Abnormal Psychology-PSY 215-24614 Spring Syllabus

# Course Overview

# Required Text:

Instructor

Dr. Vollaro

**Phone**

631-451-4367

**Email**

vollarj@sunysuffolk.edu

**Class Time**

12:30-1:45pm TR

**Class Location**

Southampton 129

**Office Location**

Southampton, 213

**Office Hours**

Monday & Wednesday 7:30 am - 8:00 am

Tuesday

10:00am-11:00

1:45 pm - 2:45 pm Thursday

1:45 pm - 2:45 pm

Additional office hours

by appointment

Abnormal Psychology, William J. Ray

Abnormal Psychology (w/Levy: Case Studies in Abnormal Psychology)

Suggested Text**: DSMV,** American Psychiatric Association

**Website:** <http://www.josephvollarophd.com/>

# Course Objectives-Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Articulate the historical roots, theoretical orientations of abnormal psychology.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the current controversies in psychopathologies.
3. Articulate the diagnosis, etiology and treatment of Psychological Disorders as defined in the Diagnostic Statistical Manual, 5th Edition (DSMV).

**Course Policies:**

1. Class begins promptly at 12:30pm. Please be seated and quiet at this time.
2. **ALL CELL PHONES SHOULD BE TURNED OFF AND REMOVED FROM SIGHT!!!!- NO TEXTING DURING CLASS!**

* **IF THERE IS A NEED TO TEXT, PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL AND LEAVE THE CLASSROOM**
* **Three Strike Rule: If you are asked to remove your cell phone during class time three times you will be asked to hand in your phone before being admitted to class**

1. The course is designed to be an interactive course. Your experience and learning will be dramatically enhanced by utilizing the additional materials designed to assist you in further exploring the covered topics. These include:

* **Power-Point** slides corresponding to class lectures can be obtained off my website (josephvollarophd.com)
* There are additional course materials (i.e. homework videos) and links to sites that will be helpful during the course.
* **Psychology blog:** Throughout the semester, additional information and communication will be accomplished through the Psychology Blog on the website. You are encouraged to check it at a minimum weekly throughout the semester. If you join the blog, the information will be emailed to you directly each time the blog is updated. If the information is specific to this class, it will be noted in the blog content.

1. **GRADING:** There will be two exams given during the semester; each one of these exams will count as 25% of your grade. There will be four quizzes. **The lowest quiz grade will be dropped** thus, the highest three quizzes will be averaged together and will count as 25% of your grade. The writing assignment will count as the final 25% of your grade.

* Note: Scantrons & Papers will be returned to students after exams are graded. It is students’ responsibility to keep them as a permanent record if there is a discrepancy in the final grade. If a student does not retain a copy of the graded work, the missing grade will be counted as a zero.

1. **EXAMS:**

* The general course policy is that students take all exams as scheduled. If an exam is missed, there will be **ONE** makeup exam given. The makeup exam will be given week before the final exam. It is the students’ responsibility to contact me to schedule the makeup. ***If the exam is not made up before the final a zero will be assigned for the grade.***
* There will be no makeups for the quizzes. **Any missed quiz will count as a dropped grade**. You cannot **miss more than one quiz so if you do, that quiz will count as a 0.**
* Once a student leaves the exam room, the exam is officially closed, and an exam cannot be initiated
* Students are required to bring a **#2** pencil to the exam
* If a scantron is not able to be graded by the machine **a 15-point penalty is assigned**

1. **ATTENDANCE:**

* The college defines excessive absence or lateness as more than the equivalent of missing more than one week of class during the semester. An instructor may remove a student, at any time, when, in the judgment of the professor, absences have been excessive.
* The policy for this course is to decrease **final average** two points for every absence over three for the semester
* **Lateness:** Students are expected to arrive to class on time. For the purposes of attendance, two lateness’s count as one absence.

1. **The following grading scale will be used:**

* A = 90-100
* B+= 85-89
* B = 80-84
* C+= 75-79
* C = 70-74
* D+= 65-69
* F = Below 60

1. **PLAGIARISM/CHEATING:** The Suffolk Community College Code of Conduct expressively prohibits “any and all forms of academic or other dishonesty.” Two forms of dishonesty are cheating and plagiarism.

