

Spring 2025

Psychopathology and Abnormal Psychology

PSYC 3140 | CRN 16410 | Section 002



The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.

Instructor

Matthew Babb, MA

mbabb4@gsu.edu

Email me directly, not through iCollege

Office: Urban Life 1206

Office Hours: 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm M/W

No appointment needed during these hours!

Show up to discuss course material, ask questions or discuss research!

Face-to-Face Meeting

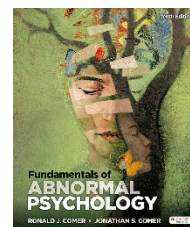
Location: Langdale Hall – Room 215

Day: Monday and Wednesday

Time: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Required Materials

Achieve Subscription: As part of this course, you are required to enroll in [Achieve](#) to complete various assignments and assessments such as chapter quizzes. **If you have not yet purchased it, wait until the first class and I will walk you through the process.** You will need this subscription to complete the course.



With your purchase of Achieve, you will also gain an electronic copy of the textbook. If you purchase Achieve, you do not need to also purchase a hard copy of the textbook unless you wish to do so. Once you purchase Achieve, follow the steps below and use my **CourseID** to join my course.

To purchase, go to this website and purchase the **Achieve Access** for ~\$85.00:

<https://store.macmillanlearning.com/us/product/Fundamentals-of-Abnormal-Psychology/p/1319247210>

Course ID: **zomveh**

Enroll in this course using one of the following options:

1. If you have an access code, select "I have a student access code", enter the code exactly as it appears on the card, and click Submit.
2. If you don't have an access code, either purchase a text package that includes one OR click "I want to purchase access" and follow the instructions.
3. If you need to start working but can't purchase right away, select "I want temporary Access" and follow the instructions. Please note: Your grades are linked to your Achieve account username (email address). If you use temporary access, make sure you purchase or register your code using the same email address for your paid access.

Spring 2025

If you have problems registering, purchasing, or logging in, please contact Customer Support: <https://mhe.my.site.com/macmillanlearning/s/chat-with-us>

You can reach a representative 7 days a week:

- Through the online form or chat
- By phone at (800) 936-6899

Textbook: Comer, R. J., & Comer, J. S. (2022). Fundamentals of abnormal psychology (10th ed.). New York, NY: Worth Publishers

iCollege: You also need to check iCollege for weekly updates and course materials. This is where you will submit weekly online reading quizzes and check your grade too.

Course Description

PSYC 3140 examines the defining characteristics, causes, and treatments of abnormal or maladaptive behaviors and psychopathology. This course will be more of an overview rather than a deep dive into one abnormal topic in particular. This course does emphasize current scientific research and theory underlying abnormal psychology within our sociocultural context. This class will be a lecture style course and the concepts taught in lectures will be assessed during in-class activities and other assessments.

Course Goals

Students will be able to use the science of psychology to:

Support wellbeing

1. Recognize when patterns of behavior suggest the presence of a psychological disorder
2. Apply theory of psychopathology to support one's own self-care
3. Summarize science-based treatments for psychological disorders
4. Use scholarly, scientific, and/or valid sources of information to answer questions about psychopathology and its treatment

Distinguish between scientific and popular notions of psychopathology

1. Summarize research literature on a variety of psychological disorders
2. Understand issues related to the classification and assessment of abnormal behavior.
3. Evaluate and dispel myths about mental illness and its treatment
4. Recognize and reduce the impact of stigma on psychopathology

Use critical thinking to apply the science and theory of psychopathology to "real world" behavior

1. Compare and contrast models of psychopathology
2. Recognize clinical presentations of psychological disorders, as defined by the DSM-5.
3. Recognize factors that support resilience in prevention/treatment of psychopathology
4. Describe how psychology's content applies to you and the world around you.

