**PSYC 321: Clinical Psychology (3 credits)**

**Summer 2021, Section A01 online course**

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**Office Location:** David King Hall 2019

**Office Hours:** Online via email or Blackboard Collaborate by appointment on Wednesdays 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

**Website:** <http://mason.gmu.edu/~jshort/321.html>

**Last day to add course:** Wednesday, May 19 **Drop Deadlines:** Wednesday, May 19 (No tuition liability); Tuesday, May 25 (50% tuition liability; Tuesday, June 1 (unrestricted); Wednesday, June 9 (selective)

# **Course Description**

Welcome! This online course will introduce you to theories and practices of clinical psychology. You will have quizzes, discussion boards, and practice psychotherapy techniques in one role-play with a classmate. The course is asynchronous and you will need to access materials in Blackboard. There are no prerequisites.

## Required Textbook: Pomerantz, Andrew M. (2020). *Clinical psychology* (5th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

### Course Learning Outcomes

You will develop the following skills.

1. Conceptualize Skills of Clinical Psychologists – Describe roles and skills of psychological assessment, psychotherapy, consultation, research, and prevention.
2. Apply Ethical Principles – Learn and apply ethical principles to case dilemmas.
3. Apply Cultural Competence – Learn to interact sensitively with people from diverse cultures.
4. Demonstrate Clinical Interviewing Techniques – Ability to ask open-ended questions, empathize accurately, elicit examples of thoughts, feelings, and behaviors, and summarize accurately.
5. Demonstrate Behavioral Assessment Techniques – Ability to do a functional analysis of behavior, understand the causes, maintaining factors, and intervention targets to improve someone's behavioral functioning.
6. Demonstrate Psychotherapy Skills – Ability to develop an empathic relationship, help others improve their psychological functioning, and use effective coping strategies in their lives.
7. Use Technology Effectively – Ability to use Blackboard to complete quizzes, post and comment on Discussion Boards, and video-record role-plays with a classmate.

# Course Assignments

**1. 16 Quizzes.** Your chapter quizzes are each worth 10 points (160 points total). The quizzes are 10 multiple-choice questions based on Blackboard presentations and the textbook. A LockDown browser is needed for the quizzes and you must complete them in 15 minutes once they are opened. Do the quizzes with no notes, no book, and no help. Your webcam will record you during the quizzes.

**Missed Quizzes**. You can make-up a missed quiz if you have a note from a physician that explains why you could not do the quiz. The professor will consider other reasons for missing a quiz and will decide whether or not to allow the student to make-up the quiz. Make-up quizzes may have a different format from the original quiz.

**2. 4 Discussion Board Posts and Comments**. Your 4 discussion board posts and comments are worth between 6 and 12 points each (35 points total). These posts will focus on issues or cases in clinical psychology. Your score is 0 if you do not post anything by the deadline. Limit your posts to a maximum of 12 sentences.

**3. 1 Video-recorded Psychotherapy Role-play with summary note.** You will practice assessment and psychotherapy techniques in one video-recorded role-play with a classmate for approximately 5 to 10 minutes. You need to do the role-play twice, once as a client and once as a psychotherapist with your partner. You will also need to write a half-page summary note of the session when you are in the role of the psychotherapist, not the client. The role-play and summary note are worth 25 points.

**Finding a partner:** You should find your partner through the Discussion Board. **Roles:** There will be two roles in these assignments: a client and a psychologist. You play both roles by doing the role-play twice, but only the psychotherapist role will be graded. For example, student A will play a therapist and student B will be a client. Student A should write a summary note on the therapist role. There are no summary notes for the client role. Then, student B will switch to the therapist role and student A will be a client. Student B should submit a summary note on the therapist role.

**Video technology:** You should record and submit role-play videos to Blackboard. Options to record include: Zoom, Blackboard Kaltura, Skype, Facetime, or your mobile device (smartphones or tablets). You will upload video directly to Blackboard Assignments (or upload internet video link to [YouTube](http://www.youtube.com) as unlisted option to share), [Dropbox](http://www.dropbox.com), [Google Drive](https://www.google.com/drive/), or other cloud services.

**Extra Credit.** You can earn up to 6 points of extra credit that is added onto your point total for the course. You can write a summary and critique (half summary and half critique) about a human service experience you have engaged in (job or volunteer experience) that is up to three typed pages (2 points per page).

# Grading Scale

Your final grade is your percentage of 220 points (16 quizzes: 160 points; 4 Discussion Boards: 35 points; 1 video and note: 25 points).

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A+ = 97-100% | A = 93-96% | A- = 90-92% | B+ = 87-89% |
| B = 83-86% | B- = 80-82% | C+ = 77-79% | C = 73-76% |
| C- = 70-72% | D = 60-69% | F = Below 60% |  |

