

Argosy University
COURSE SYLLABUS
FP 6005

Maladaptive Behavior and Psychopathology

Faculty Information

Faculty Name: Dr. Arinn Testa, Psy.D

Campus: SF Bay Area

Contact Information: dr.arinn@yahoo.com

Office Hours: By Appointment Only

Short Faculty Bio:

Adjunct Faculty, Counseling Psychology and Forensic Psychology

Dr. Testa worked as a Forensic Psychologist for the Marin County Sheriff's Department fulfilling a research grant awarded by the California Board of Corrections. Her extensive work with forensic populations, with its emphasis on rapid treatment results such as the excessive use of pharmaceuticals, inspired her exploration into the use of Holistic alternatives in therapy. Consequently, Dr. Testa is a certified Doula emphasizing medicinal plant resources and has volunteered with midwives in Central America. To compliment this practice she is working on certification as a Holistic Health Practitioner which includes healing through bodywork and movement. She is the co-founder of an organization that supports the Children's Crisis Center in Modesto, California where she provides pro-bono consultation with families and staff on Clinical and Assessment dimensions. Other areas of specialty that Dr. Testa enjoys are Neuropsychology, Spirituality and Human Sexuality. She is currently developing a private practice in Marin County and is particularly influenced by Jungian, Gestalt and Existential Psychotherapies.

Course description:

This course is an introduction to the study of maladaptive behavior. Etiology and definition of disorders in the DSM-IV will be reviewed. The course also looks at various methods of treatment related to the disorders covered.

Course Pre-requisites: Graduate Level Status

Final Date to Drop the Class:

To receive a "W" grade a student must officially drop this class by the date listed below that corresponds to this course's term and length (indicated by bold type). Students may not withdraw from this course after the date this date. If a student chooses to discontinue course work after the final drop date, the student may receive an "F" grade for the course.

Spring Session I (7.5 week courses): February 13, 2009

Spring Session II (7.5 week courses): April 6, 2008

Spring Full Term (15 week courses): March 18, 2008

Required Textbook:

Washington D. C. American Psychiatric Association. *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. 4th Edition. American Psychiatric Association. ISBN: 0890420254

Barlow, D. H. & Durand, V. M. (2008). *Abnormal psychology: An integrative approach*. 5th Edition Cengage Learning. ISBN:0495095567

Allen Frances, M.D., and Ruth Ross, M.A.
(2001). *DSM-IV-TR® Case Studies: A Clinical Guide to Differential Diagnosis*. American Psychiatric Publishing. ISBN: 1585620556

Washington D. C. American Psychiatric Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. 5th edition. American Psychiatric Association. ISBN: 1-55798-791-2

Recommended Textbooks:

Schlesinger, L.B. (2007). *Explorations in criminal psychopathology: Clinical syndromes with forensic implications*. 2nd Edition. Charles C. Thomas. ISBN: 0-398-07688-X

Technology:

Computer:

PC: As a general guideline, students should not have computer specifications less than a Pentium III CPU, Windows XP with Service Pack 2, and 1 GB of RAM.

MAC: As a general guideline, students should not have computer specifications less than a MAC G4 processor, MAC OS X 10.4, and 1 GB of RAM.

Software:

Microsoft Office Professional (including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access and Outlook), Norton Antivirus, Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Browser:

Courses offered online are best-viewed using Microsoft Internet Explorer v5.5/6.0 (PC), Safari 1.0 (MAC), or Firefox.

Attention Mac Users: While you can use Safari 2.0 to view classes, some animation pieces may not be available with Safari 2.0 and we highly recommend using Firefox or Internet Explorer to view your class material using a Mac computer.

Course length: 7.5 Weeks

Contact Hours: 45 Hours

Credit Value: 3.0

Course Objectives:

1. Examine the etiology of major psychological disorders. Develop and justify an initial diagnosis from a brief case history, utilizing the DSM-IV-TR.
2. Identify and discuss advantages and disadvantages to psychiatric diagnosing and mental illness labels.
3. Discuss ethical issues pertaining to involuntary hospitalization, informed consent, confidentiality, mandated treatment.
4. Identify potential cross-cultural issues affecting diagnosis and culture-bound syndromes and discuss strategies to improve cross-cultural interactions within the initial clinical interview.

Program Outcomes: Master of Arts in Forensic Psychology

Program Outcome One:

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical concepts and methodological approaches to the psychological bases of behavior as it relates to the practice and application of forensic psychology.

Program Outcome Two:

A. Students will be able to distinguish and utilize the underlying theories guiding the interface between the legal system and psychology.

