

REVISED July 20, 2008

ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
COURSE SYLLABUS
PSYC 341Z
SEMESTER AT SEA FALL 2008
Kima Cargill, Ph.D.
8:00am-10:15am, B Day Schedule

Suggested Pre-requisites:

One previous course in psychology is suggested.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Abnormal Psychology is a comprehensive overview of the classification and understanding of mental illnesses, exploring the complex causes, manifestations, and treatment of common behavior disorders, such as depression, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, and substance abuse. Historical and contemporary conceptions of abnormal behavior are explored as well as controversies within the field regarding the classification, assessment, and treatment of psychological disorders.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the semester students should:

1. have an understanding of abnormal behavior in a historical context.
2. understand and apply the current system for the classification and assessment of mental disorders and how that compares to those used in voyage-specific destinations (primarily those in Asia).
3. Know which behaviors and symptoms are necessary for the diagnosis of DSM IV-TR psychiatric disorders.
4. be aware of the gender, cultural, psychological, biochemical, and environmental factors which predispose individuals toward mental disorders with emphasis on prevalence and incidence rates in voyage-specific destinations.
5. compare the different approaches used in treating mental illness including psychotherapy, medical, and folk healing.
6. conduct individual and group field observations in each port of call and summarize these in a written report.
7. recognize and apply how psychologists use research and statistics to answer questions about mental illness
8. recognize how economic issues, and in particular the pharmaceutical industry, influence the treatment of mental illness compared to other cultures and economic systems.

September 1
Overview and Introductions

September 3
Social Science Observation Methods and Fieldwork Techniques

Comer: Chapter 1, 2

Article: Gerstein, Lawrence (2005). A trip around the world, *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, April 1, 2005: 1-7 (special issue: counseling around the world – on-line journal)

September 6
Models of Abnormal Behavior

Comer: Chapter 3

▶▶▶ Port: Salvador, Brazil ◀◀◀

September 13
Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment

Comer: Chapter 4

Article: Koerner, B. (2002, July). Disorders made to order. *Mother Jones*, 27, 58-64.

September 15
Anxiety Disorders

Comer: Chapter 5

Article: Edgerton, Robert A. (1980). Tradition treatment for mental illness in Africa: A review. *Culture Medicine and Psychiatry*, 4: 167-189.

September 18
Anxiety Disorders, cont.

Comer: Chapter 6

▶▶▶ Port: Walvis bay, Namibia ◀◀◀

September 25
Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders

Comer: Chapter 7

Article: Lambo, T. Adeoye (1973). Psychotherapy in Africa, *Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics*. 24: 311-326.

▶▶▶ Port: Cape Town, South Africa ◀◀◀

October 4
Mood Disorders

Comer: Chapter 8

October 6
Mood Disorders, cont.
Comer: Chapter 9

October 8
Exam I

October 11
Schizophrenia
Comer: Chapter 14

Article: Weisman, Amy G. (1997). Understanding cross-cultural prognostic variability for schizophrenia, *Cultural Diversity and Mental Health*, 3: 23-35.

October 13
Schizophrenia, cont.
Comer: Chapter 15

Article: Raney, S., & Cinarbas, D. C. (April 2005). Counseling in developing countries: Turkey and India as examples. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, 27, 2. p.149(12).

Due: Field Journals for 1st Evaluation

▶▶▶ Port: Chennai, India ◀◀◀

October 20
Substance Related Disorders
Comer: Chapter 12

▶▶▶ Port: Penang, Malyasia ◀◀◀

October 27
Sex and Gender Identity Disorders
Comer: Chapter 13

Article: Ramet, S. P. (1996). Gender reversals and gender cultures: An introduction. In S. P. Ramet (Ed.), *Gender reversals & gender cultures: Anthropological and historical perspectives* (pp. 1-21). New York: Routledge.

October 29
Eating Disorders
Comer: Chapter 11

Article: Keel, P. K., & Klump, K. L. (2003). Are eating disorders culture-bound syndromes? Implications for conceptualizing their etiology. *Psychological bulletin*, 129(5), 747-769.

▶▶▶ Port: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam ◀◀◀

November 5
Eating Disorders, cont.

Article: Chang, D F, Tong, H., Shi, Q., & Zeng, Q. (April 2005). Letting a hundred flowers bloom: counseling and psychotherapy in the people's Republic of China. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, 27, 2. p.104(13).

▶▶▶ Port: Hong Kong & Shanghai, China ◀◀◀

November 13

Suicide

Comer: Chapter 10

Article: Iwasaki, M. (April 2005). Mental health and counseling in Japan: a path toward societal transformation. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, 27, 2. p.129(13).

▶▶▶ Port: Kobe & Yokohama, Japan ◀◀◀

November 20

Suicide, cont.

Article: Sontag, S. (2002). Who was responsible for Elizabeth Shin? *New York Times Magazine*, 56.

November 21

Personality Disorders

Comer: Chapter 16

November 24

Personality Disorders, Cont.

November 26

Exam II

▶▶▶ Port: Honolulu, HI ◀◀◀

November 29

Wrapping up and review

Due: Field Journals for 2nd Evaluation

December 1

Final Exam Period

Final Exam: Write an eight-page paper in which you choose a mental health diagnosis and discuss whether it is more a matter of individual mental illness or the result of cumulative social factors, or an inextricable combination of the two. What kinds of social policy and individual treatment would you recommend for the prevention and treatment of the disorder or condition? Your essay should reflect a thoughtful understanding of mental health issues at the individual and social levels, and your field observations should be integrated with the course materials.