* **Cheating:** Any form of cheating, be it on a formal examination, informal quiz, or other submitted material, is a violation of the college code of conduct and may result in a failing grade for the course and/or serious disciplinary action/sanction (2002-2004 Catalog, Pg. 89.)
* **Plagiarism:** Students should realize that presenting the words and ideas of others as their own is dishonest. Examples of plagiarism include but are not limited to:
* Knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as your own
* Paraphrasing or copying materials from a source without appropriate citation
* Turning in another student’s work
* Buying and/or downloading a paper from a research service or term paper mill

**My course policy is that anyone who is caught plagiarizing or cheating will be given an F for the course. In addition, the name will be forwarded to the Dean of Students Office so there will be a record that the F was given as a result of plagiarism or cheating.**

1. **Homework:** The general homework assignments for the course are to keep up with the reading and to watch the assigned videos as we cover the material in class. Any further assignments will be specifically noted.
2. **Withdrawals:** If for any reason you decide to withdraw from the class, **you need to do so by the deadline, which is 3/20/2019 for the current semester.** Not attending class will result in an **F.** Withdrawals are not offered past this deadline.
3. **Incomplete:** An **Inc** must be arranged with the professor and allows the student to resolve the grade within four weeks of the following semester. This is granted only in extenuating circumstances towards the end of the semester so please speak with me about the details.

1. **SCCC CARES:** At Suffolk, we are **C**REATING **A**WARENESS and **R**EADINESS to **E**ND **S**TIGMA about mental health issues. Please know that if you need support related to your psychological, emotional or social well being, there are counselors available on campus in the Counseling Center (Ammerman Building Room 209) to provide free and confidential counseling services. Contact Sarah Boles, Coordinator of Mental Health Services, at [boless@sunysuffolk.edu](mailto:boless@sunysuffolk.edu) or (631) 451-4530 for more information.

*\*It is my hope to continue to develop a website that is interesting and useful for future students of my courses. Therefore, if you have any suggestions (i.e. sites that might be added) or encounter problems (i.e. links that are no longer active) please send me an email!*

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME.**

**Course Schedule**

Note: All dates and topics are subject to change based on progress through the material.

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| Week |  | Homework: Website Videos |
| **January 28th,2019** | Review syllabus  -Abnormal Psychology: An Overview (Ch.1)  -Changing conceptualizations of Mental Illness (Ch.2) | **Website Videos:**  [Careers in Psychology](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pk09dEQVjz4&feature=player_embedded)  - [Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Work Careers](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BP3cUOAHRvY) |
| **February 4th, 2019** | Assessment and Classification (Ch. 5) | -[Psychological Disorders](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wuhJ-GkRRQc&t=1s) |
| **February 11th, 2019** | Finish Ch. 5, Assessment and Classification  QUIZ #1 |  |
| **February 18th, 2019** | Anxiety Disorders and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders (Ch. 10) | Website Videos:  * [Anxiety Disorders](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_MtLaiCThT0&feature=player_embedded) * Case Study Clinical Example |
| **February 25th, 2019** | Finish Ch.10, Anxiety Disorders  QUIZ #2 |  |
| **March 4th, 2019** | Mood disorders (Ch.8) | **Website Videos:**  -Depressive and BiPolar Disorders  - [Depression and exercise](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=8&v=BHY0FxzoKZE)  -[The Story of Robin Williams](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLkGCyVjVNQ) |
| **March 11th, 2019** | Finish Ch.8, Mood Disorder |  |
| **March 18th, 2019** | **\*EXAM #1\***  -**Ch. 1, 2, 5, 10, 8**  **FINAL DEADLINE FOR WITHDRAWAL: March 20th , 2019**  **Early submission of research paper: 3/21/2019** |  |
| **March 25th, 2019**  \*no classes 3/25-3/31\* | **Spring Recess: No Classes** |  |
| **April 1st, 2019** | Personality Disorders (Ch.15) | **Website Videos:**  -[Personality Disorders](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KuOyHFLI_QE)  -[Schizotypal Personality Disorder](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aGCEJqtE0Jo)  - A Case Study in [Narcissistic Personality Disorder](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yNgLoJ34nH4) |
| **April 8th, 2019** | Finish Ch. 15, Personality Disorders  QUIZ #3 | **Website Videos:**  **--**What is a Psychopath?  - [Borderline Personality Disorder](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=iraGmA7-9FA) |
| **April 15th, 2019** | Substance Related and Addictive Disorders (Ch. 14)  **FINAL DUE DATE: WRITING ASSIGNMENT:**  **April 18th , 2019** | **Website Video:**  -[Substance Related Disorders](http://study.com/academy/lesson/substance-related-disorders.html#lesson) |
| **April 22nd, 2019** | Finish Ch. 14, Substance Related and Addictive Disorders  QUIZ #4 | **Website Videos:**   * Case Study: Opioid Epidemic, Ronkonkoma, New York |
| **April 29th, 2019** | Sexual Disorders & Gender Dysphoria(Ch. 13) | **Website Videos:**  -[Paraphilia](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8powiyRASGM)s  -Case Study: Balloon Fetish  - To Catch a Predator |
| **May 6th** | Finish Ch. 13, Sexual Disorders and Gender Dysphoria |  |
| **May 13th, 2019** | Stress, Trauma, and Psychopathology (Ch. 9), Dissociative Disorders and Somatic Symptom Disorders (Ch. 11) | **Website Videos:**  - Dissociative Disorders  - [Childhood Trauma and Sexual abuse](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aC3q7KmqyE)  -[Psychology Video on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEbiDszRkT4)  -[Trauma and the Brain](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=4-tcKYx24aA) |
| **May 20th, 2019**  **\*last day classes meet\*** | \***FINAL EXAM\*** |  |

