



Current Issues in Clinical Psychology (PSYD33 – Fall 2018)

Instructor: Lisa Fiksenbaum, Ph.D

Class Time and Location: Thursdays 3:00-5:00pm in SW316

Office Hours and Location: By Appointment

Email: lisa.fiksenbaum@utoronto.ca

Email Policy

- Be sure to include the course code (PSYD33) in the subject line and state your full name and student number
- I will do my best to answer your emails within 48 hours during *weekdays*, but expect a longer delay if you email me between Friday afternoon and Sunday evening.
- If you have questions that can't be answered briefly via email, it is best to discuss your question in person
- Please do not email me the night before an assignment is due. If you email me within 48 hours of a class or due date, I may not be able to respond to you in time.

** Please note: Course announcements will be made through Blackboard. Students are responsible for monitoring the course website regularly for important announcements and updates. **

Prerequisites: PSYB32H3 plus one C-level half-credit in PSY

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

The main objective of this course is to deepen your understanding in the area of adult psychopathology by reviewing concepts, theories, controversies, and empirical findings. The course will emphasize descriptive psychopathology looking at issues of etiology, classification, and larger social and cultural factors, and less on treatment. The first part of the course will examine the key issues, ideas, and concepts in psychopathology, providing students with a set of conceptual tools that will help them read more thoroughly and critically the second half of the course, which focuses on current controversies with the DSM-5.

Weekly based seminars will focus on examining key issues related to psychopathology. Through class discussions of the readings, you will develop an attitude of critical thinking that includes open mindedness, intellectual engagement, skepticism, tolerance for ambiguity and socio-cultural considerations.

Course Participation

A list of required readings that will be made available to you each week. It is imperative that you carefully read the required materials **before** coming to class. The course will be interactive and

its success is dependent upon your preparation, involvement and discussion. Each week, students will be responsible for providing well-composed discussion questions about the readings to stimulate reactions and critical thought. **You must post your discussion questions to Blackboard by Monday at 6pm.** The entire class will be continuously assessed for level of class participation, critical thinking and command of the reading material.

Required Readings

Required course readings will be made available through Blackboard.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Define and describe psychiatric disorders and psychological distress in a multicultural world
- Demonstrate an understanding of the current edition of the DSM
- Critically discuss existing issues and controversies associated with the current edition of the DSM
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of theoretical and empirical research findings from biological, socio-cultural, and psychological perspectives concerning the causes and treatment of the major psychological disorders

Course Requirements

For this course, you will be expected to lead one class discussion (described above), complete one term paper and prepare an oral presentation. There will also be a mid-term exam, and you will be assessed on your participation throughout the course. Please note that there are NO opportunities for extra credit to improve your grade at any time during this course or once the course is over.

Term Paper: 35%

Term Paper Proposal: 5%

Oral Presentation: 15%

Mid-term Exam: 25%

Class Attendance & Participation: 10%

Discussion Questions: 5%

Peer Evaluation of Student Presentations: 5%

1. Class Attendance and Participation (10%): This seminar style course involves a great deal of group discussion. Much of your learning will come from your own reading and discussion with classmates. Each week you should come to class prepared with comments and questions about issues from the readings that caught your attention. By preparing discussion questions in advance as well as responding to other students' comments, everyone in the class should have something to contribute. Your grade will be based not only on the quantity of your participation but also the quality - your contributions in class should demonstrate that you have gone through the assigned readings carefully and given them some thought, both individually and in relation to each other.

2. Discussion Questions (5%): You will be asked to read two or three journal articles each week. To help you think about these readings, I will ask you to prepare a discussion question (or comment) concerning each reading (beginning in Week 2). Questions are to be submitted on QUERCUS the day before class (by 6pm) and will be evaluated using a simple three point scale (1 = needs improvement, 2 = good, 3= excellent). Questions will be considered 'good' if they demonstrate that you read and thought about the material; excellent questions will be outstanding and show exceptional critical thinking or creative insight. I will not be returning the graded questions to you – I will only give you specific feedback if I find questions/comments that need improvement. The questions should also serve as a stimulus for class discussion. Although we may not get a chance to cover every discussion question, your credit will not depend on whether we discuss your questions in class. Please note that responses submitted after 6pm on the Wednesday before class will receive an automatic grade of “0”. You have one opportunity during the semester to not submit reading responses for a given week, no questions asked.

