



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: PSYC 2310 Abnormal Psychology

Section ID: 80420.202380

Semester and Year: Fall 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Start Date: August 21, 2023

End Date: December 08, 2023

Course Format: CON - Conventional Methodology

Catalog Course Description: Topics covered include abnormal reactions to frustrations, psychotherapy, theories of personality structure, neural functions, receptor mechanism, attention, and perception. Principles are included that relate to law enforcement. **F**

Meeting Details: M; 06:00PM - 09:05PM; MMH 118

Course Drop Deadline: October 27, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Megan McCarter Cates

Role: Adjunct Faculty

Office Location: No office (on-campus meeting location will be arranged based on available space per appointment)

Office Hours: By Appointment Only (please contact via e-mail only to make an appointment)

Office Phone: No campus office phone (please utilize eLearn or Walters State email to contact me between classes)

Email: megan.mccarter-cates@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Dr. Whitney Jarnagin

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-2636

Secretary Name: Mrs. Lisa Horner

Secretary Phone: 423-585-2633

Required Textbook(s) and Materials



Revel Abnormal Psychology in a Changing World, 11e

ISBN: 9780135792049

Authors: Jeffrey Nevid, Spencer Rathus, Beverly Greene

Publisher: Pearson

Publication Date: 2021

Edition: 11

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- 1. Identify the changes within the field of abnormal psychology.
- 2. Identify the major theories that define abnormal psychology.
- 3. Identify research methods, diagnosis, and assessment of abnormal behavior.
- 4. Identify various disorders and how the field of psychology uses various treatment methods.
- 5. Analyze legal and ethical issues in abnormal psychology.

Instructional Approach and Methods

This course will utilize diverse teaching methods dependent on the context and content of the information presented to students. Discussion will be encouraged and facilitated by the instructor to ensure that all contributions are respectful and that the course stays on pace with weekly content objectives.

This is one section of a broad field that is constantly undergoing research and changes to what is accepted as standards of assessment, etiology, diagnosis, treatment and even names and categories of psychiatric conditions, as is evident by the fact that the text for this class is the latest in the series of multiple editions, which will be far from the last.

Each student's background experience, values system, personality, learning style, academic and career objectives will differ, allowing for a broad range of perspectives and impressions in response to the course material, as is the case in the clinical, research and educational fields of applied professional practice of this course material when working with patients, subjects, students and colleagues.

Just as a team of colleagues (each with varied professional experiences and points of view) managed to collaborate to write the text for this course, all students in this course will be expected to:

- 1) view one another as members of a unified learning team,
- 2) value differences in perspective as educational opportunities to view the subject matter through alternative lenses (as this ability will be necessary for any who wish to continue in this field, whether that be as a researcher, clinician, or educator), and
- 3) stay up-to-date with reading and course assignments
- 4) ask questions promptly if ever unclear on any course content or assignments
- 5) hold themselves accountable to ensuring an atmosphere of encouragement, patience and consideration when interacting with fellow students, the instructor and any guest lecturers in discussion, whether in-person or in eLearn.

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

100 points of your grade in this course will be based on your attendance, group collaboration efforts, and taking part in mentoring with your instructor.

- Making frequent, intelligent contributions to the class discussions, while being respectful toward all members of the class and their views, will result also in weekly points.
- Weekly tasks will be dynamically assigned and will also result in weekly points.

200 points of your grade in this course will be based on reading quizzes.

- To help you understand the concepts discussed in the textbook, you will be required to complete 10 quizzes.
- Each quiz will be presented at the beginning of class, will cover concepts you read about in your textbook, and be worth 20 points.

200 points of your grade in this course will be based on a literature review paper.

500 points of your grade in this course will be based on exams.

- There will be 5 exams, each worth 100 points, given during the semester. You will be expected to define concepts, answer questions, and (or) multiple-choice questions.
- Exams will be conducted in-person.

- Each exam may include multiple-choice, true-false, and essay items. The exams will range from 50-100 items and you will be given 90 minutes to complete each exam.
- There will be no after-the-fact, make-up examinations. If you miss one exam, the final exam score will count twice (once for the missed exam and once for your final exam score); any additional missed exams will be counted as zero points.

Grading Scale

A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	599 and below

Assignments

All projects and assignments will be facilitated in eLearn.

Academic Honesty

Faculty expect all students to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism - refers to using another person's ideas or writing without giving proper credit to the original source. Indulging in this type of conduct will subject the student to disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures of Walters State Community College as outlined in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for the paper/exam/presentation. Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions contained in the college Catalog/Student Handbook apply (see policy 04:18:02 Disciplinary Sanctions).

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following:

- a. Using cut/paste tool from original document with no references given.
- b. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own.
- c. Forging or otherwise altering signatures.
- d. Giving or falsifying academic documents or materials.

2. Cheating - construed as attempting to deceive or mislead which includes, but is not limited to the following:

- a. Utilizing old tests, projects, notes or written papers.
 - b. Providing unauthorized information to a fellow student about exam content.
 - c. Receiving unauthorized aid from any source with quizzes, examinations, or other assignments.
 - d. Seeking information in an unacceptable manner during/preceding an exam or other assigned work (cheat sheet, verbal exchange, looking at another person's paper or electronic device, utilizing headphones, using textbook when the test/quiz is not an open book test/quiz, using textbook test bank etc.).
 - e. Consulting with a classmate or others when taking a computerized test.
 - f. Disregarding other specific policies and procedures outlined for a particular class.
 - g. Utilizing unapproved technology/electronic equipment during testing (i.e.: mobile devices such as cell phones, smart devices, or tablets, etc.).
 - h. Using the same Internet Protocol network address (IP address) as another student for testing without approval from the course faculty.
3. The use of any generative artificial intelligence (AI) tool, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google's Bard, or any other pre-trained language model (commonly referred to as "chatbot"), must be cited for any assignment where it has been used and may not be used unless specifically allowed by your instructor. Please see your instructor or the course policies within the syllabus if you have questions.