Spring 2025

Main Points of Syllabus

- **Grade Breakdown:** Participation (20%), Quizzes (20%), Workshops (30%)
Unit Exams (30%)
- **Exam Dates:** 1/29, 2/26, 3/12, 4/16, 4/23 (Final)

Prerequisites

- PSYC 1101 and/or equivalent with a C or higher

Degree Requirements

- Passing this class with a grade of C or higher is required to count toward your degree in Psychology. Failure to pass PSYC 3140 with a C or higher will prevent you from using the class toward your degree in Psychology and enrolling in any departmental courses for which PSYC 3140 is a prerequisite.

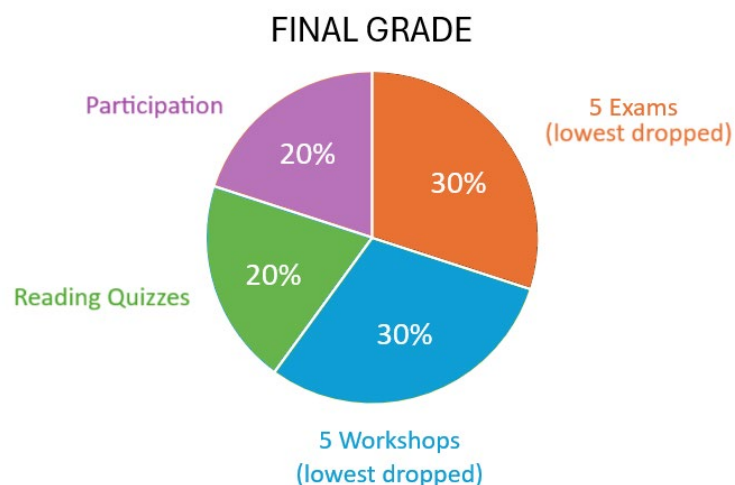
Contacting the Instructor

- You may reach me by email (mbabb4@gsu.edu) any time Monday through Friday and I will try to answer back to you within 24-48 hours. However, there are some exceptions to this rule:
 - I do not answer emails after 5 pm
 - I do not answer emails on weekends or holidays
 - I only answer to official GSU emails (E.g., student@student.gsu.edu)
 - Do not contact me regarding issues with Achieve, I cannot help you as well as they can, so please reach out to them at least twice before emailing me.

Course Organization and Schedule

- Lectures occur on Monday and Wednesdays in Langdale Hall – Room 215
- Reading quizzes are due every Monday by 11:59pm

Your Grade and Assessments



Spring 2025

Exams (30%): This class we will have **five (5) exams**, including the cumulative final exam. **Your lowest exam grade will be dropped from your final grade.** This means that if you are content with your grade going into the Final Exam, you do not have to take it. However, please do not rely on having a dropped exam as a reason not to take it early on. This also means that **make-up exams will not be given out under any circumstances**. Should you need to miss an exam due to unforeseen circumstances or any complications, that exam will count as your dropped exam grade. If you have multiple emergencies that cause you to miss more than one exam, see the Make-up policy below for how to handle this.

This class has one final exam on April 23rd, 2025 @ 11:00am in Langdale Hall Room 215 (our normal class meeting spot). This Exam will be cumulative for the entire course and will cover material from all Units. This exam will take place during our normal scheduled time on the last day of class. Because the Final Exam can be dropped, there will be no make-up final exams given out.

All exams will be taken in class during a normal class period and will be hand-written.

Reading Quizzes (20%): You will be quizzed on your reading and lecture material. There are a total of **14 reading quizzes**, one for each unit and a syllabus quiz. All of these quizzes can be accessed through the Chapter module on iCollege. Some are directly on iCollege while others are through the Achieve platform.

The quizzes open at the start of the unit and will close on their due date. You will be allowed to retake quizzes as many times as possible before the deadline, which means you can score a 100 on every quiz. Your two lowest reading quizzes will be dropped from your final grade; therefore, there will be NO make-up options for a quiz once the deadline passes (See make-up policy).