FIELD COMPONENT

Each student is required to complete a total of three practica.

- You are required to participate in at least one of the faculty directed practica (FDP) under my direction in Penang, Malaysia or Chennai, India since they are central to the material covered in this class. (I recommend you participate in both of these, if at all possible.)
- You are also required to required to participate in one of the SAS service visits (SVC), for which I will give you specific guidelines to complete as an independent practicum.
- Your third practica can be a non-service independent practicum (IND). I will provide you specific guidelines before each port for the independent practica options. (For example, before we arrive in South Africa I will give you guidelines that are specific to the Desmond Tutu Peace Centre that will help you complete an independent practicum there that is related to our class material).

Journals

All students are required to (1) keep a journal of their field observations and (2) write a 3-4 page paper about each field experience. You will be graded on both the field journal and the three papers corresponding to each field experience. In class we will discuss social science methods for doing field work and keeping journals.

Papers

The paper you write for each practicum will depend on which type of practicum it is for (FDP, SVC, or IND). I will include guidelines for the IND papers/practica prior to arrival at each paper.

An FDP paper should include (1) a brief summary of the student's field notes, (2) specific observations about the way DSM diagnoses are used (or not) in clinical settings (3) observations about treatment modalities, (4) conclusions about the role of the psychiatric diagnosis and treatment in this culture.

An SVC paper should include (1) a brief summary of the student's field notes, (2) analysis of the pressing psychological/sociological issues the country is facing, (3) specific observations about the role of psychologists and those in the helping professions in this culture.

Practica

Brazil: Service Visit: Cultural Mobilization Project For Children In Danger (SVC)
Brazil: Service Project: Calabar Favela (SVC)
South Africa: Desmond Tutu Peace Centre (IND)
South Africa: Operation Hunger (IND)
South Africa: Robben Island (IND)
South Africa: Service Visit: Amy Biehl Foundation Trust (SVC)
India: Seminar On Poverty And Gender Issues (IND)
India: Working Women's Forum (IND)

India: Service Project: Dalit Work Project (SVC)
India: Service Visit: Disabled Children's Home (SVC)
India: Managing Schizophrenia (FDP)
Malaysia: Drug Rehabilitation Center (FDP)
Malaysia: Service Visit: St. Joseph Orphanage (SVC)
Vietnam: Service Visit: Da Thien School For Handicapped (SVC)

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Field Component: 20%
Exam I: 25%
Exam II: 25%
Final Exam: 30%

AUTHOR: Ronald Comer
TITLE: Abnormal Psychology
PUBLISHER: Worth Publishers
ISBN #: 978-0-716-76906-4
DATE/EDITION: 2007
COST: \$115.00

RESERVE LIBRARY LIST

AUTHOR: Philip Cushman
TITLE: Constructing the Self, Constructing America
PUBLISHER: Addison Wesley Publishing
ISBN #: 978-0201441925
DATE/EDITION: 1996
COST: \$14.97

AUTHOR: Vamik Volkan
TITLE: Bloodlines: From Ethnic Pride to Ethnic Terrorism
PUBLISHER: Westview Press
ISBN #: 978-0813390383
DATE/EDITION: 1999
COST: \$19.00

AUTHOR: Robert H. Frank
TITLE: Luxury Fever
PUBLISHER: Princeton University Press
ISBN #: 978-0691070117
DATE/EDITION: 2000
COST: \$29.95

AUTHOR: Barry Glassner
TITLE: The Culture of Fear: Why Americans Are Afraid of the Wrong Things
PUBLISHER: Basic Books

ISBN #: 978-0465014903
DATE/EDITION: 2000
COST: \$10.85

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

Chang, D F, Tong, H., Shi, Q., & Zeng, Q. (April 2005). Letting a hundred flowers bloom: counseling and psychotherapy in the people's Republic of China. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, 27, 2. p.104(13).

Edgerton, Robert A. (1980). Tradition treatment for mental illness in Africa: A review. *Culture Medicine and Psychiatry*, 4: 167-189.

Gerstein, Lawrence (2005). A trip around the world, *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, April 1, 2005: 1-7 (special issue: counseling around the world – on-line journal)

Iwasaki, M. (April 2005). Mental health and counseling in Japan: a path toward societal transformation. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, 27, 2. p.129(13).

Keel, P. K., & Klump, K. L. (2003). Are eating disorders culture-bound syndromes? Implications for conceptualizing their etiology. *Psychological bulletin*, 129(5), 747-769

Koerner, B. (2002, July). Disorders made to order. *Mother Jones*, 27, 58-64.

Lambo, T. Adeoye (1973). Psychotherapy in Africa, *Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics*. 24: 311-326.

Ramet, S. P. (1996). Gender reversals and gender cultures: An introduction. In S. P. Ramet (Ed.), *Gender reversals & gender cultures: Anthropological and historical perspectives* (pp. 1-21). New York: Routledge

Raney, S., & Cinarbas, D. C. (April 2005). Counseling in developing countries: Turkey and India as examples. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, 27, 2. p.149(12).

Sontag, S. (2002). Who was responsible for Elizabeth Shin? *New York Times Magazine*, 56.

Weisman, Amy G. (1997). Understanding cross-cultural prognostic variability for schizophrenia, *Cultural Diversity and Mental Health*, 3: 23-35.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Students will need pocket-sized notebooks for recording observations and impressions in the field. (The waterproof kind are ideal, but not essential.) A pocket-size recording device would also be useful (e.g. the digital ones that do not require cassettes).