Student Resources

TUTORING SERVICES

Students in need of tutoring assistance are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Tutoring located as follows:

- Morristown Campus - Student Services Building Room L107 - (423) 585-6920
- Niswonger Campus - GRNV 226 - (423) 798-7982
- Sevierville Campus - MMH Room 210 - (865) 286-2787
- Claiborne Campus - Room 123A - (423) 851-4761

Specific tutoring assistance in mathematics and writing is available in-person and online as follows:

- Morristown Campus - English Learning Lab - HUM 120 - (423) 585-6970

[Walters State English Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.walters.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab](https://www.walters.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)

- Morristown Campus - Mathematics Lab - MBSS 222 - (423) 585-6872

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)
ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Students who need assistance with computing and technology issues should contact the IET Helpdesk by phone at Morristown: (423) 318-2742; Niswonger: (423) 798-8186; or Sevierville: (865) 286-2789 or on-line access.

[Walters State Helpdesk \(opens in new window\)](https://helpdesk.ws.edu)
helpdesk.ws.edu

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES

Students with disabilities must register with Student Support Services each semester in the Student Services Building, Room U134 (phone (423) 585-6892) if they need any special facilities, services, or consideration.

[Walters State Student Support Services \(opens in new window\)](https://ws.edu/student-services/disability/)
ws.edu/student-services/disability/

SUICIDE PREVENTION STATEMENT

Walters State is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at Walters State who is experiencing feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 9-8-8 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or Text 838255.

Walters State has a relationship in place with the following community agencies to provide services (may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, etc.):

- Cherokee Health Systems 423-586-5032
- Frontier Health 423-467-3600

College Policies

STUDENTS HANDBOOK AS OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Walters State Community College Student Handbook. All students attending Walters State Community College, regardless of the time, location, or format of the class, must abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the current Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook and the current Walters State Timetable of Classes.

[Walters State Catalog \(opens in new window\)](http://catalog.ws.edu/)
catalog.ws.edu/

[Walters State Timetable of Classes \(opens in new window\)](http://ws.edu/admissions/registration/)
ws.edu/admissions/registration/

PURPOSE, LIMITATIONS AND MODIFICATION OF SYLLABUS

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to change at any time. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus for the semester/year specified in the Course Information section of the syllabus. This syllabus is only valid for the semester/year specified and course requirements are not guaranteed for future semesters.

COURSE GROUND RULES

- Students must attend the first day of on-ground class or contact the instructor prior to the first class. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class. Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade.
- Regular class attendance is a student's obligation for any course regardless of format. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook). If a student misses class, it is his or her responsibility to contact the instructor regarding missed assignments and/or activities and to be prepared for the next class assignment.
- Students enrolled in web courses must follow the course attendance policy defined for online attendance during the first week of class and throughout the term. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class during week one OR may result in the accrual of absences which may negatively impact the student's grade in the course.
- Students who have not paid fees on time and/or are not correctly registered for this class and whose names do not appear on official class rolls generated by the Walters State student information system (MyWS) will not be allowed to remain in class or receive credit for this course.
- Electronic devices must not disrupt the instructional process or college-sponsored academic activity. Use of electronic devices is prohibited unless use of the device is relevant to the activity and use is sanctioned by the faculty member in charge. Electronic devices that are not relevant

to the activity or sanctioned by the faculty member in charge should be set so that they will not produce an audible sound during classroom instruction or other college-sponsored academic activity.

FINANCIAL AID

Students receiving any type of financial aid or scholarship should contact the Financial Aid Office before making any changes to their schedule. Schedule changes without prior approval may result in loss of award for the current term and future terms.

All forms of student Financial Aid may be jeopardized or lost due to the lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress in one or multiple courses. Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress may negatively impact a student's degree/certificate completion pace and further jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

For information related to the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather or other events, please check the Senators Emergency Text system or the college's Web site at:

[Walters State Homepage \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/home/

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://twitter.com/waltersstate>

or call the college's student information line, 1-800-225-4770, option 1; the Sevier County Campus, (865) 774-5800, option 7; the Niswonger Campus (423) 798-7940, option 7; or the Claiborne County Campus, 423-636-6200, option 7. Also, please monitor local TV and radio stations for further announcements.

When an event or disaster interrupts the scheduled operations of the college and the ability to proceed with the academic course activities as planned, the college and your instructor may alter the course plan outlined in the syllabus. Should an event occur, students should refer to their course e-Learn pages and/or class materials previously delivered to receive guidance from their instructor. Students should continue to monitor the official college channels of communication listed in the above paragraph. If you would like to sign up for the Senators Emergency Text system, please go to the following Web site:

[Senator Emergency Text System \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/set/

Dual Enrollment students attending on a high school campus should refer to the high school inclement weather cancellations.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Brightspace (commonly known as eLearn or D2L) is the college's Learning Management System (LMS).

Brightspace is committed to accessibility by "deliver[ing] a learning experience that meets the needs of all people, regardless of age or ability." [Brightspace Accessibility Standard \(opens in new window\)](#)

Brightspace is also committed to guarding student data and privacy. [Brightspace Privacy Policy \(opens in new window\)](#)