss a class, find a classmate (or two) with whom you can share resources. **Please do not email me to ask what materials you missed in class**. Material covered in class is your responsibility.

Make up exams will be given only if you notify the instructor in advance of the scheduled time of the exam, and only if 1) you were seriously ill and have verifiable documentation from a physician or 2) you have an urgent family affair (e.g., funeral) Make-up exams must be completed no later than 3 days after the scheduled exam. If not, a more challenging version of the exam will be administered as a make-up. Requests to make-up work for any other reason will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis after documentation is received and are at the discretion of faculty approval.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY IS A BIG DEAL TO ME. Please read this section very, very carefully.**

The UTA Office of Community Standards recognizes at least three forms of academic dishonesty (note that others exist as well). These are cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. The commitment of any act of academic dishonesty, even once, will result in a report to the Office of Community Standards for official review

The definition of *cheating* is rather complex, and can be found at the following link: <https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/academic-integrity>

*Plagiarism* is defined as “the unacknowledged incorporation of the work of another in work that is offered for credit”. UTA scans written assignments for plagiarism using a computer program that instantly provides the instructor with 1) the degree of overlap between your work and any other document on the internet, including work turned in by other students in your class even for the same assignment (so don’t copy each other’s work) and 2) the exact sources from which the overlap has occurred. The take-home message is that if you plagiarize, I will instantly and easily discover it. Please contact me if you are in anyway unclear about what constitutes plagiarism.

*Collusion* is defined as “the unauthorized collaboration with another in preparing work that is offered for credit”. In other words, unless something is a group project, you cannot work on it with anyone else, including classmates and/or acquaintances outside of UTA. You may however utilize The English Writing Center, The Student Success Program, and The IDEAS Center for help without my permission.

Further details about UTA’s academic dishonesty policies can be found here: <https://www.uta.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/academic-integrity>

**Extra credit:**

Research participation will serve as an extra credit opportunity (up to 2.5 points of extra credit worth one percentage point each can be earned for a total of 2.5%). An email announcement with further details for this opportunity will be sent out shortly.

**Accepting Consequences and Moving On**

Throughout your academic career, you will have exams and assignments on which you do more poorly than you would have liked. However, I do not let any students “retake” exams or assignments to “earn back” additional points.

### Expectations for Out-of-Class Study

Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional nine hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

## 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. –Mitchell A. Meltzer”*

***These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.***

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Lecture & Test** | **Reading** |
| July 13  July 14  July 15 | Course Introduction  Abnormal Behavior in Historical Context  An Integrative Approach to Psychopathology | Ch. 1 & 2  **Case Study #1 Posted at 10:30 AM on July 15** |
| July 19  July 20  July 21  July 22 | Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, and Research in Psychopathology  Anxiety, Trauma, and Stressor-Related and Obsessive=Compulsive and Related Disorders  Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders and Dissociative Disorders | Ch. 3, 4, & 5      **Case Study #1 Due at 10:30 AM on July 22** |
| July 26  July 27  July 28  July 29 | Exam 1 Review (July 26)  Mood Disorders and Suicide  Eating and Sleep-Wake Disorders | Ch. 6, 8, & 10  **Exam 1 (Ch 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5) on July 27**  **Case Study #2 Posted at 10:30 AM on July 29** |
| Eating and Sleep-Wake Disorders  Substance-Related, Addictive, and Impulse-Control Disorders |
| Aug 2  Aug 3  Aug 4  Aug 5 | Personality Disorders  Review for Exam 2 (Aug 3)  Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders | Ch. 11, 12, & 13        **Exam 2 (Ch 6, 8, 10, & 11) on Aug 4**  **Case Study #2 Due at 10:30 AM on**  **Aug 5** |
| Neurodevelopmental and Neurocognitive Disorders |
| Aug 9  Aug 10  Aug 11  Aug 12 | Physical Disorders and Health Psychology  Mental Health Services: Legal and Ethical Issues  Review for Exam 3 (Aug 11)  **Exam 3 (Ch 7, 12, 13, and 14) on Aug 12** | Ch. 7 & 14 |

## Institution 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

## Additional Information

### Attendance

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator of student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, Attendance will be taken on random dates by assessing how many students are signed in to view the live Microsoft Team meetings as they are happening. Any student who exits early will be counted as absent for the entire meeting. It is your responsibility to contact Dr. Meltzer with any questions you have about this policy or about how to access the Teams meetings. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report must the last date a student attended their class based on evidence 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.

### Student Success Programs

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring by appointment](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/learning-center/utsi/tutoring/index.php), [drop-in tutoring](https://www.uta.edu/ideas/services/index.php), [etutoring](https://www.etutoring.org/login.cfm?institutionid=388&returnPage), [supplemental instruction](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/learning-center/utsi/supplemental-instruction/index.php), [mentoring](https://www.uta.edu/ideas/services/mentoring/index.php) (time management, study skills, etc.), [success coaching](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/success-coaching.php), [TRIO Student Support Services](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/learning-center/sss/index.php), and [student success workshops](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/success-series-workshops.php). For additional information, please email [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the [Maverick Resources](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php) website.

**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 Department 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/)

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