

George Mason University**Course:** PSYC 414: Behavior Disorders of Childhood (3 Credits)**Semester:** Spring 2020**Time & Location:** Mondays & Wednesdays, 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM, Art & Design Building, L008**Instructor:** Diana Keay, M.S.**Email:** dkeay@gmu.edu**Office Location:** Buchanan Hall D217-J**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Fridays 3:30-4:30 pm. Only by appointment**Office Phone:** 703-993-5498**Prerequisites:** PSYC 313 Child Development, and PSYC 325 Abnormal Psychology.**Required Textbook**

Abnormal Child Psychology, 7th Edition

Eric J. Mash; David A. Wolfe

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Course Description and Objectives

The main goal of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to apply and expand their knowledge of clinical science within the context of childhood psychopathology. This course draws on past coursework in developmental, child, abnormal, and biopsychology in order to build a framework for the evaluation of current research and practice within the field of clinical psychology as it applies to children. Specifically, we will explore the symptoms commonly displayed by children diagnosed with disorders that impair their cognitive, social, emotional, and behavioral functioning. We will also examine the potential etiological explanations and various treatment options associated with these conditions.

By the end of this course, students should have a more comprehensive understanding of child mental health, the characteristics of the major disorders covered, and the issues that surround diagnosis and treatment. We will discover together that mental illness is, by nature, a spectrum, with individual children exhibiting to varying degrees different symptoms that may or may not lead to a diagnosis.

Important Dates Spring 2020

Last day to add classes	Tue. Jan 28
Last Day to Drop (with 100% tuition refund)	Wed. Feb 5
Last Day to Drop (with 50% refund)	Tue. Feb 11
Unrestricted Withdrawal Period	Wed. Feb 12 – Mon. Feb 24
Selective Withdrawal Period (100% tuition liability)	Tue. Feb 25 – Mon. Mar 30
Spring Break: No Classes	Mon. Mar 9 – Sun. Mar 15
Last day of classes	Mon. May 4
Reading Day	Tue. May 5 (Wed. May 6)
Exam Period	Wed. May 6 – Wed. May 13

Technology and Email

Students will be expected to access and use Blackboard on a regular basis. Important information, such as the syllabus and class materials, will be posted here. To access Blackboard, log in at: <http://mymason.gmu.edu>, click on the Courses tab and locate your course link in the Course List.

Students should check their GMU email account regularly (at least once per day) and use it when communicating with me about course-related matters. I do not send course information or updates to any email address other than those supported by GMU. I usually answer all emails within a day or two. I do not reply to emails on weekends.

Class Cancellation Policy

In the event of inclement weather or an unexpected class cancellation, I will notify students by email ASAP and post an announcement on Blackboard. I will include the makeup plan for the material.

Course Structure

We will cover most disorders over the course of two class periods. Each class will typically involve review of the important elements from the text, as well as in-class case reviews and discussions.

Exams

There will be 4 exams for this course, and all will be non-cumulative. Each exam will be worth 150 points. There will be no make-up exams offered for this course. A study guide will be posted in Blackboard one week before each exam day.

The exams will cover material from lectures, class discussions and case studies, as well as from the assigned readings from the textbook. Exams include some combination of multiple choice and yes/no questions. It is your responsibility to bring your own scantron, #2 pencil, eraser and sharpener on the day of the exams. If GMU cancels classes on a test day for any reason, then I will email you and post an announcement on Blackboard regarding the rescheduled test date.

Short Paper

One short paper is required for this class. You will select one case study based on your primary areas of interest (mood, anxiety, ADHD, disruptive behavior, trauma, eating, substance abuse, etc.). I will post these case studies on Blackboard along with an outline that should be followed on Monday, February 17th. The paper should include child identifying information, a summary of reported symptoms (cognitive, behavioral, emotional, and physiological), a case formulation, DSM-V diagnoses, and recommendations for treatment. You can turn the paper at any point before the spring break; however, the last day I will accept papers for submission will be Wednesday, March 18th. The short paper is worth 200 points.

Attendance and Participation

You are expected to attend all scheduled class meetings and should come to class prepared to discuss and apply the material. Attendance is important because exam material will include content presented only in class such as articles and news from empirical journals and the media,

as well as group case studies and discussions. If you know you will be absent, please contact me via email at dkeay@gmu.edu as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to obtain notes from a classmate for a missed class. Unless prior arrangements have been made, class activities and/or exams cannot be made up. There are no excused absences.

Class attendance will not be taken on a regular basis; however, class participation will be graded in six different group case studies that will take place randomly in any given class. Please be punctual! Lectures are only one hour and fifteen minutes, therefore I will start right at 3 pm. Class participation is worth up to 200 points.