Workshops (30%): There will be **five (5) workshops**, one for each unit, throughout the semester. The purpose of these workshops is to give you practice for the unit exams and final exam. These workshops require more time than the quizzes, so be sure to start early. Unlike the reading quizzes, you only have one attempt to submit the workshop and your answers will be graded on correctness. However, I am more than happy to give help and answer questions about the workshops in office hours.

Workshops open immediately after the first lecture of the unit at 12:15 pm and must be submitted by 11:59 pm on the night of the unit exam. I recommend starting early and working through them slowly throughout the weeks for good practice before the unit exam. Your lowest workshop grade will be dropped from your final grade and thus there will be **no make-up options** for assignments (See make-up policy).

As with all parts of this class, the use of generative AI (i.e., ChatGPT) is prohibited on these workshops. Please do your best on these assignments and give effort. They are the best way to put the skills you learn in lecture to the test!

The five workshops are as follows. For more details, see the assignments on iCollege.

Workshop 1: Defining Abnormality

Workshop 2: Mock Psychiatrist

Workshop 3: Practice Exam questions

Workshop 4: Movie Diagnosis

Workshop 5: Final Exam Study Guide

Spring 2025

Participation (20%): I believe the best way to succeed in a class and learn the material is to show up and give effort. Therefore, I will be rewarding participation as a part of your final grade. My hope is that everyone receives a 100 on their final participation grade. Participation is **based on effort not correctness**. To assess participation, each class will have at least 3 in-class activities per lecture dispersed throughout the class period. To receive full credit for the day you must answer all 3 questions. There are a total of 21 classes, but to receive a 100 on participation, you only need to be present for 18 classes which allows you to miss some classes for extenuating circumstances.

Most questions will be answerable via a Google Form link that is provided in class. If you are caught answering these questions for another classmate, that is classified as Academic Dishonesty, and if caught, you will receive a 0 on participation for the day. You must be present in the classroom to answer the questions. If you are caught answering questions from outside the classroom, you will receive a 0 on participation for the day.

Additional Practice (0%; for your own practice): I will also be posting additional content on iCollege that can be accessed through the Achieve platform. These materials include videos to get you thinking about the material and practice quizzes that will give you questions that will be similar to the exams. This material is completely optional and is only there to provide additional practice for those that want it! Keep in mind, **Achieve will give you a due date and a grade for these assignments but they do not count toward your final grade!**

Grading Scale

| Grade Percentage | Points [Total: 1000] | Letter Grade | Grade Points |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 97 - 100 | 970 - 1000 | A+ | 4.3 |
| 93 - 96.9 | 930 - 969 | A | 4.0 |
| 90 - 92.9 | 900 - 929 | A- | 3.7 |
| 87 - 89.9 | 870 - 899 | B+ | 3.3 |
| 83 - 86.9 | 830 - 869 | B | 3.0 |
| 80 - 82.9 | 800 - 829 | B- | 2.7 |
| 77 - 79.9 | 770 - 799 | C+ | 2.3 |
| 73 - 76.9 | 730 - 769 | C | 2.0 |
| 70 - 72.9 | 700 - 729 | C- | 1.7 |
| 60 - 69.9 | 600 - 699 | D | 1.0 |
| 0 - 59.9 | 0 - 599 | F | 0.0 |

