



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
MADRID

PSY 3460 M01: Abnormal Psychology
Spring 2023

Credit(s):	3
Prerequisite(s):	PSY 1010
In-Person Class Time:	Tuesday and Thursday (9:30-10:45am)
Classroom:	SIH-300
Instructor:	Andrea Pousada, Ph.D.
Instructor's Email:	andrea.pousada@slu.edu
Instructor's Phone:	(+34) 91 554 58 58
Office:	SIH-114
Office Hours:	Tuesday 12:15-1:15pm/Thursday 3:15-4:15pm (by appointment – via zoom or in-person)

Course Description: Psychology is the study of human behavior and mental processes. This course is designed as an introduction to psychopathology, or the study of the mental processes related to the development of mental disorders. Using an integrative approach, the course will include a review of the mental disorders featured in the DSM-V, as well as relevant theory related to the etiology and treatment of mental disorders. Special emphasis will be placed on critical review of the latest scientific research related to psychopathology.

Course Goals and Student Learning Outcomes: At the end of the course, students will:

- I. **GOAL. Knowledge Base in Psychology**
 - a. Course objective: Understand contemporary approaches to mental health diagnoses and assessments, including the potential influence of biological, psychological, and socio-cultural factors.
 - b. Learning outcomes: Students will identify accepted practices for the assessment and diagnoses of a variety of psychological disorders.
- II. **GOAL. Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking**
 - a. Course objectives: Develop an awareness of the scientific evidence that highlight multiple factors that contribute to the development, maintenance, and/or treatment of psychological disorders.
 - b. Learning outcomes: Students will demonstrate an understanding of how scientific methods contribute to our conceptualization of etiology, characterization, and treatment of psychological disorders.
- III. **GOAL. Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World**
 - a. Course objective: Appreciate the dynamics of social stigma for persons diagnosed with psychological disorders. Learn about the ethical and legal aspects of psychological disorders in everyday contexts.
 - b. Learning outcomes: Students will identify key evidence-based factors that contribute to the stigmatization of psychological disorders. AND/OR Students will identify social and legal

challenges related to the care of persons with psychological disorders in everyday contexts.

IV. **GOAL. Communication**

- a. Course objective: Develop the ability to communicate clearly about psychological science related to psychological disorders.
- b. Learning outcomes: Students will demonstrate effective scientific writing skills and oral presentation skills when discussing, evaluating, and/or presenting scientific knowledge about psychological disorders.

V. **GOAL. Professional Development**

- a. Course objective: Develop an awareness of the professional applications of psychological science and the professional issues related to the treatment of persons diagnosed with psychological disorders.
- b. Students will identify the professions and basic standards of ethical practice relevant to the diagnosis, assessment, and treatment of persons diagnosed with a psychological disorder.

Technology Requirements: You will need regular access to a computer with an internet connection. High speed broadband access (LAN, Cable or DSL) is highly recommended for the optimal learning experience. However, please note that you will not be allowed to use your laptop, tablet or phone during this class.

Communication Norms:

Email: You may contact me via email at andrea.pousada@slu.edu. I will respond to email between the hours of 9:00 and 5:00 pm., Monday through Friday. In general, emails are answered within 48 hours. Please be aware that I do not regularly check my SLU email in the evening or on weekends. It is possible that I will read and respond to your email during these hours, but as a general rule, you should not expect a response until the following working day.

Email format: Please include the following subject line in all emails you send me:

“Subject: PSY 4390 – (Brief statement about nature of email)”

e.g. “PSY 4390-Question about Chapter 10”, or “PSY 4390-Request for appointment”

Email content: Be advised that email is NOT a confidential means of communication. Thus, please refrain from including personal and/or sensitive information in your email. If you need to communicate this information to me, it is best to schedule an appointment (in-person or virtual). I highly recommend that you read and follow the email guidelines found here: [A College Student’s Guide to Writing Professional Emails](#).

Office Hours: If your question cannot be properly answered via email, please make an appointment to discuss the issue with me during my office hours.

Respectful Communication: It is vital to maintain both a physical and virtual class environment that is respectful and free of discrimination and/or recrimination from peers. Please make every effort to be respectful of others’ opinions. (Also see “Netiquette”).

Netiquette: As in any learning environment, certain behavioral codes are expected when you communicate with both your peers and your instructors. These codes are referred to as netiquette. For further information, refer to the PDF document, Netiquette Guide for Online Courses, posted on Canvas.

