



**Psychopathology**  
Spring 2024 – PSY 389:102  
Wednesday, 6:00PM – 8:50PM,  
Central King Building, room 314  
DELIVERY MODE: Face-to-Face

**Instructor:** Nicholas Jones, MA

**E-mail:** njones@njit.edu (Please contact solely from your NJIT email address and allow for at least 24-48 hours for a response.)

**Office Hours:** By appointment only Monday – Friday, via Google Meet or in-person

<https://calendly.com/njones4/psy-389-102>

### **Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites**

This course requires a prerequisite/co-requisite of PSY 210.

### **Course Description**

The Psychopathology course explores the ways in which psychological disorders manifest, are evaluated and assessed, and treated. We will look at the models used, the research conducted in this area, and ethical considerations that should be taken into account. Ultimately, we will work toward a better empathetic understanding of those who experiences mental distress.

### **Course Goals**

The purpose of this course is to:

- Compare and contrast different psychological disorders
- Distinguish between behaviors that are usual or unusual and those that are symptomatic of a psychological disorder
- Articulate the methods by which psychological disorders are classified and evaluated
- Describe the models that inform etiology and treatment of psychological disorders
- Explain how scientific research explore psychological disorders
- Critically evaluate statements made and portrayals of psychological disorders
- Develop empathy for the mentally distressed

### **Course Materials**

Textbook- Abnormal Psychology (provided by Lumen Learning) – which will be available for free on Canvas under the files tab

### **Course Requirements**

This course consists of lectures, in-class small group discussions, weekly discussion board postings, two exams, and a final project. Lectures will integrate assigned textbook chapters with other relevant content. Attendance is required.

### **Discussion Posts:**

Reading discussion boards and small group work: small group activities, designed to support learning and provide a space for critical discussion and collaboration, are an important part of this course. At the beginning of the semester, students will be assigned to groups of 3-4 and the same groups will interact via online discussion boards throughout the course.

1. In order to receive credit for the discussion, you must answer the question that is asked and then respond to someone else in your group. More information on this to follow.

- Please view schedule below for complete deadlines.

\*I will not permit discussion posts after the deadline, so please be timely.

### ***Exams:***

There is no cumulative final for this course. There will be two in-class exams each covering the same amount of material. Exams will reflect the content focused on in class and will be closed-book/closed-notes. All exams will be proctored.

Note: Make-up exams are allowed only if provided with appropriate documentation (e.g., a doctor's note, a police report, etc.) at least one-week prior to the scheduled exam date, except in case of an unforeseeable emergency. Make-up exam will not be given if these criteria are not satisfied.

### ***Final Project***

This assignment is designed to help you visualize mental illness by creating a doll that symbolizes a disorder of your choosing based on what you've learned in the class. More will be discussed in class but the Project involves two parts: 1) doll house and 2) video that explains your project in detail.

### ***Attendance and Participation:***

The delivery mode of this course is face-to-face, which means we will meet in person, during the designated class days/times. You are expected to attend all classes. To receive credit, you must be in class on time, stay for the entire time, and contribute in-class activities and discussions. You must be in class that day to complete these activities. There will be no make-up for in-class activity.

Absences are excused only if provided with appropriate documentation (e.g., a doctor's note, a police report, etc.). You are allowed two unexcused absences throughout the semester. **Additionally, two latenesses (15 minutes or later) will equocate to 1 unexcused absence. Any absences after 2 can result in a failing grade for the class.**

Please note that web surfing, texting, side- conversations, coming in late, leaving the class, and similar activities prevent students from being fully present, distracts the Professor and other students, and interferes with the learning process.

### ***Course Grading***

Course grades will be based on the following:

Assessment type	Percentage
Exam I	15%
Exam II	20%
Final Project	25%
Discussion Posts	25%
- 1.9% question/response post	
Attendance & Participation	15%
TOTAL:	100%

Letter grades will be determined using the following scale:

Percentage	Letter grade
90% and above	A
85 - 89%	B+
80 - 84%	B
77 - 79%	C+
70 - 76%	C
60 - 69%	D
Below 60%	F

### **Course Policies**

*Academic Integrity:* Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at: <http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>.

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at [dos@njit.edu](mailto:dos@njit.edu).

### Use of AI Technologies

You may use AI programs e.g. ChatGPT to help generate ideas and brainstorm, however, you should note that the material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise problematic. Beware that use may also stifle your own independent thinking and creativity.

You may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own. If you include material generated by an AI program, it should be cited like any other reference material.

Academic Accommodations: If you require academic accommodations, you must file a request with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (<https://www.njit.edu/accessibility/>). You should file your request as soon as possible. Retroactive accommodations are not allowed.

### **The Writing Center**

The Writing Center (G17 Central King) is available for 45-minute individual and group appointments with professional writing tutors both onsite and online. This resource is intended to help you improve your communication and writing skills. Tutors can help with planning assignments, improving your writing, refining an essay or multimedia project, or other communication-based needs. To make an appointment, please visit <https://njit.mywconline.com>

**Procedures and policies defined in this syllabus are subject to change. If you decide to stay enrolled in this course after receiving this syllabus, I will assume that you have read the entire syllabus and have agreed to all the policies outlined.**

## **SCHEDULE**

<b>We ek</b>	<b>Dat e</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readi ngs</b>	<b>Assignments Due (by class)</b>
1	1/17	Introduction to course; Module 1: Introduction to Psychopathology	Syllabus, Ch. 1	
2	1/24	Module 2: Psychological Research	Ch. 2	Module 1 Discussion – due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
3	1/31	Module 3: Etiology and Treatment	Ch. 3	Module 2 Discussion – due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
4	2/7	Module 4: Anxiety Disorders	Ch. 4	Module 3 Discussion –

				due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
5	2/14	Module 5: Obsessive-Compulsive and Stressor-Related Disorders; Exam I prep	Ch. 5	Module 4 Discussion - due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
6	2/21	<b>In Person Exam I</b>	Ch. 6	Module 5 Discussion - due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
7	2/28	Module 6: Dissociative and Somatic Symptom Disorders	Ch. 7, 8	Module 6 Discussion - due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
8	3/6	Module 7: Mood Disorders & Module 8: Eating and Sleep Disorders; Exam II prep	Ch. 9	Module 7/8 Discussion - due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
9	3/13	<b>Spring Recess - No Classes</b>	Ch. 10	
10	3/20	<b>In Person Exam II</b>	Ch. 11	
11	3/27	Module 9: Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders	Ch. 12	Module 9 Discussion - due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
12	4/3	Module 11: Schizophrenia	Ch. 14	Module 11 Discussion - due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
13	4/10	Module 12: Personality Disorders	Ch. 15	Module 12 Discussion - due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
14	4/17	Module 13: Disorders of	Ch. 16	Module 13 Discussion

		Childhood and Adolescence		- due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
15	4/24	Module 14: Neurocognitive and Other Disorders		Module 14 Discussion - due by class time <b>Response to Group Due by Friday (11:59pm) of same week</b>
16	5/8	<b>Final Project Due</b>		

Note: The content of this schedule might be adjusted/changed by the instructor depending on students' needs.