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**PSYCHOPATHOLOGY**  
**HDCN 6330, SEC 775**  
**Winter Term, 2014**

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**Meeting day/time: Monday 6:00 pm – 10:15 pm**

**INSTRUCTOR:**

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**Office hours:** By appointment only before class

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OVERVIEW:**

Psychopathology is examined using an integrative approach including the biological, psychological, social, cultural, familial, and political forces that currently define abnormal behavior. More specifically, the history, theories, research, DSM-5 diagnostic categories, and psychopharmacological treatments are covered. Anxiety, dissociation, mood, eating, substance abuse, sleep, sexual, psychotic, childhood, adolescent, cognitive, personality, impulse control, somatoform, and adjustment disorders are examined. Critical thinking, using clinical examples and case studies, is emphasized.

**COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

| <b><u>Learning Objective</u></b>   | <b><u>Measurable Outcome</u></b>   |
|--|--|
| 1. Students will become familiar with the history and major theories of psychopathology, and the use of the DSM-5.   | Students will demonstrate these skills through reading of graduate level texts, multimedia reviews, and discussions of clinical cases.   |
| 2. Students will master the DSM-5 classification system and relate it to the major disorders.  | Students will demonstrate this mastery by the two examinations, current events, and class presentation.  |
| 3. Students will work toward a synthesis of the field, integrating multiple causes for diagnostic work-ups.  | Students will demonstrate their synthetic ability on the two examinations, current events, class presentation, and class discussions of case studies.  |
| 4. Students will show how to relate diagnosis, treatment planning and prognosis to psychopathology.  | Students will demonstrate these skills through the presentation and discussion of clinical case studies and the class presentation.  |
| 5. Students will be expected to make ethical and legally appropriate judgments while engaging in professional activities and be able to identify ethical dilemmas. | Students will demonstrate these skills on the exams, in group discussions of professional organizations' standards of practice and ethical codes and state laws, analysis of case studies, and review of journal articles. |
| 6. Students will be able to articulate a conceptual framework regarding psychopathology.   | Students will demonstrate the conceptualization of psychopathology through the two examinations, class presentation, current events, oral discourse of case studies, and participation in group discussions.               |

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Ingram, R. E., & Price, J. M. (2010). *Vulnerability to psychopathology: Risk across the lifespan* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York: Guilford Press.

Additional readings will be required and will be provided to students in PDF form via email or through Blackboard.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:****1. Classroom Attendance, Participation, and Attitude:**

- Attendance is imperative in this course. Any known absences should be reported to the Professor in advance, with at least 24 hours advance notice whenever possible. Final grade will be impacted if an unexcused absence occurs and/or if attendance is inconsistent (i.e., showing up to class late, returning from breaks late, or missing days). If a student must miss one class, it is the student's responsibility to get all material and assignments covered during their absence. A student's final grade will be impacted if 2 absences occur. A student missing more than 2 classes may, at the instructor's discretion:
  - i. Receive a grade of Incomplete if the requirements to do so have been met. (See the policy on Grades of Incomplete contained in this syllabus.)
  - ii. Receive a failing grade for the course.
  - iii. Drop or withdraw from the course. (This option may have a financial and/or financial aid impact. Students should refer to the Add/Drop Policy and the Withdrawal Policy for the Counseling program (which can be found at <http://www.smu.edu/Simmons/AreasOfStudy/DRC/C/Counseling/AcademicCalendar13-14>), then consult with the Program Specialist if they believe this option is a possibility.)
- Participation in class includes actively volunteering for activities, contributing to class discussions, and completing additional class assignments. It is not acceptable if a student participates in class while also doing outside-related activities, such as web-browsing, texting, or other activities, which will have direct consequences on the final grade.
- Demeanor, attitude, and overall disposition toward peers and the Instructor will be GREATLY taken into consideration.
- All of the above described are worth a possible 100 points, and specifics are described in the rubric below.