B. Students will be able to establish and analyze the interaction between psychology and the law in all major aspects of criminal and civil justice system.

Program Outcome Three:

Students will demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate the existing literature and body of knowledge in assessment, evaluation and research methods in forensic psychology.

Program Outcome Four:

Students will use leadership, consultative, and ethical knowledge, skills and attitudes that will allow them to succeed as a part of a professional team, capable of expanding the role of psychologists within society.

Topical Outline:

Module 1

- Introduction to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

Module 2

- Mood, Anxiety, and Somatoform Disorders

Module 3

- Dissociative, Eating, and Sleep Disorders

Module 4

- Personality and Substance-use Disorders

Module 5

- Childhood Disorders and Psychosis

Module 6

- Sexual Disorders, Sexual Dysfunctions, and Adjustment Disorders

Module 7

- The V Codes and Cross-cultural Issues

Module 8

- Legal and Ethical Issue

Grading Criteria*Grading Scale*

A	100 – 93
A-	92 – 90
B+	89 – 88
B	87 – 83
B-	82 – 80
C+	79 – 78
C	77 - 73
C-	72 – 70
F	69 and below

Grading requirements

<i>Attendance/participation</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Weekly Assignments</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>Final paper</i>	<i>35%</i>
<i>Optional</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Optional</i>	<i>10%</i>
	<i>100%</i>

Library

All resources in Argosy University's online collection are available through the Internet. The campus librarian will provide students with links, user IDs, and passwords.

Library Resources: Argosy University's core online collection features nearly 21,000 full-text journals and 23,000 electronic books and other content covering all academic subject areas including Business & Economics, Career & General Education, Computers, Engineering & Applied Science, Humanities, Science, Medicine & Allied Health, and Social & Behavior Sciences. Many titles are directly accessible through the Online

Public Access Catalog at <http://library.argosy.edu>. Detailed descriptions of online resources are located at <http://library.argosy.edu/misc/onlinedblist.html>.

In addition to online resources, Argosy University's onsite collections contain a wealth of subject-specific research materials searchable in the Online Public Access Catalog. Catalog searching is easily limited to individual campus collections. Alternatively, students can search combined collections of all Argosy University Libraries. Students are encouraged to seek research and reference assistance from campus librarians.

Information Literacy: Argosy University's Information Literacy Tutorial was developed to teach students fundamental and transferable research skills. The tutorial consists of five modules where students learn to select sources appropriate for academic-level research, search periodical indexes and search engines, and evaluate and cite information. In the tutorial, students study concepts and practice them through interactions. At the conclusion of each module, they can test their comprehension and receive immediate feedback. Each module takes less than 20 minutes to complete. Please view the tutorial at <http://library.argosy.edu/infolit/>

Academic Policies

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism: In an effort to foster a spirit of honesty and integrity during the learning process, Argosy University requires that the submission of all course assignments represent the original work produced by that student. All sources must be documented through normal scholarly references/citations and all work must be submitted using the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th Edition (2001)*. Washington DC: American Psychological Association (APA) format. Please refer to Appendix A in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th Edition* for thesis and paper format. Students are encouraged to purchase this manual (required in some courses) and become familiar with its content as well as consult the Argosy University catalog for further information regarding academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

Scholarly writing: The faculty at Argosy University is dedicated to providing a learning environment that supports scholarly and ethical writing, free from academic dishonesty and plagiarism. This includes the proper and appropriate referencing of all sources. You may be asked to submit your course assignments through "Turnitin," (www.turnitin.com), an online resource established to help educators develop writing/research skills and detect potential cases of academic dishonesty. Turnitin compares submitted papers to billions of pages of content and provides a comparison report to your instructor. This comparison detects papers that share common information and duplicative language.

Americans with Disabilities Act Policy

It is the policy of Argosy University to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If a student with disabilities needs accommodations, the student must notify the Director

of Student Services. Procedures for documenting student disability and the development of reasonable accommodations will be provided to the student upon request.

Students will be notified by the Director of Student Services when each request for accommodation is approved or denied in writing via a designated form. To receive accommodation in class, it is the student's responsibility to present the form (at his or her discretion) to the instructor. In an effort to protect student privacy, the Department of Student Services will not discuss the accommodation needs of any student with instructors. Faculty may not make accommodations for individuals who have not been approved in this manner.

The Argosy University Statement Regarding Diversity

Argosy University prepares students to serve populations with diverse social, ethnic, economic, and educational experiences. Both the academic and training curricula are designed to provide an environment in which students can develop the skills and attitudes essential to working with people from a wide range of backgrounds.