Term Paper

The DSM-5 has been fraught with a number of controversies. Your term paper will involve researching a major controversy with the DSM-5, psychopathology and clinical process. You will be asked to do three things: 1) thoroughly review the background literature around this controversy, 2) discuss clinical implications of your findings, and 3) suggest future directions in research. On the last day of class, you will hand in a 10 to 12 page paper, double spaced, 12 font, 1”margins, with no limit to the number of references you use. Most of your references will be empirical studies from peer-reviewed journals, however additional references in the form of books, reviews, analyses and critiques will also prove beneficial.

Prior to submission of the paper, please submit a proposal (worth 5% of your grade) outlining the topic, clarifying both the controversy and your thesis, the basic structure of the paper (e.g., which arguments you will consider), and noting why this topic is significant to the field of clinical science (the proposal will be approximately 1-2 pages). You should submit your proposal/outline no later than October 4. The final paper, which is due on the last day of classes, will be graded based on depth of thinking, clarity of arguments, ability to analyze and synthesize a range of resources in order to develop your own position, and organization.

Oral Presentation

You will each conduct an in-class PowerPoint presentation based on the topic covered in your paper. This presentation will be 30 minutes in length followed by a question and answer period. The presentation will be graded based on clarity of the arguments presented, structure and organization, ability to integrate multiple perspectives yet still present a clear thesis, and evidence of understanding of the complexities of the issue. **Please submit a hard copy of the slides to the instructor on the day of your presentation.** In addition, please assign the class one or two readings that are pertinent to your topic no later than the Friday before your presentation.

Mid-Term Exam

The mid-term will cover material presented in lectures (including power point and video presentations) and related course readings. The midterm will be composed of material from

weeks 1-5 and will include multiple choice and short answer. No study aids will be permitted during the test.

Peer Evaluation of Student Presentations

For each presentation, students will rate their peers using the evaluation form that will be posted on Blackboard. In addition to filling out the evaluation forms for each speaker, each student will be required to come up with at least one thoughtful question or comment. While students will put their names on the evaluation form, this information will not be shared with the presenter. Instead a tally of the numbers and summary of the comments may be available to the speaker, if requested.

Weekly Topics, Readings, and Important Dates

Week	Date	Topic
1.	September 6	Introduction, review of syllabus. Conceptions of Psychopathology http://caleblack.com/psy4753_files/Maddux%20Winstead.pdf https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2242426/ https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/phpr.12025
2.	September 13	The Role of Gender, Culture, and Class in Psychopathology https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1002/9780470939383.ch4 The Role of Rumination in Psychopathology: A Review Study Roya Raeisizadeh ¹ and Kourosh Mohammadi <u>Culture and Psychopathology: A Guide To Clinical Assessment</u> https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352250X15002924 https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyt.2018.00366/full https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Wingfai_Kwok/publication/260644901_Is_there_evidence_that_social_class_at_birth_increases_risk_of_psychosis_A_systematic_review/links/54bd86e0cf218da9391b36f.pdf
3.	September 20	Classification and Diagnosis: Historical Development and Contemporary Issues https://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/doi/full/10.1176/appi.ajp.2010.09091379 Eysenck, H. J. (1986). A critique of contemporary classification and diagnosis. In T. Millon & G. L. Klerman (Eds.), <i>Contemporary</i>

		<p><i>directions in psychopathology: Toward the DSM-IV</i> (pp. 73-98). New York, NY, US: Guilford Press.</p> <p>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5154554/</p> <p>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29211974</p>
4.	September 27	<p>Psychological Assessment and Clinical Judgment</p> <p>https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Steven_Lopez/publication/20478434_Patient_Variable_Biases_in_Clinical_Judgment_Conceptual_Overview_and_Methodological_Considerations/links/5568874108aefcb861d55561/Patient-Variable-Biases-in-Clinical-Judgment-Conceptual-Overview-and-Methodological-Considerations.pdf</p> <p>http://emilkirkegaard.dk/en/wp-content/uploads/The-meta-analysis-of-clinical-judgment-project-effects-of-experience-on-judgment-accuracy.pdf</p> <p>https://cls.unc.edu/files/2014/06/1.-Youngstrom-Choukas-Bradley-Calhoun-Jensen-Doss-2014-Clinical-Guide-to-EBA.pdf</p>
5.	October 4 Paper Proposal Due	<p>Legal and Ethical Issues</p> <p>https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev-clinpsy-021815-093006</p> <p>https://www.cpa.ca/docs/File/Ethics/CPA_Code_2017_4thEd.pdf</p>
6.	October 11	READING WEEK – NO CLASS
7.	October 18	Mid-Term Exam
8.	October 25	Review of Exam and 1:1 meetings with students to discuss presentations and final paper
9.	November 1	Student Presentations – DSM-5 Controversy
10.	November 8	Student Presentations – DSM-5 Controversy
11.	November 15	Student Presentations – DSM-5 Controversy
12.	November 22	Student Presentations – DSM-5 Controversy
13.	November 29 Final Paper Due	Student Presentations – DSM-5 Controversy

