

GORDON-CONWELL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
CENTER FOR URBAN MINISTERIAL EDUCATION (CUME)  
CO 710 PSYCHOPATHOLOGY  
2012 Spring Term

---

Professor: J. Abede Alexandre, PsyD  
Telephone: (617) 473-2505 Email [Jaale@aol.com](mailto:Jaale@aol.com)

Office Hours: By scheduled appointments

#### CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

An overview of the basic theories, concepts and structures that form an understanding of psychopathology. Development of skills in using DSM-IV. Pre-requisite: CO 500. Open to M.A. in counseling students only.

#### COURSE PURPOSE:

This course examines the classification, etiology, and intervention for a wide variety of identified mental diseases, and the theoretical underpinnings for each, including the history of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual. Students will study historical, cultural, and religious differences related to mental illness, for the purpose of forming their own views and critical thinking skills, most specifically in diagnosis and theoretical orientation toward etiology and treatment.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objective of the course is to provide the student with the opportunity to:

1. Develop a broad theoretical knowledge in the area of psychopathology, the empirical study of psychological disorders.
2. Be exposed to and develop an advanced understanding of abnormal psychology as it relates to the etiology, development and sustaining factors contributing to a wide range of psychological dysfunctions.
3. Learn from the existent biological, social, psychological, and spiritual areas of explanation and research in psychopathology and to integrate such areas.
4. Focus on specific conditions and to learn to utilize the available systems of classification, such as DSM IV, in a functional way.
5. Integrate theoretical, clinical, and practical knowledge in the formulation of cases, diagnosis and selection of proper modalities in treatment. Students are required to practice in writing at the graduate level so as to learn to express the events and process of therapy in terms of case presentations.

Upon completion of the course, the student will have:

- Defined *abnormal*.
- Described categories of abnormality and how they are determined.
- Designed an intake form.
- Formed a personal theoretical orientation for addressing etiology and treatment.
- Used critical thinking skills in determining normal vs. abnormal, especially as related to lifespan development.
- Been aware of and demonstrated high standards of ethical behavior.
- Used meaningful terms specific to the field.
- Compared and contrasted historical and cultural differences in the field of abnormal psychology as viewed globally.
- Used technology in a variety of ways related to the field of abnormal psychology.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Textbooks

1. American Psychiatric Association. Washington, DC. *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV TR)*. Must have a copy of a DSM-IV-TR Manual. It may be the pocket size Quick Reference. The manual is a functional tool that serves as a common denominator to providers of health services among psychologists, psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, clinical social workers, and counselors. The student is expected to be acquainted with the manual as it refers to areas of diagnosis, research, and common classification as a means of communication in interdisciplinary settings.
2. James N. Butcher, Susan Mineka, and Jill M. Hooley (2009). *Abnormal Psychology*. MA: Boston.
3. Adamas, H. E. & Sutker, P. B. (Eds.) (2001). *Comprehensive handbook of psychopathology (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)*. NY: Springer. This book is foundational in nature and the student is expected to read it in its entirety. Exam questions will be based on its content.

### Recommended:

1. Barlow, D. (2003). *Clinical Handbook of psychological disorders*. NY: Guilford.
2. Maxmen, J. S. & Ward, N. G. (1995). *Essential Psychopathology and its Treatment*. NY: Norton.
3. Sadok, B. J. & V. A. Sadock, *Synopsis of Psychiatry: Behavioral Sciences/ Clinical Psychiatry; Ninth Edition*. Philadelphia, PA: Lipincott Williams & Wilkins.

### Readings

1. - The Assigned Textbooks
2. - Weekly Assigned Collateral Readings

### Exams:

One Comprehensive Exam. Study Questions will be provided

### Term Paper and Presentation

A term paper is required for the course which is to be 12-14 pp. in length (double spaced) and should be completed in APA style

The topic is open to the student's choice, but must be approved by the Instructor; it must deal with a discrete psychopathology (illness, syndrome, or dysfunction), mainly from areas such as mood disorders, anxiety disorders, psychosis, or character pathology. As an example, it may include the following:

1. Description of the issue/problem/dysfunction with etiological considerations (dynamic/social/physiological/spiritual explanations as to probable origins and development of psychopathology).
2. Current research done in the area, with treatment available and with a theoretical/practical emphasis. Issues and problems in classification and description of symptomatology, mental status, diagnosis, choice of treatments, outcomes, may be included. Brief statements as to the current approaches utilized in treatment of the problem described may be included. *The utilization of journals in the field is expected, beyond textbooks and topical texts.*
3. Presentation to the class: pamphlets, organizations, information for helping those with this illness. (Due at assigned time.)

### Attendance

The student is expected to attend all classes and participate in the classroom experience. Students who are absent, late, or leave early will have their grade lowered. There will be one or two breaks each class period.

