

TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY CONCEPTS OF PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

Dr Lisa Law
Spring Semester
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Short description:

The course provides an opportunity for students to gain an understanding of the foundations of contemporary 'abnormal' psychology. Students will gain familiarity with the various traditional concepts of mental health and 'illness', as well as current treatment methods. Biological, psychological, and cultural perspectives will be taken into account. In addition, to presenting traditional clinical diagnoses, alternative understandings of mental health problems will be discussed in depth. Students will be expected to grasp more contemporary notions and learn to critique traditional DSM/psychiatric concepts. Class discussion and active participation is encouraged.

Assessment:

Mid Term:

Essay paper – 50%

Final requirement:

In-class exam – 50%

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three unexcused absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.

Academic conduct:

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.