Assessment of Student Learning: To maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to accreditation requirements, SLU-Madrid regularly assesses its teaching, services and programs for evidence of student learning. For this purpose, SLU-Madrid keeps representative examples of student work from all courses and programs on file, including assignments, papers, exams, portfolios and results from student surveys, focus groups and reflective exercises. Copies of your work for this course may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes. If you prefer SLU-Madrid not to retain your work for this purpose, you must communicate this decision in writing to your professor.

Required Texts and Readings: Oltmanns, Thomas F. And Emery, Robert E. (2015). Abnormal Psychology, 8 th ed.. Pearson International.

Optional Texts and Readings:

Supplemental Text*: American Psychiatric Association. (2013). Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (5th ed.). Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Publishing (*Full text available online via SLU Libraries)

COURSE MECHANICS:

Reading Policy: All students are expected to read the textbook BEFORE attending class, as it is impossible to review all relevant material during class lectures. We will not cover all of the material in the chapter during class time. Rather, class time will be used to review major concepts from the text, but also to introduce new, relevant material, and to discuss current events and/or scientific literature as they relate to the course content.

In addition, Power Point presentations are designed to highlight major themes from the text, as well as provide you with a way to review the day's lecture at home, or follow up on new material introduced by the professor in class that is not included in the text. The Power Points are very thorough, and can and should be used as a supplement to your text when preparing for an exam. It is suggested that you download the PPs and use them to take notes during class. However, just as is the case with the textbook, WE WILL NOT COVER ALL THE SLIDES IN CLASS. Rather, the Power Points are a starting point from which we will cover major concepts and foster class discussion. It is rare, actually, that we will complete an entire Power Point before the end of class. However, "We didn't talk about that in class," is not a valid excuse for not having reviewed material in the text that may appear on the exam. You are responsible for ALL MATERIAL covered in the assigned chapters, UNLESS otherwise indicated by the professor in class.

In addition, please keep in mind what the professor calls, "The Psychology Trojan Horse": Due to its nature, students often find the material discussed in class to be interesting and personally relevant. Classes are usually animated and full of debate, which fosters critical thinking, and often leads students to believe that they have mastered a major concept just by being part of the discussion. DON'T FALL INTO THE TRAP: you will need to review the finer details (and the less-exciting but equally important concepts and vocabulary) of concepts outside of class in order to truly master the material and perform well on evaluations.

Classroom Environment and Expectations:

Classroom discussion is an important part of the learning process; therefore, it is vital to maintain a classroom environment that is respectful and free of discrimination and/or recrimination from peers. Please make every effort to be respectful of others' opinions.

Regarding course content, be aware that we will be discussing topics related to Abnormal Psychology that may trigger emotional or psychological distress in some students. Please keep this in mind as you make comments or pose questions in class. Furthermore, these difficult issues can be raised in any class meeting, without prior warning. That is, if it is difficult for you to listen to or engage in a discussion about a particular mental illness or topic, you might decide not to come to class the day we plan to review that chapter. However, you should be aware that many issues in Abnormal Psychology are related to each other, and the topic may come up during class discussion in a spontaneous way. Thus, if your personal circumstances make it difficult for you to listen to or engage in discussion about mental health issues and mental illness, please give careful consideration to your participation and enrollment in Abnormal Psychology.

With that in mind, in this culture of social media which often includes "over sharing", I would encourage you to think carefully prior to sharing very personal/intimate information about yourself during class. Please remember that class is NOT a protected, confidential environment, and the professor cannot guarantee that other students/peers will maintain your confidential information.

Again, it is the professor's expectation that students will come to class prepared, having read the material and with any assignments that are due, and ready to participate in a thoughtful discussion about the day's topic. As PSY 4390 is a 3000 level class, students should expect that academic demands will be higher than lower level psychology classes. This is most often reflected in the difficulty level of the scholarly work/research project, essay questions on exams, and in general, the level of independence and autonomy that is expected by the professor. If you have concerns or questions about the workload or other demands associated with an advanced psychology course, please discuss them with the professor as early as possible.

