PSY339: Psychopathology Classification
Summer 2023

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Office Hours: By appointment. Send an email to schedule a meeting. Feel free to call me Riley!

Part 1: Course Information

Course Description:

This is a special topics course on the classification of psychopathology. Various approaches to understanding psychopathology include descriptive, etiological, and associative analyses. We will discuss the strengths and limitations of several such systems, including the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5), the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), the Research Domain Criteria (RDoC), the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP), and the Network Analytic (NA) approach. A basic familiarity with clinical psychology will be instrumental to learning in this course. Previous familiarity with the specific diagnostic and research systems listed above (DSM-5, RDoC, HiTOP, and NA) is **not** expected.

This course will consist of a combination of lectures, readings, discussions, a paper outline, a final paper, and SONA research credits. In the asynchronous lectures, I will introduce the challenges of conceptualizing psychopathology and the systems that attempt to address such challenges. The readings will offer a deeper look into these systems. I recommend that you watch the pre-recorded lectures prior to doing the readings.

Online Course Information:

This course is registered on **Brightspace**. Class announcements, documents, and assignments will be posted there. Please make sure you have access to the course and check the site regularly.

You do **not** need to come to campus for this course. It is conducted entirely online.

Course materials such as videos, assignments, and discussion boards will be made available on Brightspace one week in advance of the due date.

Students must be mindful of all course expectations, deliverables, and due dates. All assignments and course interactions will utilize the internet. See the "Technical Requirements" section for more information. On Brightspace, you will access online lessons, course materials, and resources. Besides the first week and last week, each week consists of two different units. Each unit includes one lecture and two readings, for a total of two lectures and four readings per week. Deadlines occur on Wednesdays at 5:00pm (with the exception of the paper outline, due Monday 8/14 at 5:00pm, and the end-of-session paper, due on the last weekday of class, Friday 8/18 at 5:00pm). See Part 4 of the syllabus for details.

How We Will Communicate:

My preferred method of contact is via the email listed at the top of this syllabus. I strive to respond to your emails as soon as possible, but please allow between 24–48 hours for a reply. Your Stony Brook University email must be used for all University-related communications. You must have an active Stony Brook University email account and access to the internet. *All instructor correspondence will be sent to your SBU email account.* Please plan on checking your SBU email account regularly for course-related messages. To log in to Stony Brook Google Mail, go to http://www.stonybrook.edu/mycloud and sign in with your NetID and password.

Technical Requirements:

This course uses Brightspace for the facilitation of communications between faculty and students, submission of assignments, and posting of grades. The Brightspace course site can be accessed at https://mycourses.stonybrook.edu/d2l/home. If you are unsure of your NetID, visit https://it.stonybrook.edu/help/kb/finding-your-netid-and-password for more information. You are responsible for having a reliable computer and internet connection throughout the term.

Caution!
You will be at a disadvantage if you attempt to complete all coursework on a smartphone or tablet. *It may not be possible to submit the files required for your homework assignments.*

The following list details a minimum recommended computer set-up and the software packages you will need to have access to, and be able to use:
- PC with Windows 8 or higher OR Macintosh with OS 10.11 or higher
- Sufficient hard drive storage space to download and view large lectures and recordings
- Latest version of Chrome, Firefox or Edge; Mac users may use Chrome, Firefox or Safari. (A complete list of supported browsers and operating systems can be found on the My Institution page when you log in to Brightspace.)
- High-speed internet connection (for downloading large lectures and recordings)
- Word processing software (Microsoft Word, Pages, etc.)
- Microsoft Powerpoint (for viewing lectures; see https://it.stonybrook.edu/software/title/microsoft-office)
- Speakers (either internal or external) or headphones
- Ability to download and install free software applications and plug-ins (note: you must have administrator access to install applications and plug-ins).
- Adobe Flash player with the latest update is crucial for playing multiple videos throughout the course

Technical Assistance:
If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with Brightspace, you can:
- Call the assistance phone number: 1-844-673-6786 (client support, wifi, software and hardware)
- Submit a help request ticket: https://online.suny.edu/help/
- Visit the Walk-In Tech Support Station in ECC room 128 or Melville Library SINC site

Part 2: Course Learning Objectives, Assessments, and Grading

Learning Outcomes:

    1. Discuss historical approaches to understanding psychopathology.
    2. Examine the challenges associated with conceptualizing psychopathology.
    3. Learn about various systems and approaches used to conceptualize psychopathology.
    4. Skillfully interpret and form educated opinions on psychopathology classification.