Spring 2025

Class Schedule

| January | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---|--|
| Week | Date | Class | Assignment Due |
| 1 | 1/13 | Introduction to Course and Syllabus | |
| | 1/15 | Chapter 1: Abnormal Psych Past and Present Workshop 1 opens after class | Syllabus Quiz due 11:59pm |
| 2 | 1/20 | **No Class** MLK day | |
| | 1/22 | Chapter 2: Models of Abnormality | |
| 3 | 1/27 | Chapter 3: Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, Treatment | Reading Quiz 1-3 due 11:59pm |
| | 1/29 | Exam 1 in class Chapters 1-3 | Workshop 1 due 11:59pm |
| February | | | |
| 4 | 2/3 | Chapter 4: Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive, Related Disorders Workshop 2 opens after class | |
| | 2/5 | Chapter 5: Disorders of Trauma and Stress | |
| 5 | 2/10 | **No Class** | |
| | 2/12 | Chapter 6: Depressive and Bipolar Disorders | Reading Quiz 4-5 due 11:59pm |
| 6 | 2/17 | Chapter 6: Depressive and Bipolar Disorders | |
| | 2/19 | Chapter 7: Suicide | |
| 7 | 2/24 | Exam 2 Review | Reading Quiz 6, 7 due 11:59pm |
| | 2/26 | Exam 2 in class Chapters 4-7 | Workshop 2 due 11:59pm |
| March | | | |
| 8 | 3/3 | Chapter 9: Eating Disorders Workshop 3 opens after class | Mid-Semester Evaluations due 11:59pm Responses = Anonymous |
| | | | |

Spring 2025

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|--------------|------|---|--|
| | 3/4 | Withdrawal Date! <i>Withdraw by today to receive a W instead of WF</i> | |
| | 3/5 | Chapter 10: Substance Use and Addictive Disorders | |
| 9 | 3/10 | Chapter 10: Substance Use and Addictive Disorders | Reading Quiz 9-10 due 11:59pm |
| | 3/12 | Exam 3 in class Chapters 9-11 | Workshop 3 due 11:59pm |
| 10 | 3/17 | **No Class** Spring Break | |
| | 3/19 | **No Class** Spring Break | |
| 11 | 3/24 | Chapter 11: Sexual Disorders and Gender Variations Workshops 4 opens after class | |
| | 3/26 | Chapter 12: Schizophrenia and Related Disorders | |
| 12 | 3/31 | Chapter 12: Schizophrenia and Related Disorders | |
| | 4/2 | Chapter 13: Personality Disorders | |
| April | | | |
| 13 | 4/7 | Chapter 13: Personality Disorders | |
| | 4/9 | Chapter 14/15: Developmental Disorders Workshops 5 opens after class | |
| 14 | 4/14 | Exam 4 Review | Reading Quiz 11, 12, 13, 14/15 due 11:59pm |
| | 4/16 | Exam 4 in class Chapters 12-15 | Workshop 4 due 11:59pm |
| 15 | 4/21 | Final Exam Review – Virtual Review | |
| | 4/23 | **Final Exam** in Class @11:00am ** | Workshop 5 due 11:59pm |

Spring 2025

Course Policy

Late Policy

Reading quizzes **cannot** be submitted late. Failure to complete these assignments by the due date will result in a 0 for that given assignment. Workshops can be submitted **up to 5 days late**. For each day the Workshops is late, I will deduct 10% from the final grade. If a Workshop is submitted more than 5 days after the original due date, you will receive a 0 for that assignment.

Make-up Policy

Once the due date for each assignment, including reading quizzes, workshops, and unit exams have passed there will be **NO make-up options available**. I will be dropping your lowest two reading quizzes, your lowest exam grade, and your lowest workshop grade, so if you miss one because of an unexpected event, such as an accident or illness, it will not count against you. If you have multiple emergencies that cause you to miss more than one exam, I will need to see documentation of the emergency via e-mail **within 24 hours** of the exam. Such documentation must not contain any personal medical or legal information. If I can confirm that you missed the exam for a valid reason, you *may* be able to take an alternative assessment. Fraudulent documentation of excuses is academic dishonesty and will be reported to the College of Arts and Sciences.

Withdrawals

You may withdraw from this class at any point prior to **March 4th, 2025** in order to receive a W for your grade. Dropping the course after this date will result as a WF on your transcript. (Note: A grade of WF is treated as an F for GPA calculation purposes).

Late to Class Policy

To avoid disruption, if you arrive to Langdale Hall Room 215 after 11:00 am, please use the back door which will be open and unlocked. The front door will be locked starting at 11:00 am.

Rounding Policy

All grades are final and no rounding of final grades will occur.