\*It would be helpful to put a reminder on your phone or another calendar so you don’t forget these deadlines\*

**WRITTEN HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT (100 POINTS)**

For the writing portion of the course, the student will be required to complete a writing assignment, which will be worth 25% of your grade and graded out of 100 points.

One of the goals of the research paper is to teach students how to successfully write a research paper. Part of this process will involve learning how to find good information and learning how to write in APA format. In addition, students will need to learn how to avoid ***plagiarism.*** To facilitate this process, I have a series of videos geared to familiarize you with these issues on the website. *Please make sure you watch these videos to familiarize yourself with the various requirements of the assignments.* **Failure to follow these can result in great penalties that can dramatically impact your grade.** If you have any questions regarding these areas, please see me for clarification.

For the assignment, you are to pick **one of the case studies in the required case study book**. The assignment is to complete a research paper on the disorder, including a summary of the **diagnosis, theories on etiology, and treatment** of the disorder. In addition, answer the questions associated with the case study you have selected. In addition to this content, please make sure your paper includes the following:

**An opportunity for extra credit will be offered for the paper.** There will be an early submission date offered. If you hand in the paper by this date and meet the requirements, then paper will be graded and I will provide feedback on how to improve the paper. The paper can then be redone, incorporating the feedback and submitted by the final due date. If the changes have been made, you are guaranteed an A for the paper.

* + Good writing involves completion of several drafts and should be reviewed by someone before submission. In order to be eligible for the extra credit, you must have the writing center review your paper before submission. ***Please submit proof of this with the paper.***

**Assignment Checklist:**

* + - **Obtain a peer-reviewed, review article** on the disorder you have selected
    - A copy of this peer-reviewed article must be handed in with paper-***failure to do so will mean a penalty of 50 points***
    - Websites must be limited to **.edu, .gov, .org**
    - Text and Class notes can be used, but remember **they must be cited within the paper**
    - Assignments can be handed in at any time before their due dates but **NO ASSIGMENTS ARE ACCEPTED AFTER FINAL DUE DATE FOR ANY REASON**!

**Early submission date: 3/21//2019**

**Final due date: 4/18/2019**

* + - Paper must be completed in **APA Format- *failure to do so will result in a penalty of 50 points***
    - **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU SIGN IN EACH ASSIGNMENT TO INSURE YOU ARE CREDITED FOR SUBMITTING IT!**
    - **FAILURE TO HAND IN AN ASSIGNMENT RESULTS IN A 0 FOR THAT ASSIGNMENT**
    - Paper will be graded on content, grammar/organization/structure/how well you followed assignment requirements
    - It is strongly advised that before you submit the paper for a final grade you have it reviewed by someone