# Course Schedule

| **Class week** | **Readings** | **Assignments Due** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Module 1 5.17 | Ch. 1: Clinical Psychology: Definition; pp. 2-23.  Ch. 3: Current Controversies in Clinical Psychology; pp. 44-68.  Ch. 4: Cultural Issues; pp. 69-94.  Ch. 5: Ethical Issues; pp. 95-119. | **Discussion Board 1 due Thursday, 5.20**  **Ch. 1 Quiz due Sunday, 5.23**  **Ch. 3 Quiz due Sunday, 5.23**  **Ch. 4 Quiz due Sunday, 5.23**  **Ch. 5 Quiz due Sunday, 5.23** |
| Module 2 5.24 | Ch. 8: The Clinical Interview; pp. 171-195.  Ch. 9: Intellectual Assessment; pp. 196-215.  Ch. 10: Personality and Behavioral Assessment; pp. 216-242. | **Ch. 8 Quiz due Sunday, 5.30**  **Ch. 9 Quiz due Sunday, 5.30**  **Ch. 10 Quiz due Sunday, 5.30**  **Discussion Board 2 due Sunday, 5.30** |
| Module 3 5.31 | Ch. 11: General Issues in Psychotherapy; pp. 244-270.  Ch. 12: Psychodynamic Psychotherapy; pp. 271-297.  Ch. 13: Humanistic Psychotherapy; pp. 298-319. | **Ch. 11 Quiz due Sunday, 6.6**  **Ch. 12 Quiz due Sunday, 6.6**  **Ch. 13 Quiz due Sunday, 6.6** |
| Module 4 6.7 | Ch. 14: Behavior Therapy; pp. 320-346.  Ch. 15: Cognitive Psychotherapy; pp. 347-374.  Ch. 16: Group and Family Therapy; pp. 375-402. | **Role-Play and Note Due Saturday, 6.12**  **Discussion Board 3 due Sunday, 6.13**  **Ch. 14 Quiz due Sunday, 6.13**  **Ch. 15 Quiz due Sunday, 6.13**  **Ch. 16 Quiz due Sunday, 6.13** |
| Module 5 6.14 | Ch. 17: Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology; pp. 404-431.  Ch. 18: Health Psychology; pp. 432-454.  Ch. 19: Forensic Psychology; pp. 455-478. | **Discussion Board 4 due Tuesday, 6.15**  **Ch. 17 Quiz due Sunday, 6.20**  **Ch. 18 Quiz due Sunday, 6.20**  **Ch. 19 Quiz due Sunday, 6.20**  **Extra Credit Due Sunday, 6.20** |

# University Policies and Resources

1. Student Responsibilities About Communication: Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communication from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account and are required to activate that account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
2. [Honor Code and Academic Honesty](http://oai.gmu.edu/): You need to know and abide by George Mason University’s Honor Code. The Code requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited. You should contact me if you have questions about these policies. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee.
3. Students must follow the university policy for [Responsible Use of Computing](http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/) and registration in [Registrar](http://registrar.gmu.edu/) information.
4. Student services: The University provides range of services to help you succeed academically and you should make use of these if you think they could benefit you. I also invite you to speak to me (the earlier the better).
5. [The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)](http://caps.gmu.edu/) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students’ personal experience and academic performance. Counseling Center: Student Union I, Room 364, 703-993-2380.
6. Accommodations: Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the [George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS)](http://ods.gmu.edu/) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester.
7. [The George Mason University Writing Center](http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/) staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing. University Writing Center: Robinson Hall Room A114, 703-993-1200. The writing center includes assistance for students for whom English is a second language.
8. [Library](http://library.gmu.edu/for/online): Most University Libraries resources are available to you from home. They have a variety of online services.
9. Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
10. [Diversity](http://ctfe.gmu.edu/professional-development/mason-diversity-statement/): George Mason University promotes a living and learning environment for outstanding growth and productivity among its students, faculty and staff. Through its curriculum, programs, policies, procedures, services and resources, Mason strives to maintain a quality environment for work, study and personal growth.
11. [Religious Holidays](http://ulife.gmu.edu/calendar/religious-holiday-calendar/): It is the obligation of students, within the first two weeks of the semester, to provide professors with the dates of major religious holidays on which they will be absent or unable to turn in work due to religious observances.
12. [Student Privacy](http://registrar.gmu.edu/ferpa/): All students at Mason control access to their educational records and must give consent before that information is disclosed to any third party, including parents.
13. Class Cancellation Policy: If class is cancelled, I will notify you by email/blackboard on how we will make up the time.
14. Mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking: As a professor, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center at 703.380.1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services at 703.993.2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703.993.8730 or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

# Technology Requirements

**Blackboard Login Instructions**

Access to [MyMason](http://mymason.gmu.edu) and GMU email are required to participate successfully in this course. Please make sure to update your computer and prepare yourself to begin using the online format BEFORE the first day of class. Check [the IT Support Center](http://itservices.gmu.edu/) website. Navigate to the Student Support Page for help and information about Blackboard.

**Hardware:** You will need access to a Windows or Mac computer with at least 2 GB of RAM and access to a fast and reliable broadband internet connection (e.g., cable, DSL). A larger screen is recommended for better visibility of course material. You will need speakers or headphones to hear recorded content.

**Software:** Many courses use Blackboard as the learning management system. You will need a browser and operating system that are listed compatible or certified with the Blackboard version available on the [myMason Portal](http://mymason.gmu.edu).

**Respondus LockDown Browser:** Use of the Respondus LockDown Browser and a functional webcam are required for quizzes in this online course. Please follow these instructions to download and install the Respondus LockDown Browser.

1. [Visit this URL](http://www.respondus.com/lockdown/information.pl?ID=133435885) to access the Respondus LockDown Browser download.
2. Setup is easy and only requires you to:
   1. Select your operating system.
   2. Choose "Your Own Computer" from the list of provided options.
   3. Click a download link and follow the installation directions as provided.
   4. Launch the Respondus LockDown Browser by double-clicking its shortcut icon.