

**American University of Beirut  
Faculty of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences**

**SBHS 303, Advanced Psychopathology**

**1. Course Learning Outcomes**

Enhanced theoretical and cultural understanding of major disorders covered in the DSM-IV-TR, and familiarity with best practices in their identification, treatment, and prevention.

**2. Resources Available to Students**

- A. Textbook: Barlow, D.H, & Duran, V.M. (2002). *Abnormal psychology: An integrative approach (with InfoTrac & CD-ROM). Third edition.* Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.
- B. Psychology books and periodicals in the university libraries.
- C. Electronic journal titles and literature search engines (e.g., Psych Info)

**3. Grading Criteria**

- A. *Seminar presentation:* Graduate students will lead one seminar each on a topic of their choice. As part of their seminar presentation, students are expected to draw on material from their assigned textbook, conduct independent Psych-Info literature searches on their respective subjects, provide a critical overview of the topic with particular reference to Middle Eastern culture, and generate as much class discussion as possible. 25% of the final mark (grading criteria will be provided at the course orientation session).
- B. *Essay presentation:* Students will be required to present an essay on a topic of their choice (the topic could be the same as that of the seminar). The purpose of the essay is to provide a critical appraisal of the scientific literature on the topic with particular reference to Middle Eastern culture; highlight methodological, theoretical, and practice issues related to the topic; identify gaps in research; and generate hypotheses for future consideration. The essay should follow APA publication style (see APA Publication Manual, copy available in Library, copy available in SBS Department). 30% of the final mark (grading criteria will be provided at the course orientation session).

- C. *Final Examination*: A 120-minute final examination. The examination will cover reading and class material, and will comprise multiple-choice and/or short essay questions. 30% of the final mark.
- D. *Class participation*: Students are expected to read assigned material from the textbook and other reading materials and come prepared for class discussion. 15% of the final mark.

#### 4. Schedule

Week	Topic	Reading
1	Course Orientation	
2	Psychopathology & Diversity	# 1
3	DSM-IV and Culture	# 2
4	Assessment and Culture	# 3
5	Anxiety Disorders	# 5
6	Somatoform/Dissociative Disorders	# 6
7	Mood Disorders	# 7
8	Suicidal Behavior	
9	Eating Disorders	# 8
10	Sexual Disorders	# 10
11	Substance-related Disorders	# 11
12	Schizophrenic Disorders	# 13
13	Cognitive Disorders	# 15
<b>Essays are due at the start of week 13</b>		
14	Review, Analysis, Synthesis	
<b>Final Examination to be Scheduled</b>		

The *final* course schedule will be distributed after an orientation meeting and assignment of the seminar topics.

#### 5. Course Policy

- A. *Illness*: The rescheduling of seminar presentations or extensions of deadlines will be granted only for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons, provided the matter is discussed with the instructor **prior** to the due date and provided acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim is presented.
- B. *Plagiarism*: Plagiarism is considered a scholastic offense, and is subject to disciplinary actions (see AUB Policies and Procedures on Definitions of Academic Misconduct and Disciplinary Actions).