Grading Criteria

Exam 1	15%	150 pts
Exam 2	15%	150 pts
Exam 3	15%	150 pts
Exam 4	15%	150 pts
Short Paper	20%	200 pts
Class participation: group case studies (6 cases, 33 points each)	20%	200 pts
TOTAL	100%	1000 pts

The total points earned will be divided by the total points possible, and then multiplied by 100 to establish the final grade. For example, if a student earns 880 points: $880/1000 = .88$; student would earn a B+. The final grade will be determined on the following scale:

- A+ = 97-100% (total points: 970-1000)
- A = 93-96% (total points: 930-969)
- A- = 90-92% (total points: 900-929)
- B+ = 87-89% (total points: 870-899)
- B = 83-86% (total points: 830-869)
- B- = 80-82% (total points: 800-829)
- C+ = 77-79% (total points: 770-799)
- C = 73-76% (total points: 730-769)
- C- = 70-72% (total points: 700-729)
- D = 60-69% (total points: 600-699)
- F = <60% (599 or less)

Extra Credit

Students will have the opportunity to submit one extra credit paper. This credit paper will follow the same guidelines as the main short paper for up to 150 pts. The extra credit paper will be on a different topic than the main paper. The extra credit paper can be turned in at any point Wednesday, March 18th however, the last day I will accept extra credit papers for submission will be Wednesday, May 6th.

GMU Honor Code

George Mason University has an Honor Code, which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited. It is every student's responsibility to familiarize himself or herself with the Honor Code. The Honor Code is available at: <https://oai.gmu.edu/mason-honor-code/> All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee.

Special Accommodations

If you are a student with a documented disability and you need academic accommodations (i.e. extended time, large type, etc.), please see me during the first week of class and contact the Disability Services office at 703-993-2474, <https://ds.gmu.edu/>. All academic accommodations are arranged through that office.

Cell Phones and Laptops

The use of cell phones, including text messaging, is unacceptable during class time. If there is an emergent reason that you have to be contacted during class, please step out of the classroom. The use of laptops is limited to note taking. I reserve the right to dismiss a student from class if the use of devices significantly disrupt the lecture and fellow classmates.

Office Hours

Please do not hesitate to schedule an appointment with me within office hours for any questions, concerns, or difficulties. If you are not able to come see me during office hours, please make an appointment for another time. Don't forget to email me first at dkeay@gmu.edu as I cannot see you without a previously scheduled appointment.

Psychological Services

Life is stressful, and we all need a little support sometimes. Students are encouraged to contact Counseling & Psychological Services (caps.gmu.edu) for assistance with any kind of psychological/life problem or crisis situation. I can help with referrals for students with particular counseling needs, so please feel free to talk with me for help with anything.

Course Outline

Date	Topic	Readings/Assignments
Wed Jan 22	Syllabus, introduction to class	Syllabus
Mon Jan 27	Introduction to Normal and Abnormal Behavior, Part I	Chapter 1
Wed Jan 29	Introduction to Normal and Abnormal Behavior, Part 2	Chapter 1
Mon Feb 3	Theories and Causes	Chapter 2
Wed Feb 5	Research	Chapter 3
Mon Feb 10	Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment, Part 1	Chapter 4
Wed Feb 12	Assessment Diagnosis and Treatment, Part 2	Chapter 4
Mon Feb 17	Exam 1	Chapters 1-4
Wed Feb 19	Intellectual Disability	Chapter 5
Mon Feb 24	Autism Spectrum Disorder and Childhood-Onset Schizophrenia, Part 1	Chapter 6
Wed Feb 26	Autism Spectrum Disorder and Childhood-Onset Schizophrenia, Part 2	Chapter 6
Mon Mar 2	Communication & Learning Disorders, Part 1	Chapter 7
Wed Mar 4	Communication & Learning Disorders, Part 2	Chapter 7
Mon Mar 9	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK	
Wed Mar 11	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK	
Mon Mar 16	Exam 2	Chapters 5 – 7
Wed Mar 18	ADHD, Part 1	Chapter 8 Last day to turn in short paper
Mon Mar 23	ADHD, Part 2	Chapter 8
Wed Mar 25	Conduct Problems, Part 1	Chapter 9
Mon Mar 30	Conduct Problems, Part 2	Chapter 9
Wed Apr 1	Depressive and Bipolar Disorders, Part 1	Chapter 10
Mon Apr 6	Depressive and Bipolar Disorders, Part 2	Chapter 10
Wed Apr 8	Exam 3	Chapters 8-10
Mon Apr 13	Anxiety, and Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Part 1	Chapter 11
Wed Apr 15	Anxiety, and Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Part 2	Chapter 11
Mon Apr 20	Trauma and Stressor Related Disorders, Part 1	Chapter 12
Wed Apr 22	Trauma and Stressor Related Disorders, Part 2	Chapter 12
Mon Apr 27	Health Related and Substance Use Disorders, Part 1	Chapter 13
Wed Apr 29	Health Related and Substance Use Disorders, Part 2	Chapter 13
Mon May 4	Feeding and Eating Disorders	Chapter 14
Wed May 6	Reading day for this course. NO CLASS	Last day to turn in extra credit paper
Mon May 11	Exam 4	Chapters 11-14