

Faculty of Science  
School of Psychology

GENS9003  
Abnormal Psychology

Semester 1, 2013

Prepared by Dr. Joshua Broderick

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**1. Information about the Course**

FACULTY	Science		
SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT	Psychology		
COURSE CODE	GENS 9003		
COURSE NAME	Abnormal Psychology		
SEMESTER	Semester 1	YEAR	2013
UNITS OF CREDIT	6	LEVEL OF COURSE	GENS

ASSUMED KNOWLEDGE,

PRE-REQ: 1170 Tw 9.96 - Tw 93K(170)14ID 15 J1EJTB/TT2 /TT2 /TT2 ref528.48 679.8 0.48 12.12 r06 Tc 0.006 Tw 9.966l.96 -0

## 5. Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. You will be able to demonstrate knowledge of general issues relating to the classification and causation of mental disorders and key related concepts (e.g. nature vs. nurture).
2. You will learn the characteristics of the basic scientific method and how it is applied in psychological research contexts – particularly with regard to mental health and be able to demonstrate that knowledge.
3. You will be able to demonstrate the major features of the specific disorders covered within the course, and be able to outline some of the major theorised causal and maintaining features of them.
4. You will be able to demonstrate knowledge of some of the medical and psychological treatments for the specific disorders discussed.
5. You will be able to demonstrate the skills of critical thinking, conceptual analysis, and written and visual expression.

## 6. Graduate Attributes

Level of Fo -1.ing

School of Psychology  
Graduate Attributes

6. Learning and application of psychology	2	You will be required to exhibit a considered application of several of the key concepts and theoretical models within the context of psychology and more specifically abnormal psychology when completing assessments.
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### 7. Rationale for the Inclusion of Content and Teaching Approach

- All teaching strategies are designed to educate students on the learning outcomes and graduate attributes outlined in the above sections (4, 5, and 6)
- The lecture material is intended to provide you with the majority of information required to gain an in depth knowledge of abnormal psychology – not only of specific disorders, but also of the scientific processes utilised in the study of them
- The prescribed textbook also provides a source of important learning information relevant to abnormal psychology. The textbook content is required reading for this course and seeks to supplement the lecture material.
- The assignment content will provide you with an opportunity to consolidate your learning of course material and to demonstrate independent research and analytical skills
- The examination (quizzes) will provide you with an opportunity to test your understanding of course material

### 8. Teaching Strategies

This course is taught entirely online.

There will be an online examination and a long answer or essay format assignment which is to be submitted online.

There will be a final examination that will be held on-site (at the Kensington Campus).

No external examinations are permitted – unless otherwise agreed with the course co-ordinator.

9.

10. Assessment								
Assessment Task	Weight	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Graduate Attributes Assessed	Date of		Feedback		
				Release	Submission	Who	When	How
Mid-Session Exam	15%	1-5	1-4,6	Week 6 (beginning)	Week 6 (end)	Dr. Broderick	Week 8	Written (online)
Assignment	40%	1-5	1-6	Week 4	Week 13	Dr. Broderick	Before final exam	Written (online)
Final Exam	45%	1-5	1-4,6	Exam Period				
<p><b>1. Assignment – 40%</b></p> <p>- An individual assignment will be required for submission in the final Week 13. You will be required to produce an online material piece using the Wiki function of the Moodle platform.</p> <p><b>2. Mid-session exam – 15%</b></p> <p>- At the beginning of Week 6 (beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April), a 20 question multiple-choice test will be made available online for one week. Students will be able to sit the examination once – and will be provided with results feedback before the end of the Census Date.</p> <p>- Details about the delivery of the online quiz will be made available to students via <i>Moodle</i> and email. Please ensure that you check both of these sources often (i.e. daily or at least bi-weekly).</p> <p><b>3. Final exam – 45%</b></p> <p>- There will be a 2-hour examination held during the University examination period.</p> <p>- The examination will include a large number of multiple choice questions covering lecture and textbook material from Weeks 1-13.</p> <p>- No student should organise travel during this period until the final examination schedule has been released and the date of the exam is known.</p> <p>- Although this course is delivered online, it is a university requirement that enrolled students be within the country whilst completing coursework and examinations.</p>								



to find and use information for your assignments or research. It will help you to search databases, identify good quality information and write assignments. It will also help you understand plagiarism and how to avoid it. All undergraduate students have to review the ELISE tutorial in their first semester and complete the quiz, but any student can review it to improve their knowledge: <http://elise.library.unsw.edu.au>.

x **What is Turnitin?**

Turnitin is a checking database which reviews your work and compares it to an international collection of books, journals, Internet pages and other student's assignments. The database checks referencing and whether you have copied something from another student, resource, or off the Internet. Sometimes students submit their work into Turnitin when they hand it in, but academics can also use it to check a student's work when they are marking it. You can find out more about Turnitin here: <http://telt.unsw.edu.au/turnitin>.

**What if plagiarism is found in my work?**

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in a honours thesis) even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here

[www.unsw.edu.au/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf](http://www.unsw.edu.au/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf)

**Examples of plagiarism**

**Using the internet appropriately**

A first year student handed in an assignment where she had copied from a website. Her lecturer realised she didn't understand you have to reference websites in the same way you reference books and journal articles. The lecturer explained how to reference and sent her to a workshop at the Learning Centre to help her improve her skills.

**Working together on a math assignment**

A group of Mathematics students worked together on an assignment when they had been told this was not allowed. All questions where the students had worked together were given zero, and this led to some student failing the assessment.

**No referencing in an assessment**

A third year student submitted a major assessment that included material from a journal article published in Canada. When his essay was submitted into Turnitin, it let the academic know that the student didn't reference the material. The student was given zero for the essay, and because it was worth 50 per cent he failed the course.

**Copying design work**

A final year design student used images of someone else's designs in her work and he said the designs were his own. The matter was formally investigated by his Faculty and he was found to have committed academic misconduct and failed the course.

**Further information and assistance**

If you would like further information or assistance with avoiding plagiarism, you can contact the Learning Centre. The Learning Centre at The University of New South Wales has two locations:

**UNSW Learning Centre**

Lower Ground Floor, North Wing, Chancellery Building  
(C22 Kensington Campus – near Student Central)

[www.lc.unsw.edu.au](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au)

Phone: 9385 2060



Email: [learningcentre@unsw.edu.au](mailto:learningcentre@unsw.edu.au)

**Opening Hours:**

Monday to Thursday: 9am - 5pm and

Friday: 9am - 2.30pm

**COFA Campus Learning Centre**

Email: [cofalearningcentre@unsw.edu.au](mailto:cofalearningcentre@unsw.edu.au)

Phone: 9385 0739

#### 14. Administrative Matters

The *School of Psychology Student Guide*, available on [http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/students/current/files/Student\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/students/current/files/Student_Guide.pdf), contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- x Attendance requirements;
- x Assignment submissions and returns;
- x Assessments;
- x Special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- x Student Code of Conduct;
- x Student complaints and grievances;
- x Student Equity and Disability Unit; and
- x Occupational Health & Safety.

Students should familiarise themselves with the information contained in this *Guide*.