



**Psychopathology**  
**18:844:508:0120732 Fall 2021**  
**3 Credits**

**Rutgers, GSAPP, Masters of Applied Psychology**

**Instructor: Deirdre Waters, PsyD**

[dw585@gsapp.rutgers.edu](mailto:dw585@gsapp.rutgers.edu)

**Course Assistant: Drew Mendelson**

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**Class: Mondays 3:35p-605p**

**Course Objectives:**

This course examines adult psychopathology by identifying behaviors (cognitive, emotional, physiological responses and observable behaviors) related to substance misuse, mood disorders, psychosis, and personality and anxiety disorders. Students will be taught how to utilize both the DSM and ICD classification systems for assessment and treatment in clinical practice. By the end of this course, students should be able to understand and describe major mental health diagnoses (diagnostic criteria, symptoms, course, incidence, prevalence, etiology, prognosis, and correlates) and understand the biological, social, learning, and developmental influences on psychopathology with an empathetic viewpoint and comprehension of resiliency and recovery.

**Course Description:**

Through readings, lectures, group exercises, videos, assignments, and reflective writing statements, students will study human behavior throughout the lifespan in regards to psychopathological processes and psychological wellbeing. Active participation is required and expected.

**Readings:**

1. American Psychiatric Association (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders: 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Washington DC: American Psychiatric Association. The online version is available through the library homepage, click "books and media" in the search function. Use the drop down menu to select 'title' and enter Diagnostic and Statistical Manual and click on DSM 5. The reference you get includes an online link to the document through Psychiatry Online. If you are off campus, you will be asked to login with your ID and password. <http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/>
2. World Health Organization. (1992). The ICD-10 classification of mental and behavioural disorders: Clinical descriptions and diagnostic guidelines. Geneva: World Health Organization. Posted in Canvas.
3. Recommended Text: Sue, D., Sue, D. W., Sue, D., & Sue, S. (2015). *Understanding abnormal behavior* (11th ed.). Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning.
4. Readings/Articles will be posted each week on Canvas. Please read prior to

class noting that students are expected to be active and engaged participants.

- Morrison, J. (2014). DSM-5 Made Easy: The Clinician's Guide to Diagnosis New York: Guilford Press. Posted in Canvas

**Methods of Evaluation: (100 point system)**

**Class Participation: 20 points** (earned by attendance, evidence of participation, completion of in class assignments, informative contributions to class)

**Power Point Presentation: 35 points** (rubric posted on Canvas)

**Memoir Paper: 20 points** (assignment posted on Canvas)

**Diagnostic Quiz: 25 Points**

**Grading:**

<b>A</b>	<b>90-100</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>87-89</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>80-86</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>70-79</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>0-69</b>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Events/Assignments Due</b>
Week 1: 09/06	Labor Day Weekend		
Week 2: 09/13	Introductions Abnormal Behavior in Historical Context An Integrative Approach to Psychopathology	Syllabus Assignments Material posted on canvas Text Chapter 2	Reflective Statement on Adult Psychopathology
Week 3: 09/20	Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis, Assessing and diagnosing diverse populations	ICD 10 DSM-V DSM-V Made Easy Text Chapter 3	
Week 4: 09/27	Anxiety and Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders	Reading material posted on canvas Text Chapter 5	<b>Power Point Presentations Begin</b>
Week 5: 10/04	Trauma and Stress Related Disorders, PTSD	Reading material posted on canvas Text Chapter 5 continued	<b>Memoir Assignment Submissions Begin</b>
Week 6: 10/11	Mood Disorders and	Reading material	

	Suicide	posted on canvas Text Chapters 11/12	
Week 7: 10/18	Diagnostic Quiz		
Week 8: 10/25	Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders and Dissociative Disorders	Reading material posted on canvas Text Chapter 6	
Week 9: 11/01	Eating and Sleep- Wake Disorders and Impulse- Control Disorders	Reading material posted on canvas Text Chapter 16 and 8	
Week 10 11/08	Personality Disorders	Reading material posted on canvas Text Chapter 8	
Week 11: 11/15	Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders	Reading material posted on canvas Text Chapter 13	
Week 12: 11/22	Neurodevelopmental Disorders; Neurocognitive Disorders	Reading material posted on canvas Text Chapter 14	<b>Last week to submit Memoir assignment and present to small group</b>
Week 13: 11/29	Substance Use Disorders	Reading material posted on canvas Text Chapter 9	<b>Power Point Presentations End</b>
Week 14: 12/06	Mental Health Services: Legal and Ethical Issues	Reading material posted on canvas Text Chapter 18	
Week 15: 12/13	Final Wrap Up		

### **Additional Course Information:**

1. **Email communication phone access:** Email is the best way to contact the instructor (dw585@rutgers.edu) Typically, I will respond to your emails within 48 hours. If you did not receive a response within this time frame, please resend your message. **In cases of emergency only**, students can contact me by phone (732-581-4657). Calls will

be returned as soon as possible. In addition, Canvas tools will be used for communication throughout the semester.

2. **Personal disclosures:** It is recommended that you do not discuss personal histories when discussing thoughts and reactions to the material presented. In the event that anyone feels particularly distressed by anything discussed/assigned, I am requesting that you make this known to me. You can call me or contact me by e-mail. If necessary, I can make referrals for further services. However, if personal issues are accidentally revealed, it is expected that members of the class will maintain confidentiality.
3. **Reasonable Accommodation:**  
GSAPP is firmly committed to reasonable accommodation of disability-related needs. Students entitled to this accommodation are encouraged to request assistance from the Office of Disability Services, and to provide the department, and instructors, with paperwork and communication from that office. See: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>
4. **Academic Integrity:**  
All GSAPP students are responsible for knowing, and conforming to, principles of academic integrity, as specified in: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>
5. **Writing Assistance:**  
The university provides resources for students who feel they need assistance in improving their writing. It is your responsibility to make use of this help, should you need it. You can contact: Shawn Taylor, Ed.D. College Avenue Learning Center Academic Building, Room 1247 15 Seminary Place 848-932-1662 [sktaylor@rutgers.edu](mailto:sktaylor@rutgers.edu)
6. **Classroom Etiquette:**  
Please refrain from using electronic devices for non-class related material during class as it is distracting and inconsiderate of other students and the instructor. Please do not arrive late to class or disrupt the class as it is distracting and inconsiderate of other students and the instructor. Please follow university guidelines regarding wearing masks in the classroom, maintaining social distance and no eating.