(Please note: The class schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances)

Notes: Deadline to drop courses without academic penalty and have it removed from your transcript (November 17)

The Writing Centre:

Your performance in this class will depend in large part upon your ability to communicate clearly and effectively. The Writing Centre supports student learning at any stage in the writing

process, from planning an outline to polishing a final draft. Their services include online resources, drop-in hours, one-to-one consultations, and writing workshops. Additional information can be found at: <http://ctl.utsc.utoronto.ca/twc/main>

Plagiarism

Please review this website which describes tips on how not to plagiarize:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>.

You will submit your final written report to the turnitin.com site. Turnitin.com is a tool that assists in detecting textual similarities between compared works (i.e., it is an electronic resource that assists in the detection and deterrence of plagiarism). Detailed instructions on setting up your account can be found at <http://www.turnitin.com>.

The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

You must submit an electronic copy of your final paper through Turnitin.com. All submissions midnight or later will be counted as late submissions. Steps for you to set up your own account and submit papers are described on this web site:

<http://www.teaching.utoronto.ca/teaching/academicintegrity/turnitin/guide-students.htm>

AccessAbility Statement

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services as soon as possible.

AccessAbility Services staff (located in Rm SW302, Science Wing) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations 416-287-7560 or email ability@utsc.utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Video and Auditory Recording:

For reasons of privacy as well as protection of copyright, unauthorized video or audio recording in classrooms is prohibited. This is outlined in the Provost's guidelines on Appropriate Use of Information and Communication Technology. Note, however, that these guidelines include the provision that students may obtain consent to record lectures and, "in the case of private use by students with disabilities, the instructor's consent must not be unreasonably withheld."

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
- Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test.
- Misrepresenting your identity

In academic work:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources (see <http://www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/>).

Policies for this Course Regarding Grading, Late Assignments and Missed Presentations:

Grading:

Any complaint about grading on any course evaluation should be made *in writing within one week* of receiving the graded material and should detail the point of contention.

Missed Term Work due to Medical Illness or Emergency:

All students citing a documented reason for missed term work should be instructed to bring their documentation to Course Coordinator in SW427C for verification and tracking purposes. In the case of medical illness for a **term test**, only original copies of the official [UTSC Verification of Illness Form](#) will be accepted. Scanned copies will only be accepted in urgent circumstances, and students will need to present the original copy at a later date. In the case of medical illness for an **assignment**, both the [hardcopy](#) and [web-based](#) UTSC Self-Declaration of Student Illness Form must be completed in order to be accepted in place of the verification of illness form. Other acceptable documentation for missed term work include: record of visit to an emergency room, a copy of a death certificate, a note from a mental health professional (on letterhead), a note from a Varsity/Olympic coach, or an email from a UTSC Accessibility Services. Documents covering the following situations are NOT acceptable: anything related to personal travel, medical prescriptions, weddings/personal/work commitments. All documents must be submitted within 3 business days of the missed test or assignment. The documentation MUST cover the date of the term test or assignment due date.

For missed assignments, the course coordinator will send an email to the student and their course instructor(s) detailing the affected date(s). **Course instructors must respond within three business days**, stating what accommodations will be made (if any). This response should be sent to both the student and the course coordinator.

For missed term tests, the course coordinator will compile a list of students with valid documentation, and send this list to the instructor four business days after the term test. Makeup term tests should be scheduled **at least one week after the original term test**. Details for the makeup should be both emailed to the students affected (cc: course coordinator), and **announced on Quercus** along with a statement that only students who submitted their “Request for Missed Term Work Accommodations” forms should attend.

It is within the jurisdiction of the course instructor to decide how the student should be accommodated for missed term work. The [Academic Handbook](#) stipulates that make-up tests should be offered to students who missed a term test for legitimate reasons. It also discourages applying late penalties in legitimate circumstances (see below for relevant policies). Accommodations should be clearly outlined in the syllabus. **NOTE:** For assignments that are due on the last day to submit term work, the maximum allowed extension is 5 business days, with the approval of the Chair. Any extensions beyond this would require the student to submit a [petition](#).

This departmental policy only applies to *missed* assignments and term tests. If a student attempted a term test or assignment, they should not be given another opportunity to write/submit work based on documentation submitted after the fact. Missed final exams will continue to be handled by the [Registrar’s Office](#).