Course Evaluation

One of my main goals as a professor is to improve my teaching ability. To do this, it is critically important that you help provide me with feedback about my course. We will have two course evaluations, one in the middle of the semester and one at the end of the semester. If over 80% of the class completes the mid-semester evaluation, I will add several bonus points to one of everyone's exam scores.

AI Policy

You are not allowed to use generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT and others) for any work in this course, including both graded and ungraded work. Prohibited AI usage includes idea or text generation, writing or revising your work, development of media assets, or data analysis and presentation. Should you engage in this infraction, you will be reported for academic dishonesty, see further below for possible consequences.

Spring 2025

Academic Honesty

All students are expected to know and follow the policies for academic honesty that is published in the GSU Student Handbook Code of Conduct. You may obtain a copy of this handbook online at <https://studenthandbook.gsu.edu>. You are expected to know the University's standards of academic honesty and are responsible for abiding by these standards. Lack of knowledge of these standards is not an acceptable defense for academic misconduct.

Plagiarism: Presenting another person's work as your own, whether or not doing so was intentional - please see the Psychology Department definition of plagiarism below.

Cheating on examinations: Giving or receiving unauthorized help before, during, or after an examination.

Unauthorized collaboration: Submitting academic work, whole or in part, as your individual effort when it has been developed in collaboration with another person or source.

Falsification: Misrepresenting material or fabricating information in order to gain an unfair advantage over others.

Multiple submissions: Submitting the same work, whole or in part, for credit more than once without the explicit consent of the faculty member(s) to whom the material is submitted.

Fraud: e.g. Providing a falsified excuse form or signing in for an attendance recording for another student when he/she is absent.

All members of this class are expected to report violations of academic conduct to the appropriate authorities. The penalty for academic misconduct in this course will be a failing grade on the assignment in question. Signing in for another student for the purpose of attendance is also against the GSU Student Handbook Code of Conduct. The penalty for signing in for another student is a failing grade for the Participation portion of your grade, no matter how many times the infraction occurs.

GSU Department of Psychology Definition of Plagiarism

If a student uses or relies on others' work in preparing any academic materials (e.g. written assignments, posters, presentations) the student must cite the source correctly according to the directions provided by the instructor. Failure to do so is plagiarism. Copying and pasting even part of a sentence or phrase is plagiarism, even when the source is cited correctly. Paraphrasing a source in a way that copies the phrase or sentence structure of a source is also plagiarism. To avoid plagiarism, students are expected to properly paraphrase others' ideas.

Quotes in scientific writing should only be used when the wording of the original source is critical to the student's argument. Whether quoting is appropriate in a given instance is at the discretion of the instructor, not the student.

Accommodations for Disabled Students

Students who wish to request accommodation for a disability may do so by registering with the Access and Accommodation Center. Students may only be accommodated upon issuance by the Access and Accommodation Center of a signed Accommodation Plan and are responsible for providing a copy of that plan to instructors of all classes in which accommodations are sought. This policy also applies to pregnant students.

Policy on Sexual Misconduct

Spring 2025

In instances of sexual misconduct, the present instructor(s) and teaching assistants, are designated as Responsible Employees who are required to share with administrative officials all reports of sexual misconduct for university review. If you wish to disclose an incident of sexual misconduct confidentially, there are options on campus for you do so. For more information on this policy, please refer to the Sexual Misconduct Policy which is included in the Georgia State University Student Code of Conduct (<http://codeofconduct.gsu.edu/>).

Student Records for FERPA

Faculty are expected to handle student information in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99), a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. Unless a student is legally dependent, the university is prohibited by FERPA from releasing student account information to a parent or guardian or other unauthorized third party without the student's consent. Faculty may not divulge grades, enrollment, medical information, etc. to an unauthorized third party (including parents) without a signed waiver from the student. Faculty can access additional information through [Student Records/FERPA](#). Students who wish to authorize an individual to have access to their student records should complete the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Waiver in the Dean of Students office.