

*Note: This syllabus may change slightly before the beginning of class in January 2012. You will be notified in class of any changes and will receive a syllabus on the first day of the course.*

**PSYC 3140 (O) – Abnormal Psychology**  
**Faculty of Health**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**York University, Winter 2012**

**LECTURES:** Wednesdays 11:30 – 2:30 in Vari Hall C

**Course Director:** Leah Shapira (lshapira@yorku.ca)

**Office Hours:** By appointment in 022 Behavioural Sciences Building

**Teaching Assistants:** Samantha Fuss (sfuss@yorku.ca)

Krista Kelly (kkelly@yorku.ca)

*TA Office Hours by appointment.*

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Butcher, J.N., Mineka, S., Taylor, S., & Antony, M. (2010). *Abnormal Psychology, Canadian Edition*. Toronto: Pearson Canada.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES/DESCRIPTION**

What does it mean to be “normal”? Abnormal psychology is a field in psychology devoted to the study of psychopathology and abnormal behavior. The goal of this course is to provide you with a comprehensive overview of the different psychological disorders that can maladaptively impact one’s life and well-being. You will learn about symptoms and treatments for each type of mental and emotional disorder. You will learn about the biological, social, and psychological factors that cause and perpetuate psychopathology. In addition to lectures and assigned text book readings, films and case study material will be presented.

**Prerequisite:** PSYC 1010 6.0 with a minimum grade of C

**CLASS FORMAT AND EVALUATION**

There will be two, non-cumulative **multiple choice** tests during the term. A cumulative final exam will occur during the exam period in April.

Test 1: February 1st (25%)

Test 2: March 7th (30%)

Final Exam (cumulative): TBA; During April Exam Period (45%)

The course will consist of lectures and textbook readings. For the tests you will need to know all material covered in lectures **and** assigned text book readings.

*This means: Come to class!* Approximately one third of test questions will be based on textbook reading material. Approximately one third of test questions will be derived from lectures. The remaining one third will be comprised of material covered in both the lectures and textbook.

### **MISSED TESTS:**

All tests must be written on the dates scheduled above. If there are extenuating circumstances (e.g., illness, religious reasons, compassionate grounds) that result in missing a test, you need to provide a **legitimate** and **documented** (e.g. a real doctor's note) reason for being unable to do so. If you know you will miss a test ahead of time for a legitimate reason, please inform the course director prior to the test. Otherwise, documentation must be provided to the course instructor within 48 hours of the test date. If you do not do so, you will receive an F on the missed test. Having many exams in one week is not a legitimate reason for missing a test. E-mail any requests to the course director, and put the course code (PSYC3140) in the subject line.

If there is a medical or personal problem that you feel requires special consideration, you can contact the Faculty of Arts Advising Centre ([www.arts.yorku.ca/advising](http://www.arts.yorku.ca/advising)) to inquire about arrangements to assist you.

### **MAKE-UP TESTS**

If you miss a test for a legitimate reason, you will have the opportunity to write a make-up test within approximately one week of the missed test. It is your responsibility to contact the TA's and find out the date, time, and location of the make-up test. If you miss the make-up test, you will again need to provide appropriate documentation. Having another class at the time of the makeup is not a good enough reason for missing the make-up test.

### **GRADING**

Letters grades will be calculated according to the 9-point grading system utilized in undergraduate programs at York University. For full details go to:

[http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04\\_5\\_acadinfo.pdf](http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf)

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**Conversion Table**

<b>From Percentage</b>	<b>To Letter Grade</b>
90-100	A+
80- 89	A
75- 79	B+
70- 74	B
65- 69	C+
60- 64	C
55- 59	D+
50- 54	D
(Marginally below 50%) Marginally failing	E
(Below 50%) Failing	F

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents):

[http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate\\_cte\\_main\\_pages/ccas.htm](http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm)

- \*\*\*York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website (<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>)
  - As a student at York you are responsible for understanding the repercussions for plagiarism, cheating, and academy dishonesty. "I didn't know" is not considered a reasonable excuse. Cheating on exams is strictly prohibited and exams will be monitored carefully. If you have any concerns or doubts about whether an action is inappropriate, please approach the course director or TA's.
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
<b>Jan 4</b>	Welcome & What is Abnormality?	1,2,3
<b>Jan 11B</b>	Assessment	4
<b>Jan 18</b>	Stress & Adjustment Disorders Anxiety Disorders	5 6
<b>Jan 25</b>	Mood Disorders and Suicide	7
<b>Feb 1</b>	<b>Test 1</b>	
<b>Feb 8</b>	Eating Disorders & Obesity	9
<b>Feb 15</b>	Personality Disorders	11
<b>Feb 22</b>	READING WEEK ☺	
<b>Feb 29</b>	Schizophrenia/Psychosis	14
<b>Mar 7</b>	<b>Test 2</b> <i>**March 9 last day to drop course without receiving a grade**</i>	
<b>March 14</b>	Somatoform/Dissociative Disorders Addiction Disorders	8 12
<b>March 21</b>	Childhood Disorders	16
<b>March 28</b>	Therapy/Wrap-Up	17
<b>April 4 – 20</b>	<b>Final Exam:</b> Date TBA <i>(Exam will occur during the final exam period)</i>	