|                 | <b>Needs Improvement<br/>0-40</b>  | <b>Developing<br/>50-70</b>   | <b>Accomplished<br/>70-80</b>  | <b>Exemplary<br/>90-100</b>  |
|-----------------|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Attitude</b> | Does not ask questions or make comments that indicate reflection, self-awareness, and insight. Inconsiderate and disrespectful of others. Does not facilitate emotional safety within the class or group experience. | Rarely asks questions or makes comments that indicate reflection, self-awareness, and insight. Occasionally considerate and respectful of others. | Occasionally asks questions or makes observations that indicate reflection, self-awareness, and insight. Regularly considerate and respectful of others. | Regularly asks questions or makes observations that indicate reflection, self-awareness, and insight. Considerate and respectful of others. Facilitates emotional safety within the class setting. |

|                      |   |  |   |   |
|----------------------|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Participation</b> | Neither participates in class or group discussions nor contributes feedback in class.   | Does not actively participate in large group discussions or contribute feedback in the classroom setting.        | Participates actively in class and group experiences. Actively provides feedback to others and to Instructor. | Participates actively and contributes feedback frequently to classmates and Instructor. |
| <b>Attendance</b>    | Misses class often, arrives late, cancels sessions frequently. Texts and/or engages in other inappropriate behavior in class. | Misses no more than 2 classes and/or group sessions w/o prior arrangement. Tardiness occurs less than two times. | Misses 1 class with prior arrangement, tardiness occurring less than once.                                    | Attends class regularly, prompt and prepared arrival, no missed classes.                |

## 2. **Weekly Current Event:**

Students are required to identify a current event (no more than 2 or 3 weeks old) from local, regional, national, or international media sources and verbally present the information to the class on specified weeks (see course schedule). These current events must involve some form of psychopathology for a group or an individual who has been identified with or is suspected of having a DSM-5 disorder based on the information provided. The presentation to the class should include: (1) a brief description of the article; (2) the student's reactions to what is read and its personal impact; (3) and what other diagnoses might be at play. The 5 current events are worth 30 points each, for a possible total of 150 points.

1. Appropriateness/meaningfulness of media selection = 15 points
2. Clarity of presentation = 15 points

## 3. **Classroom Presentation:**

As individuals or in pairs/groups (depending on class size), students are required to choose a book or movie depicting a DSM-5 psychological disorder and make a 30-minute presentation to the class. Topics will be chosen on a first come, first served basis. No topic can be chosen by more than one student/group, and if 2 or more groups express an interest, they will draw straws to determine who will present on that topic. The movie or book must be approved by the professor in advance. The student(s) will complete their presentation during the class in which the specific diagnosis domain is listed in the class schedule, unless decided otherwise. A 2-page handout (printed front and back) must be provided to the professor and each student, detailing the following, as applicable: (1) brief synopsis of the story line, (2) diagnosis of the psychopathology, including specific criteria, (3) history of the present and past illness, (4) treatment history and outcomes, (5) medical and psychosocial history, (6) behavioral observations, (7) mental status, (8) functional assessment, (9) treatment plan and likely prognosis, and (10) assessment of the contribution this assignment has made to the student's knowledge of psychopathology. The presentation is worth a possible 250 points based on the following rubric:

1. Approximately 30-minute time-frame = 20 points
2. Active demonstration/use of visuals = 40 points (do not show video clips more than about 2 to 3 minutes)
3. Articulate and professional presentation style = 40 points
4. Organized presentation = 30 points
5. Accuracy of concepts presented: 50 points (5 points for each of the above 10 areas)
6. Ability to involve peers in discussion and answer questions = 40 points
7. Handout = 30 points

4. **Midterm Examination:** This exam will cover all content reviewed through class presentations and readings up to that point in the class. The Midterm Exam will be held at the beginning or end of class on 11/18/2013, as decided by a majority vote. Students will have 1.5 hours to complete the exam, which is worth 250 points.
5. **Final Examination:** This exam is comprehensive and will cover anything reviewed during the class, focusing primarily (but not solely) on content after the midterm. The Final Exam will be held at the beginning of class on 1/6/2014. Students will have 1.5 hours to complete the exam, which is worth 250 points.

#### Graded Activity Delineation:

| Assignment                        | Points                  | Percentage of Grade |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Attendance/Participation/Attitude | 100                     | 10%                 |
| Weekly Current Event              | 150                     | 15%                 |
| Presentation                      | 250                     | 25%                 |
| Mid-term                          | 250                     | 25%                 |
| Final Exam                        | 250                     | 25%                 |
|                                   | <b>1000 Point/Total</b> | <b>100% Total</b>   |