Engagement & Attendance Policies: Students are expected to attend class regularly and to arrive to class promptly. Late arrival to class is not only rude, it is disruptive to both the professor and fellow classmates. You are responsible for all announcements made and/or material covered during class meetings. Please keep in mind that on occasion, when the class as a whole is interested in pursuing a topic more in depth, when the opportunity arises to invite a guest speaker, or when other unpredictable events happen, slight changes may be made in the schedule on the syllabus, so it is always best to come to class and stay informed. Class lectures will include topics in more detail than the text allows, and topics that are not in the text at all. Anything discussed in class may appear on exams. In addition, a large part of your semester grade will come from in-class activities and assignments. These assignments cannot be made up if you are absent for any reason. As such, it will be difficult to be successful in this class without attending regularly. Although the professor does not take attendance, please keep in mind that your class participation grade may be negatively affected for excessive absences or tardiness. Students who miss class due to illness are asked to notify the professor as soon as possible to discuss the issue and agree upon the appropriate course of action.

Grading Rationale/System: Your final grade is calculated as follows:

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- Exams:
 - Midterm: 30%
 - Final exam: 35%
- Quizzes: 15%
- Project and Oral presentation: 20%

- Class participation: 5%

Grading System:

A	94-100 4.0	Sobresaliente
A-	90-93 3.7	Sobresaliente bajo
B+	87-89 3.3	Notable alto
B	84-86 3.0	Notable
B-	80-83 2.7	Notable bajo
C+	77-79 2.3	Aprobado alto
C	74-76 2.0	Aprobado
C-	70-73 1.7	Aprobado bajo
D	60-69 1.0	Aprobado bajísimo
F	<60 0.0	Suspenso
P/NP		Apto / No apto
W		Clase retirada

Midterm and Final Exams: There will be both a midterm and final exam (noncumulative). Any material presented in class, in the text, or in assigned readings/activities may appear on the exams. Students who miss the midterm exam for a legitimate emergency (e.g. hospitalization, death in the family) must contact the professor immediately to evaluate the situation and schedule a makeup exam. Please be advised that you will be required to show documentation of the emergency. Exams will be structured as follows:

1. Midterm exam (Grading A through F, 30% of Course Grade): Will consist of short answer and essay questions.

2. Final exam (Grading A through F, 35% of Course Grade): The final exam is divided into 2 parts:

- **Case Study:** You may use your class notes, Power Points, and textbook to answer the questions. You may NOT use any additional sources (e.g., articles, internet, books, etc.). You will be required to bring your laptop to class for the exam. Students will have a maximum of one hour to complete this part of test.
- **Multiple Choice Test:** During the scheduled final exam period students will complete a multiple-choice test. Students will have a maximum of one 45 minutes to complete this part of test.

*Final exam times are determined by the Registrar and cannot be changed. Travel of any kind is NOT a valid excuse for missing a midterm or final exam, or for changing an exam date. Students who believe they have an extenuating circumstance (e.g., health emergency, death in the family) that warrants a change in the date/time of the final exam must speak directly with the Academic Dean. Students who do not show up for a midterm or final exam without such extenuating circumstances will receive a grade of 0, or "F".

Quizzes (15% of Course Grade): There will be three quizzes that will be administered and graded.

- The quizzes will cover Chapters 12, 14, and 17. These chapters WILL NOT be reviewed in class.

- Absolutely no make-up quizzes will be provided.
- Chapters 12, 14, and 17 will NOT BE INCLUDED in the midterm, or in the multiple-choice section of the final exam.

****Students who have been approved for academic accommodations by the Disabilities Coordinator must follow the procedures outlined in SLU Policy regarding the scheduling of exams. If a student does not follow this policy, no accommodations will be provided.**

Project and Oral Presentation: In order to foster mutual learning and an in-depth study of a particular topic of interest in abnormal psychology, students will be responsible for participating in a group presentation to the class on a specific disorder/group of disorders provided by the Professor. The paper should be given to the professor in a paper format (due on April 20th at 9:30am (both a hardcopy and by email – attachments only. Links will not be accepted!). You will give an oral presentation to the class by the end of the semester (see schedule below). Further details will be provided in class.

Academic Honesty: Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is “the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity.” Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service through which SLU fulfills its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The full University-level Academic Integrity Policy can be found on the Provost's Office website. Additionally, SLU-Madrid has posted its academic integrity policy online. As a member of the University community, you are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions and appeals.

Your instructor will review these matters during the first weeks of the term. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to the instructor, the chair of the department of your academic program or the Academic Dean of the Madrid Campus.