### **Final Grade**

The final grade will reflect the results of the combined efforts represented by the quality of the term paper and presentation, the results of exam, and attendance/participation/the reading log.

### **Course Content:**

1. Introduction to the course, introduction of peers as a community of learners.
2. Views of what is normal and abnormal in domains, historically, culturally, and according to DSM-TR.
3. Causes and therapeutic strategies as described by theorists/theories such as Hippocrates, Freud, Erikson, Behaviorists, Geneticists, Interactionists, Social learning theory, Social theory, Information Processing and Brain development, as well as Bio-physical models. Intake form based on these theories, and personal theoretical orientation.
4. Abnormal development from conception through old age.
5. Ethical guidelines related to treatment of the mentally ill and research with human subjects.
6. Special education as a field: the role of education.
7. Psychiatric interventions: the role of medicine.
8. Specific mental illnesses.

### **Course Outline**

#### **Proposed Topics**

1. Introduction to the course; Psychopathology in perspective. Definitions and classifications  
Nosology and diagnosis Multiaxial Classification (DSM-IV) and nomenclature
2. Contributors to pathology: Genetics. Psychobiological reflections.  
Environment, ecosystems. Psychodynamic and social aspects.  
Issue: medical, social/cross-cultural, existential, learning, and theological integration.
3. Anxiety disorders, panic disorders, and phobias.  
Issue: obsessive compulsive disorders; spirituality and the quest for perfection and existential anxiety.
4. Dysthymic and major affective disorders. Bipolar affective disorders  
Issues: Depression in perspective: Models, treatments.
5. Disorders of organic nature and psychosis; Schizophrenic disorders.  
Issue: Understanding psychotic processes. Phenomenological views, spiritual  
Explanations and physiological/psychological issues.
6. Personality disorders. Character pathology: Schizotypal, narcissistic, and  
borderline conditions. Antisocial, avoidant, and dependent characters; Issue: Dissociative  
disorders; Multiple personality disorders; Psychopathology vs. other explanations. Extremes:  
Sadducees vs. zealot exorcists.
7. Disorders in childhood, adolescence.  
Eating disorders: Bulimia, anorexia
8. Addictive behaviors. Alcohol, drugs, and sexual addictions.  
Medical, behavioral, and theological models.  
Issue: Fatal addiction
9. Sexual dysfunctions. The changing nature of definitions.

Issue: Developmental issues, pathology and sin.

10. Integrative efforts. Is an integrative approach to psychopathology possible? Course summary and concluding comments: The fall and the need for redemption, restoration to wholeness.

## CO 710 PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Adams, H. & Sutker, P. (Eds.) (2001). *Comprehensive handbook of psychopathology*, Third Edition. Springer.
- American Psychiatric Association. (2000). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders IV-TR* (4th. ed.). Washington, DC.
- Ammerman, R. T. (Ed.). (2005). *Comprehensive Handbook of Personality and Psychopathology, Child Psychopathology*. John Wiley and Sons.
- Andrasik, F. (Ed.) (2005). *Comprehensive Handbook of Personality and Psychopathology, Adult Psychopathology*. John Wiley and Sons.
- Beck, A., & Emery, G. (1985). *Anxiety disorders and phobias*. New York: Basic Books.
- Beck, A. T., Freeman, A., & Associates. (1990). *Cognitive therapy of personality disorders*. New York: Guilford Press.
- Barlow, D.H. (1988). *Anxiety and its Disorders*. New York: Guilford.
- Bourne, E. J. (1995). *The anxiety and phobia workbook*. (2nd. ed.). Oakland, CA: New Harbinger.
- Cicchetti, D. & Walker, E. F. (Eds.). (2003). *Neurodevelopmental mechanisms in psychopathology*. Cambridge University Press.
- Cohen, D. J. & Cicchetti, D. (Eds.). (2006) *Developmental psychopathology, risk, disorder, and adaptation*. John Wiley and Sons.
- Cummings, E. M., Davies, P. T., & Campbell, S. B. (2002). *Developmental Psychopathology and Family Process: Theory, Research, and Clinical Implications*. The Guilford Press.
- Davies, D. & Bhugra, D. (2003). *Models of psychopathology: Core concepts in therapy*. Open University Press.
- deVries, M. (Ed.) (2006). *The experience of psychopathology*. Cambridge University Press.
- Fairburn, C. G., & Wilson, G. T. (Eds.). (1993). *Binge eating: Nature, assessment and treatment*. New York: Guilford Press.
- Fabrega, H. (2002). *Origins of psychopathology: The phylogenetic and cultural basis of mental illness*. Rutgers University Press.
- Farmer, A., McGuffin, P. & Williams, J. (2002). *Measuring psychopathology*. Oxford University Press.
- Fenichel, O. (1945). *The psychoanalytic theory of neuroses*. New York: Norton.
- Freud, S., A. A. Brill (Translator) (2005). *The Psychopathology of Everyday Life*. Digireads.com.
- Hersen, M., Turner, S. M. & Beidel, D. C. (2007). *Adult Psychopathology and Diagnosis*. John Wiley.
- Horowitz, L. M. (2003). *Interpersonal foundations of psychopathology*. American Psychological Association.
- Jang, K. L. (2005). *The behavioral genetics of psychopathology: A clinical guide*. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Kaplan, H. C. (1979). *Disorders of sexual desire*. New York: Simon and Schuster.
- Kaplan, H. C. (1993). *The new sex therapy: Active treatment of sexual dysfunctions*. Brunnen/Mazel Publishers.
- Kendler, K. S. & Prescott, C. A. (2006). *Genes, environment, and psychopathology: Understanding the causes of psychiatric and substance use disorders*. The Guilford Press.
- Kernberg, O. (1975). *Borderline conditions and pathological narcissism*. New York: Science House.
- Kohut, H. (1971). *The analysis of the self*. New York: International University Press.
- Krueger, R. F. & Tackett, J. L. (2006). *Personality and Psychopathology*. The Guilford Press.
- Heffernan, K., Mash, E. J. & Barkley, R. A. (Eds.) (2002). *Child psychopathology*, Second Edition. The Guilford Press.
- Helzer, J. E. & Hudziak, J. J. (Eds.) (2002). *Defining psychopathology in the 21st century: DSM-V and beyond (American Psychopathological Association Series)*. American Psychiatric Publishing.