#### SMU GRADE SCALE

| Grade | Performance Description | Range           | GPA | Points |
|-------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----|--------|
| A     | Exceptional             | 93 – 100        | 4.0 | 12.0   |
| A-    |                         | 90 – 92         | 3.7 | 11.1   |
| B+    | High Pass               | 87 – 89         | 3.3 | 9.9    |
| B     |                         | 83 – 86         | 3.0 | 9.0    |
| B-    | Pass                    | 80 – 82         | 2.7 | 8.1    |
| C+    | Failure, any C or below | 77 – 79         | 2.3 | 6.9    |
| C     |                         | 73 – 76         | 2.0 | 6.0    |
| C-    |                         | 70 – 72         | 1.7 | 5.1    |
| D+    |                         | 67 – 69         | 1.3 | 3.9    |
| D     |                         | 63 – 66         | 1.0 | 3.0    |
| D-    |                         | 60 – 62         | 0.7 | 2.1    |
| F     |                         | 59 <sub>≥</sub> | 0.0 | 0.0    |

#### ADDITIONAL POLICIES

**Grade of Incomplete:** A student may receive a grade of I (Incomplete) if at least 50 percent of the course requirements have been completed with passing grades, but for some justifiable reason, acceptable to the instructor, the student has been unable to complete the full requirements of the course. At the time a grade of I is given, the instructor must stipulate in writing to the student and to the University registrar the requirements and completion date that are to be met and the grade that will be given if the requirements are not met by the completion date. The maximum period of time allowed to clear the Incomplete grade

normally is 12 months. If the Incomplete grade is not cleared by the date set by the instructor or by the end of the 12-month Policies and Procedures 25 deadline, the grade of I will be changed to the grade provided by the instructor at the time the Incomplete grade was assigned or to a grade of F if no alternate grade was provided. The grade of I is not given in lieu of a grade of F or W, or other grade, each of which is prescribed for other specific circumstances.

If the student's work is incomplete, poor quality and not acceptable, a grade of F will be given. The grade of I does not authorize a student to attend the course during a later term. Graduation candidates must clear all Incomplete grades prior to the deadline in the Official University Calendar, which may allow less time than 12 months. Failure to do so can result in removal from the degree candidacy list and/or conversion of the grade of I to the grade indicated by the instructor at the time the grade of I was given.

For graduate students, a maximum of two (six hours) concurrently held grades of Incomplete in courses other than thesis is allowed. If this maximum is reached, the student will be allowed to take only one three-hour course per term until the Incomplete total is reduced. Students who accumulate a total of three grades of Incomplete in courses other than thesis will be put on probation and not allowed to enroll further until the total is reduced.

**Academic Integrity:** Students must adhere to the SMU Honor Code as described in the Student Handbook. Students in counselor training are dually responsible for abiding by all applicable ethical standards, as mandated by University policy and professional codes of ethics. Please review the University policies on the responsibilities, policies, and penalties regarding academic honesty found at <[www.smu.edu/studentlife/PCL\\_05\\_HC.asp](http://www.smu.edu/studentlife/PCL_05_HC.asp)>. Ignorance of academic and/or professional ethical standards does not excuse ethical infractions. Unethical practices are determined by behavior, not by students' intentions. Any incidents of academic or clinical ethics infractions will be reported for investigation.

Unless otherwise specified in the syllabus, all course assignments and exams must be the student's original work, produced by the individual to whom the work is assigned. Working with partners or groups to complete any coursework is not allowed unless the coursework is specifically designated as group work.

**Disability Accommodations:** Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first be registered with Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS) to verify the disability and to establish eligibility for accommodations. Students may call 214-768-1470 or visit <http://www.smu.edu/alec/dass.asp> to begin the process. Once registered, students should then schedule an appointment with the professor to make appropriate arrangements. (See University Policy No. 2.4; an attachment describes the DASS procedures and relocated office.)

**Religious Observance:** Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence. (See University Policy No. 1.9.)

**Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities:** Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work. (University Graduate Catalogue)

**Plagiarism Policy:** Plagiarism is not tolerated and will result in an "F" grade for the class. Plagiarism is defined as the following:

To represent ideas or interpretations taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of students must be their own. Students must give the author(s) credit for any source material used. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage after having changed a few words, even if the source is cited, is also plagiarism.

Misrepresentation or falsification of logs, notes, treatment plans, or other material is not tolerated and will result in an "F" grade for the class. Please reference the SMU honor code.