How to Succeed in this Course:

- View all recorded lectures.
- Complete all recommended readings in the course.
- Participate in weekly discussions.
- Complete one outline and one paper.
- Complete SONA research requirement or alternatives.

Course Requirements:

I. *Readings:* Read selected manuscripts (on Brightspace). See syllabus course schedule.

II. *Lectures:* Watch provided lecture material (on Brightspace) associated with each module. See syllabus.

III. *SONA research participation:* Earn three SONA research credits by participating in SONA research studies. Each SONA credit is worth 1% of your final grade, making a total of **3%**. Alternatives are available. See the SONA instructions on Brightspace.

IV. *Discussions:* Discussion posts and responses to classmates on a weekly basis. For the first five weeks, you will make one discussion post per week, as well as comments on posts made by at least two other students. Discussion posts/replies are worth **60%** of your final grade. Each week's posts & replies are weighted equally at 12%. Please see the rubric later on in this syllabus.

V. *Paper outline:* There will be one final paper outline. The use of <u>both</u> readings and lectures is required for the paper. Outside resources are welcomed. The outline is worth **12%** of your final grade. Please see the rubric later on in this syllabus.

VI. *Paper:* There will be one final paper. The use of <u>both</u> readings and lectures is required for the paper. Outside resources are welcomed. The paper is worth **25%** of your final grade. Please see the rubric later in this syllabus.

Grading Summary:

SONA research participation	3% of final grade
First discussion post	12% of final grade
Second discussion post	12% of final grade
Third discussion post	12% of final grade
Fourth discussion post	12% of final grade

Fifth discussion post   12% of final grade
Paper outline   12% of final grade
Final paper   25% of final grade

Paper Grading:

- Papers are submitted through Brightspace in the assignments section.
- Papers must incorporate <u>both</u> lecture material and readings.
- To receive full credit on an assignment, you must:
    - Make a thoughtful and informed effort at addressing the prompt
    - Incorporate and cite course materials (readings and lectures)
    - Turn it in on time (please see "Important note about deadlines")

Discussion Grading:

- Discussion posts are submitted through Brightspace in the discussions section.
- Discussion posts must incorporate and cite <u>both</u> lecture material and readings.
- Responses to posts of at least two other students are also required.
- All discussion posts will be counted toward your final grade.

Grading Rubrics:

<u>Each 1 point corresponds to 1% of the final course grade.</u>

SONA research credit will be graded as follows:
- 1 SONA credit = 1 point
- 2 SONA credits = 2 points
- 3 SONA credits = 3 points
- No extra points are given for additional SONA credits

Each **discussion post** will be graded as follows:
- Discussion post (9 points total)
    - Makes a thoughtful effort at addressing the prompt – 5 points
        - Discusses relevant background – 1 point
        - Offers a position in response to the prompt(s) – 2 point
        - Discusses evidence for the position taken – 1 point
        - Discusses evidence against the position taken – 1 point
    - Incorporates lecture material – 1 point
        - Must be cited as (Name of lecture, McDanal, 2022)
    - Incorporates reading material – 1 point
        - Must be cited in the format of (Author, YEAR)
    - Meets length requirement – 2 point
- Responses to two students (3 points total)
    - First response posted – 1 point
    - Second response posted – 1 point
    - Both responses meet length requirement – 1 point
- <u>Total possible for each week: 12 points</u>

The **paper outline** will be graded as follows:

- Makes a thoughtful effort at addressing the prompt – 6 points
  - Discusses relevant background – 1 point
  - Offers a position in response to the prompt(s) – 1 point
  - Discusses evidence for the position taken – 2 points
  - Discusses evidence against the position taken – 2 points
- Incorporates lecture material – 2 points
  - Frequent citations included – 1 point
  - Final lecture cited – 0.5 points
    - (Conclusions and Future Directions, McDanal, 2022)
  - Citations correctly formatted – 0.5 points
    - Must be cited as (Name of lecture, McDanal, 2022)
- Incorporates reading material – 2 points
  - Frequent citations included – 1.5 points
  - Citations correctly formatted – 0.5 points
    - Must be cited in the format of (Author, YEAR)
- Meets length requirement – 1 point
- Includes APA reference list – 1 point
  - Includes readings – 0.25 points
  - Includes lectures – 0.25 points
  - Correctly formatted – 0.5 points
- Total possible: 12 points

The **final paper** will be graded as follows:

- Makes a thoughtful effort at addressing the prompt – 12 points
  - Discusses relevant background – 2 points
  - Offers a position in response to the prompt(s) – 2 points
  - Discusses evidence for the position taken – 4 points
  - Discusses evidence against the position taken – 4 points
- Incorporates lecture material – 4 points
  - Frequent citations included – 2 points
  - Final lecture cited – 1 point
    - (Conclusions and Future Directions, McDanal, 2022)
  - Citations correctly formatted – 1 point
    - Must be cited as (Name of lecture, McDanal, 2022)
- Incorporates reading material – 4 points
  - Frequent citations included – 3 points
  - Citations correctly formatted – 1 point
    - Must be cited in the format of (Author, YEAR)
- Meets length requirement – 3 points
- Includes APA reference list – 2 points
  - Includes readings – 0.5 points
  - Includes lectures – 0.5 points
  - Correctly formatted – 1 point
- Total possible: 25 points

Important Note about Deadlines
- If you are having difficulty submitting an assignment to Brightspace, **it is your responsibility to email a copy of the assignment to me on time.**
- Materials for each week will be made available immediately following the deadline of the previous week's assignment.
- Please follow the due dates for the various assignments to have the opportunity to earn full credit. **If you have any extenuating circumstances, schedule conflicts, or personal concerns impacting your ability to meet deadlines, let me know.** I also understand that sometimes things just happen. Please communicate with me if anything comes up.
- **The final will not be accepted after the deadline**, unless we have previously discussed accommodations formally supported by the Student Accessibility Support Center.

Assessment & Grading:

Viewing grades on Brightspace: Points you've earned for graded activities will be posted to the MyGrades screen in the Tools area of Brightspace.

Letter grades: Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and are assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	GPA/Points	Performance
A	4.0	Excellent Work
A-	3.7	Nearly Excellent Work
B+	3.3	Very Good Work
B	3.0	Good Work
B-	2.7	Mostly Good Work
C+	2.3	Above Average Work
C	2.0	Average Work
C-	1.7	Mostly Average Work
D+	1.3	Below Average Work
D	1.0	Poor Work
F	0.0	Failing Work

Part 3: Course and University Policies

Student Accessibility Support Center Statement

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact the Student Accessibility Support Center, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, Room 128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Academic Integrity Statement

Each student must pursue their academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity/index.html.

The use of generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT) is not permitted in this class; therefore, any use of AI tools for work in this class may be considered a violation of Stony Brook's Academic Honesty policy and Student Conduct Code, since the work is not your own. The use of unauthorized AI tools will result in a grade of 0 for the assignment in question.

Critical Incident Management

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of University Community Standards any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. Further information about most academic matters can be found in the Undergraduate Bulletin, the Undergraduate Class Schedule, and the Faculty-Employee Handbook.

Part 4: Course Schedule

Calendar / Assignment Deadlines
subject to changes

Note: All assignments are due at 5:00 p.m., ET on the due date.

Dates	Lecture topic	Reading	Assignment
7/10-7/12	Introduction to classification	Syllabus Kendler (2016)	Discussion #1 (due **Wed. 7/12**)
7/13-7/19	*(Supplemental) Disorders* DSM (and ICD) - Strengths	Spitzer et al. (1980) Regier et al. (2013)	Discussion #2 (due **Wed. 7/19**)
	DSM (and ICD) - Challenges	Lane (2009) Zachar & Kendler (2012)	
7/20-7/26	RDoC - Strengths	Cuthbert & Insel (2013) Yager & Feinstein (2017)	Discussion #3 (due **Wed. 7/26**)
	RDoC - Challenges	Weinberger et al. (2015) Greenebaum & Nierenberg (2019)	
7/27-8/02	*(Supplemental) Put in practice* HiTOP (and FFM) - Strengths	Kotov et al. (2017) Ruggero et al. (2019)	Discussion #4 (due **Wed. 8/2**)
	HiTOP (and FFM) - Challenges	Wittchen & Beesdo-Baum (2018) Haeffel et al. (2021)	
8/03-8/09	*(Supplemental) Put in practice* Network Analysis - Strengths	Borsboom (2017) Hayes et al. (2015)	Discussion #5 (due **Wed. 8/9**)
	Network Analysis - Challenges	Bringmann & Eronen (2018) Fried & Cramer (2017)	
8/10-8/14	Conclusions & Future directions	Widiger (2021) Zachar & Kendler (2010)	Paper outline (due **Mon. 8/14**)
8/15-8/18	Review previous lectures	Review previous readings	Final paper (due **Fri. 8/18**) No extensions granted for the final paper