

Visit the Psychology Handbook @ [www. http://www.scar.utoronto.ca/~lifesci/psych-handbook/](http://www.scar.utoronto.ca/~lifesci/psych-handbook/)

University of Toronto at Scarborough
Department of Life Sciences

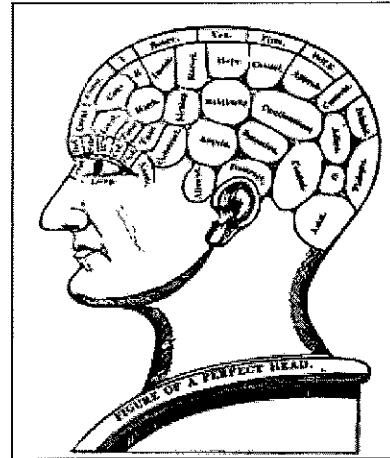
Abnormal Psychology

Psych B32

Wednesday's 7-10 pm, H216
Professor Guy Proulx
Office Hours: Wednesday's 5:30–6:30pm
Office Locations: S-Wing 564
Teaching Assistant: Diana Jovanovski
E-mail: diana.jovanovski@utoronto.ca
Course Website:

<https://intranet.utsc.utoronto.ca>

Log in with your UTSC login and password, then select “Courses” then “Psychology” then “PSYB32”



Overview of Abnormal Psychology

Throughout history, whether a person's behavior is labeled abnormal often has depended on the cultural norms for appropriate behavior and the gender and ethnicity of the person. Current definitions of abnormality focus on **the person's ability to function in daily life** and his or her **level of distress and grasp of reality**. Many biological and psychological tests are used to assess people's functioning and well-being. The information gathered in these tests is compared to criteria for diagnosing psychological disorders provided in guidebooks such as the DSM. Several modern biological and psychological theories provide different ways of understanding and treating people with psychological disorders. Most disorders appear to be influenced both by biological and psychosocial factors, and theories integrating these factors have proven most useful in understanding and treating abnormality.

The disorders that we will look at in detail involve maladaptive and distressing emotions, thoughts, cognitive deficits and behaviors, that are often chronic and pervade every aspect of people's lives. For example, people with anxiety disorders and mood disorders frequently experience extreme emotional distress that severely interferes with their ability to function in life. Biology, stressful experiences, and maladaptive ways of thinking all appear to contribute to the anxiety and mood disorders. Fortunately, there are several effective biological and psychosocial treatments for these disorders. In addition, psychosis is a loss of touch with reality, and is the hallmark of the disorder called schizophrenia. Schizophrenia probably has strong biological roots, but can be influenced by environmental stress. Moreover, people with

personality disorders maintain a consistent personality style, but it is a highly maladaptive style for them and for people around them. Substance use disorders similarly involve specific maladaptive behaviors and can have negative effects in many domains of life. Finally, cognitive disorders that are progressive in nature (e.g., Alzheimer's disease, frontotemporal dementia, progressive aphasia, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, progressive supranuclear palsy, and multiple sclerosis) can have crippling effects and are becoming ever more prevalent given the burgeoning elderly population.

After reviewing the aforementioned disorders and understanding the nature of methodology, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment, it is hoped that this course will better able the student to answer the question "what is abnormality?"

Important Notes:

Every effort will be made to post the overheads on the course web-page prior to each lecture. However, on occasion, overheads will be posted following the lecture should there be any server problems (which has happened in the past).

Also, please note that if for any reason (e.g., unexpected illness) a lecture is cancelled because of an unforeseen circumstance, students are still responsible for the material that was to be presented in the lecture.

Textbook:

Abnormal Psychology An Integrative Approach (First Canadian Edition) 2006

By: David H. Barlow, V. Mark Durand, and Sherry H. Stewart

Grading Scheme:

(1) First Examination worth 25% of your final grade

- *Your 1st examination will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions.*

(2) Second Examination worth 25% of your final grade

- *Your 2nd examination will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions.*

(3) Third Examination worth 25% of your final grade

- *Your 3rd examination will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions.*

(4) Your Final Examination is worth 25% of your final grade

- *Your final examination will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions.*

2005 Summer Session – Important Dates

May 9	Classes begin in Y courses.
May 23	Victoria Day -- University closed.
	Last day to add Y and F courses.
June 12	Last day to drop F courses without academic penalty.*
June 20	Last day of classes in F courses. Last day for submission of term assignments in F courses.
June 21	Classes begin in S June-August courses.
June 28-July 1	Reading Week. (Classes continue on other campuses.)
July 1	Canada Day -- University closed.
July 4	Classes resume in Y & S courses.
July 10	Last day to add S courses.
July 24	Last day to drop Y courses without academic penalty.*
August 1	Civic holiday -- University closed.
	Last day to drop S courses without academic penalty.*
	Last day to confirm intention to graduate at the Fall Convocation
August 8	Last day of classes and last day for submission of term assignments in S & Y courses.
August 9 - 12	Study Break.
August 15 - 26	Final examinations in Y & S courses. 2005 Winter deferred examinations.
November 14-17	The UTSC Fall Convocation will take place between these dates.

***NOTE:** Students with a disability/health consideration are encouraged to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office @287-7560. They can also drop by the office, S302B, inside the Resource Centre. The Coordinator is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations.

Lecture Dates & Readings:

May 11, 2005: Welcome; Course Overview and first two chapters and Requirements

Readings: Chapter 1: Abnormal Behaviour in Historical Context
Chapter 2: An Integrative Approach to Psychology

May 18, 2005:

Readings: Chapter 3: Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis
Chapter 4: Research Methods

May 25, 2005: First Examination worth 25% of your final grade

*Your examination will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions.
It will cover the following Chapters from your textbook:*

- Chapters 1-4

June 1, 2005:

Readings: Chapter 5: Anxiety Disorders

June 8, 2005:

Readings: Chapter 6: Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders
Chapter 7: Mood Disorders

June 15, 2005:

Readings: Chapter 8: Eating and Sleep Disorders
Chapter 9: Physical Disorders and Health Psychology

June 22, 2005: Second Examination worth 25% of your final grade

*Your examination will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions.
It will cover the following Chapters from your textbook:*

- Chapters 5-9

June 28-July 1, 2005: Reading Week

July 6, 2005:

Readings: Chapter 10: Sexual Disorders and Gender Identity Disorder
Chapter 11: Substance Related Disorders

July 13, 2005:

Readings: Chapter 12: Personality Disorders
Chapter 13: Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders

July 20, 2005: Third Examination worth 25% of your final grade

*Your examination will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions.
It will cover the following Chapters from your textbook:*

- Chapters 10-13

June 27, 2005:

Readings: Chapter 14: Developmental Disorders
Chapter 16: Mental Health Services: Legal and Ethical Issues

August 3, 2005:

Readings: *Chapter 15: Cognitive Disorders*

August 8-12: Study Week

August 15-26: Final Examination Period

Your Final Examination is worth 25% of your final grade and will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions from the following chapters:

- Chapters 14-16

As soon as they are finalized, examination schedules are posted on the web at:
<http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/registrar>

The date of posting is normally no later than:
2004 August examination period: Mid-July
2004 December examination period: Mid-November
2005 April examination period: Mid-March