

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PSYC-250 - Psychopathology

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Winter 2024

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face to Face

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first-class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Duncan McCurrach, M.Sc.

EMAIL: McCurrachD@camosun.bc.ca

OFFICE: Fisher 308B

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday, 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Friday, 3:00pm – 4:30pm

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This introductory course on abnormal psychology includes a modern integration of theoretical perspectives, classification of psychological disorders, specific disorders (anxiety, mood, sexual, schizophrenia, personality, substance-abuse related), assessment, and treatment methods. Students have access to study material and exercises via computers/internet.

PREREQUISITE(S):

C in PSYC 110

And one of:

- C in PSYC 120
- C in PSYC 130
- C in PSYC 150
- C in PSYC 164
- C in PSYC 171

CO-REQUISITE(S):

See Pre-requisites

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES/OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

- 1.Explain the history of abnormal psychology (psychopathology) and the Canadian Mental Health System.
- 2.Describe the current paradigms and theories that aim to explain the cause and treatment of mental disorders.
- 3.Explain the nature of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual and the classification of mental disorders.
- 4.Describe procedures and methods of assessing mental health.
- 5.Describe current research methods used in the study of abnormal psychology.
- 6.Describe current models of cause and treatment for the following categories of mental disorders: anxiety, somatoform, eating, mood, schizophrenic, substance-abuse, personality, sexual and gender disorders.
- 7.Identify key concepts in the field of health psychology and psycho-neuro-immunology.
- 8.Describe the relationship between the field of abnormal psychology (psychopathology) and the Canadian legal and criminal justice systems.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

There is no required textbook for this class. All required course materials and assigned readings will be provided. Some students may find the following open resource textbook useful as a supplementary resource: <https://opentext.wsu.edu/abnormal-psych/wp-content/uploads/sites/41/2018/05/Fundamentals-of-Psychological-Disorders-3rd-edition-5TR-version-3.5.pdf>

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Class Dates: Wednesday, 1:30pm - 2:50pm Friday, 1:30pm - 2:50pm	Lecture Topics
Jan. 10	Class Introduction
Jan. 12	History of Psychopathology
Jan. 17	Theories of Psychopathology
Jan. 19	Assessment and Classification of Psychological Disorders
Jan. 24	In-Class Assignment #1
	Practice Exam #1 Due Thursday, Jan. 25 by 11:59pm
Jan. 26	Exam #1 - Includes Assigned Article #1: Being Sane in Insane Places (Rosenhan, 1973).
Jan. 31	Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders
Feb. 02	Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders
Feb. 07	Bipolar Disorders
Feb. 09	Depressive Disorders
Feb. 14	In-Class Assignment #2
Feb. 16	Mock Patient Interview #1
Feb. 21	Reading Break No Class
Feb. 23	Reading Break No Class
	Practice Exam 2 Due Tuesday, Feb. 27 by 11:59pm

Feb. 28	Exam #2 - Includes Assigned Article #2: The Phenomenology of Gender Dysphoria in Adults: A systematic review and meta-synthesis (Cooper et al., 2020).
Mar. 01	Anxiety Disorders
Mar. 06	Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders
Mar. 08	Trauma- and Stressor-Related Disorders
Mar. 13	In-Class Assignment #3
Mar. 15	Mock Patient Interview #2
	Practice Exam 3 Due Tuesday, Mar. 19 by 11:59pm
Mar. 20	Exam #3 – Includes Assigned Article #3: Substance Related and Addictive Disorders (Suzuki & Kober, 2018).
Mar. 22	Dissociative Disorders
Mar. 27	Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders
Mar. 29	No class (Good Friday)
Apr. 03	Eating Disorders
Apr. 05	Personality Disorders
Apr. 10	In-Class Assignment #4
Apr. 12	Mock Patient Interview #3
TBA	Practice Exam 4 Due by 11:59pm the night before the TBA date for Exam 4
TBA (April 15 to April 23)	Exam #4 (Includes Assigned Article #4: The Science Behind the Academy for Eating Disorders’ Nine Truths About Eating Disorders (Schaumberg et al., 2017).

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

Student Evaluation	Percentage of Final Grade	Date
Exam 1	16%	Jan. 26
Exam 2	16%	Feb. 28
Exam 3	16%	March 20
Exam 4	16%	TBA (April 15 to April 23)
Practice Exams	8%	See Course Schedule for Dates
In-Class Assignments	16%	See Course Schedule for Dates
Mock Patient Interviews	12%	See Course Schedule for Dates

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information. <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

LECTURE FORMAT:

This course will consist of lectures presented to you during the scheduled class times. PowerPoint slides and lecture notes will be posted to D2L before class; however, additional content may be discussed in class. Therefore, it is important that you attend class and take further notes.

ASSIGNED ARTICLES:

Throughout the semester, you will be assigned the following four articles to read:

1. Being Sane in Insane Places (Rosenhan, 1973).
2. The Phenomenology of Gender Dysphoria in Adults: A systematic review and meta-synthesis (Cooper et al., 2020).
3. Substance Related and Addictive Disorders (Suzuki & Kober, 2018).
4. The Science Behind the Academy for Eating Disorders' Nine Truths About Eating Disorders (Schaumberg et al., 2017).

Information from these articles will be tested on the subsequent exams (see course schedule).

EXAMS:

The exams may consist of multiple choice, true or false, and short-answer questions. You must write the exams during the scheduled class time in person. You must inform me before an exam if you cannot write it at the scheduled time. A make-up exam will only be scheduled if you can provide documentation for your absence. The exams will not be cumulative. Exam 4 will take place during the final exam period between April 15 and April 23.

PRACTICE EXAMS:

There will be four practice exams that must be completed online through D2L outside of class time. Practice exams will be due the night before each exam. The practice exams are open-book and there is no time limit for completing the practice exams. You will be allowed two attempts for each practice exam. Each practice exam will count towards two percent of your final grade ($4 \times 2\% = 8\%$). Practice exams may consist of multiple choice and true-or-false questions. Practice exams are noncumulative.

IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

There will be four in-class assignments required throughout the semester. Each in-class assignment will count towards four percent of your final grade ($4 \times 4\% = 16\%$). In-class assignments must be completed in class.

MOCK PATIENT INTERVIEWS:

During the semester you will be introduced to three mock patients during class. Your task will be to ask these 'patients' questions to determine the disorder(s) you think they are presenting with and to take notes. At the end of the interview, you will then submit your 'diagnosis' along with a brief write up of the symptoms presented by the mock patient that led you to that diagnosis. Each mock interview will count towards four percent of your final grade ($3 \times 4\% = 12\%$).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College

property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started: <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun

also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.