

**Psychopathology**  
**EDP397 (Unique #10785), Fall, 2013**

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OFFICE HOURS: Arrange by email

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

1. APA (2013) DSM-V. Washington D.C.: APA.
2. Young, Jeffrey: Cognitive Therapy of Personality Disorders: A Schema-Focused Approach
3. Clipson, Clark R., & Steer, Jocelyn M. (1998). Case Studies in Abnormal Psychology. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co.
4. All other readings on blackboard.

**COURSE GOALS:**

1. Develop an integrative understanding of approaches to conceptualizing psychopathology and a familiarity with the most frequently encountered or extensively studied disorders.
2. Learn how to use the DSM-V to make diagnoses using all five axes.
3. Develop a critical understanding of the issues involved in the design and implementation of a diagnostic system. These include issues such as the advantages of discrete categories versus dimensions, the difficulties in applying a diagnostic system reliably, given our incomplete understanding of the nature of psychological disorders and the normal biases and information-processing distortions that diagnosticians (i.e., humans) are subject to.
4. Finally, I hope to sensitize you to the potential for de-humanization and other harms that psychopathologists and diagnostic systems may perpetuate.

**REQUIREMENTS:\***

1. Complete assigned readings and come to class prepared to discuss the topics assigned. Participate in class discussions in a way that shows understanding of readings, critical reflection, and respect for other class members (15% of grade).
2. Exam 1 (In class): Short essay questions covering material up through October 9 (25% of grade).
3. Exam 2 (In class): Short essay questions covering material up through November 20 (25% of grade).
4. Take home exam: Questions will be distributed the last day of class and are due on Dec 11. Questions will be broadly integrative and will incorporate material from throughout the semester. (20% of grade)
5. Three take-home diagnostic assignments: Diagnose cases (you will receive 1-2 page descriptions of each) along all 5 axes of the DSM-V and provide explanatory discussion of your thinking and of other options you considered. Due dates shown on course schedule: Oct 9, Nov 6, and Dec 9 (15% of grade).

*\*I also strongly encourage students to post discussion points on Blackboard regularly and to read classmates' posts. This will be especially important on weeks that you didn't get a chance to bring your points in as much as you would have liked.*

**DISABILITY SERVICES**

The University of Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY.

## DOING THE READINGS & PREPARING FOR EXAMS

As a general rule, exams will not cover information in the DSM but rather will focus on other readings. Prior to the exams I will give you a list of diagnostic categories that you should have some familiarity with and will also indicate how specific you will be expected to be on the exam. I do expect you to read assigned readings carefully and thoughtfully and to show understanding and an interest in applying that understanding and extrapolating and drawing implications from it. Much of this will come out in class discussions but I will also ask some exam questions requiring you to apply and draw implications from the readings. And while you should be able to summarize main points of readings for exams, I will be working very hard to make sure I am NOT asking you to recall DETAILS from these readings.

### Class Schedule

	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
August 28	Historical Perspectives: Benefits, & Dangers of Diagnostic Systems	Lilienfeld; Ch. 2: Rosenhan essay (not responsible for Spitzer rebuttal)
September 4	Conceptualizing "Normal and Abnormal" Personality and Diagnosing Mental Disorders	Schoch: "A Conversation with Kaiping Peng" Turk & Salovey: "Clinical Information-Processing.." Lilienfeld: Ch. 4: Kaplan essay (not rebuttal) Summary of changes DSM-IV-DSM-V (for reference) DSM-V: 'Preface' & 'Introduction' (read lightly)
September 11	Culture & Conceptualizations The DSM-V	Waters: "The Americanization..." Francis: Diagnosing the DSM DSM-V: 'Use of the Manual' & 'Cultural Formulations' (p. 749)
September 18	Anxiety Disorders	DSM-V: Anxiety Disorders chapter Clipson & Steer: Ch. 2 Washington Post: "Anti-anxiety drugs" Smith: "Nothing to Do but Embrace the Dread" Yeo: The Anti- Drug for Anxiety
September 25	Depressive Disorders	DSM-V: Depressive Disorders Ch. (focus on MDD) Moses & Barlow: "A New Unified Treatment..." Nemeroff: "The Neurobiology of Depression" Beck: "The Evolution of ..." (OPTIONAL)
October 2	Bipolar & Related Disorders  <i>Diagnostic Practice</i>	DSM-V: Bipolar & Related Disorders Ch. Clipson & Steer: Ch. 6 Kirsch et al.: "The Emperor's New..." (OPTIONAL) (bring DSM)
October 9	Alcohol & Substance Use Disorders Guest speaker: Dr. David Clemons	DSM-V: Substance-Related & Addictive Disorders Ch pp. 481-502 plus enough to see how chapter structured Bateson (read lightly) Clipson & Steer: Ch. 9

Obsessive-Compulsive and  
Related Disorders

DSM-V: Obsessive-Compulsive & Related Ch.  
Clipson & Steer, Ch. 3 (OCD info only on 2<sup>nd</sup> exam)  
Foa & Kozaks synopsis

*1<sup>st</sup> Diagnostic Assignment Due*

October 16	1 <sup>st</sup> Exam <i>Diagnostic Practice</i>
October 23	Disorders of Childhood Guest speaker: Dr. Nussbaum  Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
October 30	Posttraumatic Stress Disorder  <i>Diagnostic Practice</i>
November 6	Personality Disorders  <i>Diagnostic Practice</i>

*(bring DSM)*

DSM-V: Disorders of Childhood Chapter.

Herman Intro & Ch. 1-2

Herman Intro & Ch. 3  
DSM-V: Trauma-Related Disorders chapter  
Brewin & Holmes: "Psychological Theories..."  
*(bring DSM)*

DSM-V: Personality Disorders Ch. &  
"Alternative..." on P. 761  
Clipson & Steer: Ch. 12-13  
Wheelis & Gunderson: "A Little Cream (skim)"  
*(bring DSM)*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Diagnostic Assignment Due*

November 13	Personality Disorders
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L.S. Brown: "A Feminist Critique..."  
Young: Cognitive Therapy for Personality Disorders  
Wachtel: "Cyclical Processes..."

November 20	Schizophrenia
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DSM-V: Schizophrenic Spectrum Disorders chapter  
Clipson & Steer: Ch. 7  
Ely: "The Compassionate Therapist"  
Sledge et al: "Effectiveness of Peer Support"  
Longden: "Listening to Voices" (OPTIONAL)  
McGuffin & Morrison: "Schizophrenia" (OPTIONAL)

November 27	Thanksgiving week NO CLASS
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Hyman: "...The Problem of Reification"

December 4	2 <sup>nd</sup> Exam (In Class)
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*3rd Diagnostic Assignment Due December 9*  
*Take-home exam due December 11*