**PSY 334, Section 1000**

*Introduction to Clinical Psychology*

*Summer Session 1, 2016*

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**Office Hours:** By Appointment

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**Course Description:**

The field of psychology is a very broad and varied one. However, most of the general public sees it as only working with "patients" in either an out patient setting or in a hospital. It is this stereotyped understanding of the field of clinical psychology that we will be addressing this semester. At the end of this semester you should have an understanding of the diversity of opportunities available to clinical psychologist, a knowledge of the subspecialties within the field of clinical psychology as well as the education and training that it takes to become a clinical psychologist. We will also look into some of the more traditional techniques that clinical psychologists use as part of their daily work life. Finally we will be viewing sessions by three of the clinical psychology greats as they work with the same client!

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- describe the historical context of the emergence of clinical psychology;
- identify the differences between mental health professionals in the broad field of clinical psychology;
- identify the subspecialty areas within clinical psychology (e.g., community psychology, health psychology, and neuropsychology, etc.);
• define the main tasks of the clinical psychologist and explain how the contributions of this subspecialty fit into or relate to the broader field of psychology;

• define the criteria for what is considered abnormal versus normal and explain how these definitions fit into the notion that psychopathology exists on a continuum;

• compare/contrast the different types of psychotherapy assessments;

• discuss the ethical considerations related to the practice of psychotherapy;

• describe the components of the biopsychosocial model of psychopathology;

• develop an understanding of how to write up a psychological report, including how to synthesize the patient’s history, diagnosis and treatment plan;

• develop an understanding of the diagnostic system and;

• learn about contemporary developments in the field of clinical psychology, current issues affecting the practice of clinical psychology, what it means to be a clinical psychologist, and future directions in the field and the profession.

Evaluation:

Two in class exams will be administered. The format will be multiple choice. The last exam will not be cumulative; thus it will cover only the material presented after the midterm exam. A “clinical report” paper assignment will also be due June 09. See separate hand out. Class participation will also be used to complete the evaluation. Grades will be determined as follows:

- Class participation 40 points (5 points per class)
- Midterm Exam 100 points
- Final Exam 100 points
- Paper assignment 100 points

Optional:

A paper investigating an area not covered in class may be submitted at the end of the term for extra credit (e.g., when grades are borderline such as A- vs. A or C+ vs. B-)

Policies:

Make-up exams will be administered on an arranged basis.

Cell Phone Use During Class

Cell phone use (including texting) during class is not permitted. It can be distracting to others and will inhibit your participation. Any student found using a cell phone during class will forfeit their class participation points for that class. If you are expecting an urgent call that cannot be missed, notify me at the start of class. If the call does come in during class, please take the call outside the room.
Attendance and Participation. This class is intended to engage students in the understanding of clinical psychology, and active participation on the part of each member of the class is a necessary ingredient for creating a dynamic learning atmosphere. It will be expected and assumed that everyone has attended to the lecture each class and read the assignment from the book. I realize that some students are less than thrilled to speak in class. Nevertheless, students should make the effort to attend each class, and while in class to assure the professor that the student is alive, awake, and has some interest in and knowledge about what's going on. Five (5) points will be awarded for attendance and participation per class. These points will be deducted if you are found to be using your cell phones during class.

What does good class participation look like? Students who earn credit for class participation:

✓ Ask questions.
✓ Make thoughtful comments related to course content.
✓ Show up and are present (no cellphone activity, not online/Facebook/Twitter/whatever).
✓ Make eye contact; nod to acknowledge points, no dazed expressions!
✓ Take notes.
✓ Have textbook open.
✓ Listen to colleagues

Academic Honesty Policy: All work for the course must be done by the person enrolled in the class. Cheating may consist of copying another student’s words or ideas, or knowingly allowing another student to copy your words or ideas. Cheating may also be using unauthorized materials during an exam (ie: crib sheets, notebooks, textbooks). Any cheating or other infringement of this policy may result in the student receiving an “F” for the course as well as possible judicial action.

CLASS OUTLINE

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