**Statement on Confidentiality and Emotional Safety:** In order to provide a safe learning environment for students in the class and to protect the confidentiality of practice clients and class members, students will discuss case material and other's personal information, reactions, etc. only while in class or privately with other current class members. In addition, should a student recognize or know practice clients as shown in class, it is the student's responsibility to promptly inform the instructor so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

It is the responsibility of each class member to treat classmates with respect and integrity, thus providing emotional safety for each other during class activities. All students in the Counseling Department will demonstrate behavior that is consistent with the Ethical Standards forwarded by the APA and ACA in their code of ethics. Failure to do so can result in termination from the Department.

**Emergency Preparedness:** As part of the federal government response to the H1N1 (Swine Flu) virus, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a nationwide public health emergency preparedness declaration on April 26, 2009. The declaration was renewed on July 23, 2009 and is currently in force. For the semester ahead, there is concern that the level and intensity of flu cases could increase substantially.

- 1) For updates on the campus-wide status of flu conditions at SMU, please visit <[www.smu.edu](http://www.smu.edu)>.
- 2) If flu conditions require cancellation of a class session or other changes for this course, an email will be sent to all class members.
- 3) In the event of a major campus emergency at SMU, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control.

**Statement of Class Decorum:** Please utilize silence or vibrate prompts on all cell phones or pagers during class to avoid disruption of others. Please do not engage in outside reading material (e.g., newspapers, books for other classes, etc.) or utilize laptops for non-class related purposes during active classroom instruction. Because arriving to class late and leaving class early is disruptive, please try to avoid this as much as possible. If a circumstance in your life necessitates last arrival or early dismissal, please attempt to make arrangements with the instructor prior to the onset of class. Professional respect and courtesy for your fellow students is expected at all times.

**Statement on APA Guidelines:** Students are expected to have a high degree of familiarity with the APA manual and its requirements. Plagiarism is plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional. To avoid plagiarism, follow guidelines in the current edition of the *APA Publication Manual*.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

| <b>Week</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Class Activity/Topic(s) Covered:</b>  | <b>Required Readings</b>  |
|-------------|-------------|--|---|
| #1          | 10/21       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Syllabus review</li> <li>• Introductions</li> </ul>   | <i>Highlights of Changes from DSM-IV-TR to DSM-5</i><br><i>The Short Life of a Diagnosis</i><br><i>NIMH Funding to Shift Away from DSM Categories</i><br><i>DSM-5: Implications for Pediatric Mental Health Care</i><br><i>Lost in the Forest</i> |
| #2          | 10/28       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current Events</li> <li>• Nature and Role of Vulnerability</li> <li>• Neurodevelopmental Disorders</li> </ul>   | I&P Ch. 1-3<br>DSM-5<br><i>Child Psychopathology: A Developmental-Systems Perspective</i>   |
| #3          | 11/4        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation</li> <li>• Anxiety, OCD, and Trauma-Related Disorders</li> </ul>   | I&P Ch. 11-13<br>DSM-5  |
| #4          | 11/11       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current Events</li> <li>• Presentation</li> <li>• Disruptive, Impulsive-Control, and Conduct Disorders</li> <li>• Bipolar and Depressive Disorders</li> </ul>                               | I&P Ch. 8-10<br>DSM-5   |
| #5          | 11/18       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Midterm Exam</li> <li>• Presentation</li> <li>• Substance-Related/Addictive Disorders</li> <li>• Gender Dysphoria</li> <li>• Sexual Dysfunctions</li> <li>• Paraphilic Disorders</li> </ul> | I&P Ch. 5-7<br>DSM-5  |
| #6          | 11/25       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current Events</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Personality Disorders</li> <li>• Dissociative Disorders</li> </ul>   | I&P Ch. 4<br>DSM-5  |
| #7          | 12/2        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current Events</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Feeding and Eating Disorders</li> <li>• Elimination Disorders</li> <li>• Neurocognitive Disorders</li> </ul>                             | I&P Ch. 17-19<br>DSM-5  |
| #8          | 12/9        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders</li> </ul>   | I&P Ch. 14-16<br>DSM-5  |
| #9          | 12/16       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current Events</li> <li>• Somatic Disorders</li> <li>• Sleep-Wake Disorders</li> <li>• Future Directions in Vulnerability Studies</li> </ul>  | I&P Ch. 20<br>DSM-5   |
| #10         | 1/6         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap-up</li> <li>• Final Exam</li> </ul>  |   |

\*Course Outline is subject to change per Instructor's discretion.