All students citing a documented reason for missed term work must bring their documentation to the Psychology Course Coordinator in SW427C **within three (3) business days** of the assignment due date. You must bring the following:

- (1.) A completed Request for Missed Term Work form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>), and
- (2.) Appropriate documentation to verify your illness or emergency, as described below.

Appropriate Documentation:

For missed **TERM TESTS** due to ILLNESS:

- Submit an **original** copy of the official UTSC Verification of Illness Form (<http://uoft.me/UTSC-Verification-Of-Illness-Form>) or an **original** copy of the record of visitation to a hospital emergency room. Forms are to be completed in full, clearly indicating the start date, anticipated end date, and severity of illness. The physician’s registration number and business stamp are required.

For missed **ASSIGNMENTS** due to ILLNESS:

- Submit **both** (1.) a **hardcopy** of the Self-Declaration of Student Illness Form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-self-declare-form>), and (2.) the **web-based** departmental declaration form (<http://uoft.me/PSY-self-declare-web>).

For missed term tests or assignments in OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES:

- In the case of a **death of a family member**, a copy of a death certificate should be provided.

- In the case of a **disability-related concern**, an email from your Disability Consultant at AccessAbility Services should be sent directly to both the Course Coordinator (psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca) and your instructor, detailing the accommodations required.
- For U of T Varsity **athletic commitments**, an email from your coach or varsity administrator should be sent directly to the Course Coordinator (psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca), detailing the dates and nature of the commitment. The email should be sent **well in advance** of the missed work.

Documents covering the following situations are **NOT acceptable**: medical prescriptions, personal travel, weddings, or personal/work commitments.

Procedure:

Submit your (1.) [request form](#) and (2.) [medical/self-declaration](#)/other documents in person **WITHIN 3 BUSINESS DAYS** of the missed term test or assignment.

Submit to: Course Coordinator, Room SW427C, Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 4 PM

If you are unable to meet this deadline for some reason, you must contact the Course Coordinator via email (psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca) within the three business day window. Exceptions to the documentation deadline will only be made under exceptional circumstances.

Within approximately one week, you will receive an email response from the Course Instructor / Course Coordinator detailing the accommodations to be made (if any). You are responsible for checking your official U of T email and Quercus course announcements daily, as accommodations may be time-critical.

Completion of this form does NOT guarantee that accommodations will be made. The course instructor reserves the right to decide what accommodations (if any) will be made. **Failure to adhere to any aspect of this policy may result in a denial of your request for accommodation.**

Note that this policy applies only to missed assignments and term tests. Missed final exams are handled by the Registrar's Office (<http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/registrar/missing-examination>).

Late Assignments:

If you do not have legitimate documentation for a late assignment, 10% of the total value of the assignment will be deducted for each late day (this includes any time after the deadline, so please be sure to submit your assignments well in advance of the specified deadlines).

If you provide legitimate documentation for your late assignment (for example, UTSC Student Medical Certificate completed by your doctor), you must contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss a new deadline for your late assignment(s).

Please take note of the last day for submission of term assignments (as set by the University). If you wish to submit work to be graded beyond the last day for submission of term assignments, you must contact the Registrar's office to submit a petition (this is beyond the instructor's control).

Missed Presentation:

If you miss your presentation without legitimate documentation, you will receive a mark of zero.

If you provide legitimate documentation for your missed examination (for example, UTSC Student Medical Certificate completed by your doctor), you will be given one additional opportunity to make your presentation.

Medical Documentation:

Any medical documentation that you provide must indicate the date (s) that you needed to be excused from course work, which must include the date of the presentation and/or assignment(s) that you missed. You are advised to see your physician within one day of the missed examination. Only documentation from a doctor registered with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario will be accepted (as per the UTSC Medical Certificate).

The form for medical documentation can be found at the following link:

http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/resources/pdf_general/UTSCmedicalcertificate.pdf

Please Note: The UTSC Medical Certificate must be signed by a registered member in good standing with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

Grade Scales and Meaning of Grades

NUMERICAL MARKS	LETTER GRADE	GRADE POINT VALUE
90-100	A+	4.0
85-89	A	4.0
80-84	A-	3.7
77-79	B+	3.3
73-76	B	3.0
70-72	B-	2.7
67-79	C+	2.3

63-67	C	2.0
60-62	C-	1.7
57-59	D+	1.3
53-56	D	1.0
50-52	D-	0.7
0-49	F	0