- Herzen, M. & Thomas, J. (2004). *Psychopathology in the workplace: Recognition and adaptation*. Routledge.
- Ingram, R. E. & Price, J. M. (Eds.) (2002). *Vulnerability to Psychopathology: Risk across the Lifespan*. The Guilford Press.
- Maddux, J. E. & Winstead, B. A. (2004). *Psychopathology: Foundations for a Contemporary Understanding*. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Marks, I. M. (1987). *Fears, phobias and rituals*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Masterson, J. F. (1981). *The narcissistic and borderline disorders*. New York: Brunner/Mazel.
- Matthysse, S., Levy, D., & Kagan, J. (Eds.) (2006). *Psychopathology: The evolving science of mental disorder*. Cambridge University Press.
- Maxmen, J. S. & Ward, N. G. (2006). *Essential Psychopathology and Its Treatment*. Academic Internet Publishers.
- Meyer, R. G. & Weaver, C. M. (2006) *The clinician's handbook: Integrated diagnostics, assessment, and intervention in adult and adolescent psychopathology*. (5<sup>th</sup> Ed.) Waveland Printing Inc.
- Millon, T. (1990). *Toward a new personology*. New York: Wiley.
- Millon, T. (2001). *Personality and Psychopathology*. John Wiley and Sons.
- Millon, T., Blaney, P. H., & Davis, R. D. (Eds.) (1999). *Oxford Textbook of Psychopathology*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Pennington, B. F. (2005). *The development of psychopathology: Nature and nurture*. The Guilford Press.
- Szasz, T. S. (1960). The muth of mental illness. *American Psychologist*, 15, 113-118.
- Schaumberg, H. (1992). *False Intimacy: Understanding the Struggle of Sexual Addiction*. Colorado Springs: Navpress.
- Sheehan, D. V. (1983). *The anxiety disease*. New York: Charles Scribner.
- Shapiro, D. (1969). *Neurotic styles*. New York: Basic Books.
- Strack, S. (Ed.). (2005). *Handbook of personology and psychopathology*. John Wiley and Sons.
- Sullivan, H. S. (1972). *Personal psychopathology*. New York: Norton.
- Vasey, M. W. & Dadds, M. R. (Eds.) (2003). *The Developmental Psychopathology of Anxiety*. Oxford University Press.
- Weiner, I. B. (Ed.). (2003). *Adult Psychopathology Case Studies*. John Wiley and Sons.
- Whitbourne, S. K. (2001). *Psychopathology in Later Adulthood*. John Wiley.
- Wilmshurst, L. (2005) *Essentials of child psychopathology (Essentials of Behavioral Science Series)*. John Wiley and Sons.
- Yarhouse, M. A., Butman, R. E. & McRay, B. W. (2005). *Modern Psychopathologies: A Comprehensive Christian Appraisal*. InterVarsity.

### **Journals:**

*American Psychologist*  
*American Journal of Psychiatry*  
*Archives of General Psychiatry*  
*British Journal of Psychiatry*  
*Clinical Psychology Review*  
*Journal of Abnormal Psychology*  
*Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*  
*Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*  
*Journal of Personality Disorders*  
*Psychological Bulletin*  
*Schizophrenia Bulletin*