Diversity and Inclusion: Saint Louis University is committed to fostering a positive, inclusive and welcoming learning and working environment. SLU-Madrid's policies prohibit discrimination based on race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, pregnancy, age, disability, physical appearance, financial or socio-economic status, immigration status, parental or marital status, veteran status or any other protected classification of identity. Discrimination includes any form of unequal treatment such as denial of opportunities, harassment, and violence. Sex-based violence includes rape, sexual assault, unwanted touching, stalking, dating/interpersonal violence, and sexual exploitation.

If you experience or witness any kind of discrimination, you are encouraged (but not required) to report the incident to the SLU-Madrid's Department of Student Life (studentlife-madrid@slu.edu; +34 915 54 58 58, ext. 213) or, if you wish to speak to a confidential resource, the Wellness Center (wellness-madrid@slu.edu +34 915 54 58 58, ext. 230), both located on the ground floor of Padre Rubio Hall. You can also report the incident to the University's Hotline (900-99-0011; then enter 877-525-5669 when asked for the hotline number).

Please know that instructors have a responsibility to inform SLU-Madrid when made aware of incidents of discrimination, harassment sexual misconduct, and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted

receive information about options for reporting and support resources. If you wish to speak with a confidential resource, the following are available on campus and off campus:

- Counselors at [SLU-Madrid's Wellness Center](#), located on the ground floor of Padre Rubio Hall (wellness-madrid@slu.edu; 915 54 58 58, ext. 230).
- Counselors at Sinews Multilingual Therapy Institute, SLU-Madrid's off-campus counseling and mental health services provider (www.sinews.es; 917 00 19 79).
- SLU-Madrid's Campus Chaplain, Fr. James O'Leary, S.J. (james.oleary@slu.edu; 915 54 58 58, ext. 279).

Additional information and resources are posted on our [Safety and Security](#) and [Community Standards](#) webpages.

Accessibility, Disability and Learning Resources: In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking or emailing your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Accessibility and Disability Resources) by contacting the Academic Dean's Office (advising-madrid@slu.edu) or by reviewing the [Academic Resources website online](#).

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course. Please contact disabilityservices-madrid@slu.edu or +34 915 54 58 58, extension 242 or 249. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services. Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact Disability Services.

For more information about academic accommodations, see [SLU-Madrid's Center for Accessibility and Disability Resources webpage](#).

Needs Security Statement: Students in personal or academic distress and/or who may be specifically experiencing challenges such as securing food or difficulty navigating campus resources, and who believe this may affect their performance in the course, are encouraged to contact Student Life (studentlife-madrid@slu.edu or +34 915 54 58 58, ext. 213) for support. Furthermore, please notify the instructor if you are comfortable in doing so, as this will enable them to assist you with finding the resources you may need.

Use of Posted Course Content: SLU-Madrid prohibits recording and transmission of classroom lectures and discussions by students unless written permission from the class instructor has been obtained and all students in the class as well as guest speakers have been informed that audio/video recording may occur. Recordings, course materials, and lecture notes may not be exchanged or distributed for commercial purposes, for compensation, or for any other purpose other than study by students enrolled in the class. Public distribution of such materials may constitute copyright infringement in violation of Spanish law. Violation of this policy may

subject a student to disciplinary action in accordance with SLU-Madrid policies on Student Rights and Responsibilities and Community Standards.

GDPR Norms Concerning Class Recordings: In accordance with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we inform you that if you are a participant in an on-line classroom, your image and voice may be recorded by Saint Louis University in Spain, S.A., CIF A28654879, in 28003 Madrid (Spain), Avenida del Valle 34, for the sole purpose of the instruction of the said class that you are registered in. This information will be stored for the duration of the on-line class and erased thereafter by the professor of the course. Should you not want your image or voice to be a part of this class recording, please contact your professor to indicate that you will be turning your camera and microphone off and be participating via chat.

In addition, we would like to inform you that all recordings will be available to you in Canvas and are exclusively for the use of the participants of the said class and should not be published on any other platform without the prior consent of all participants that may appear in the recording.

According to the rights conferred by the current GDPR regulation, you may exercise your rights of access, rectification, limitation of treatment, deletion, portability and opposition to the processing of your personal data, as well as the consent given for the treatment of it by directing your requests to the address indicated above or by sending an email to dpo-madrid@slu.edu.

Spring 2022 Course Outline (Subject to change at the instructor's discretion):

Week	Date	Topic	Readings and Assignments DUE
1	Jan 12	Syllabus review and Introduction to Abnormal Psychology	Syllabus and Ch. 1
2	Jan 17	Paradigms and Etiology of Abnormal Behavior	Ch. 2
	Jan 19	Therapeutic Techniques for Abnormal Behavior	Ch. 3
3	Jan 24	Therapeutic Techniques for Abnormal Behavior	Ch. 3
	Jan 26	Classification and Assessment of Abnormal Behavior	Ch. 4
4	Jan 10	Mood Disorders	Ch. 5
	Feb 2	Mood Disorders	Ch. 5
5	Feb 7	Stress and Dissociative Disorders and Health and Coping	Ch. 7 and 8
	Feb 9	Stress and Dissociative Disorders and Health and Coping	Ch. 7 and 8
6	Feb 14	Personality Disorders	Ch. 9
	Feb 16	Personality Disorders	Ch. 9
7	Feb 21	Group activity	
	Feb 23	SLU WINTER BREAK – No class	
8	Feb 28	MIDTERM EXAM	
	Mar 2	Anxiety Disorders	Ch. 6
9	Mar 7	Anxiety Disorders	Ch. 6
	Mar 9	Eating Disorders	Ch. 10
10	Mar 14	Schizophrenia and Psychosis	Ch. 13
	Mar 16	Schizophrenia and Psychosis	Ch. 13
11	Mar 21	Intellectual disabilities and ASD	Ch. 15
	Mar 23	Intellectual disabilities and ASD	Ch. 15
12	Mar 28	Childhood Disorders	Ch. 16
	Mar 30	Childhood Disorders	Ch. 16
13	Apr 4	HOLIDAY – Semana Santa (Easter Break)	
	Apr 7	HOLIDAY – Semana Santa (Easter Break)	
14	Apr 11	Legal Perspectives	Ch. 18

	Apr 13	Group activity	
15	Apr 18	Film	
	Apr 20	Film	
16	Apr 25	Oral Presentation	
	Apr 27	Oral Presentation	
17	May 8	FINAL EXAM	

Spring 2023 Important Dates

Thursday, January 12	First day of classes
Sunday, January 22	Last day to drop a class without a grade of W and/or add a class
	Last day to choose Audit (AU) or Pass/No Pass (P/NP) options
	Application deadline for spring semester degree candidates
Wednesday, February 22	Registration for Summer 2023 sessions opens
Thursday-Friday, February 23-24	Winter Break
Sunday, March 5	Professors' deadline to submit midterm grades
Sunday, March 19	Last Day to drop a class and receive a grade of W
Monday, March 20	Madrid Campus Holiday
Saturday-Sunday, April 1-11	Semana Santa/Easter Break
Wednesday, April 19	Registration for Fall 2023 semester opens
Friday, April 28	Last day of classes
Monday, May 1	Madrid Campus Holiday
Tuesday, May 2	Madrid Campus Holiday
Wednesday, May 3	Study Day
Thursday-Wednesday, May 4-10	Final Exams
Friday, May 12	Commencement

Final Exam Schedule

Class Meeting Time*	Exam Date/Time
Mondays 8:30, 9 and 9:30 a.m.	Tuesday, May 9, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Mondays 10 a.m.	Wednesday, May 10, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Mondays 11 and 11:30 a.m.	Thursday, May 4, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Mondays 12 and 12:30 p.m.	Monday, May 8, 12 to 3 p.m.
Mondays 1 p.m.	Wednesday, May 10, 12 to 3 p.m.
Mondays 2 p.m.	Tuesday, May 9, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Mondays 3:30 p.m.	Thursday, May 4, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Mondays 5 p.m.	Friday, May 5, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Mondays 6:30 and 7 p.m.	Monday, May 8, 7 to 10 p.m.
Tuesdays 8 a.m.	Friday, May 5, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays 9:30 and 10 a.m.	Monday, May 8, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays 11 a.m.	Tuesday, May 9, 12 to 3 p.m.
Tuesdays 12:30 p.m.	Friday, May 5, 12 to 3 p.m.
Tuesdays 2 p.m.	Thursday, May 4, 12 to 3 p.m.
Tuesdays 3:30 and 4 p.m.	Monday, May 8, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Tuesdays 5 and 5:30 p.m.	Wednesday, May 10, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Tuesdays 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 9, 7 to 10 p.m.

*For courses meeting only on Wednesdays or Fridays, follow the Monday schedule. For courses meeting only on Thursdays, follow the Tuesday schedule.