Foundations of Psychopathology: Theory and Practice (51812)

Professor Jonathan Huppert

This is the first semester course on the foundations of psychopathology that will be followed with adult psychopathology in the second semester, and for many of you child psychopathology in the next year. The course has a number of goals including: Historical and philosophical issues including the definition of psychopathology, various models of psychopathology and comorbidity, and understanding current methods of understanding psychopathology. Then, we will work on obtaining an initial foundation in evaluating important aspects of psychopathology such as mental status, suicidality, and diagnosis (via DSM-IV-TR categories). The second semester will follow with further in depth coverage of key DSM disorders. Most reading will be provided on Moodle. In order to benefit the most from the class, you should read the mandatory readings before the lecture. I will ask you to sign off each class that you read the reading. If you have questions regarding the reading, you can post these questions on Moodle in the קבוצת דיון. Posting questions is not mandatory. Depending on the number of questions, I will try to answer questions that are posted in class. It is strongly recommended that all look at the questions weekly, even if you have nothing to post. If you have a comment to answer someone else’s question, feel free to post it as well.

Grades will be based on participation/presentations in class, response papers, and a final exam. We will take 3 classes to have a series of presentations on various orientations perspectives on psychopathology. The presentations will be in the format of 45 minute summaries of the stance, followed by 15-30 minutes of questions of how the orientation would address issues raised by other orientations. There will be 2 response papers to write during the semester, each 1-2 pages summarizing a section of the course with your own reactions to it. I will read and respond to each response.

The final exam will be a comprehensive take-home exam in which you will have 48 hours to answer the questions which will include definitions, theory, and practical applications which are based on combinations of the readings and lectures.

Historical and Theoretical issues: the nature of psychopathology

Week 1 (1/11/11) : Introduction and History


Optional: Future possibilities in DSM V
For a brief description of the planning for DSM-V see:

http://www.psych.org/MainMenu/Research/DSMIV/DSMV.aspx

and for a full book on the issue see

http://appi.org/book.cfm?id=2292

**Week 2 & 3 (8/11/11, 15/11/11):** How do we define psychopathology?


**and**


**Week 3:** Harmful dysfunction or prototypes?


**and**


**Diagnostic and clinical decision making (Note that the class on 17/11/09 will be rescheduled)**

**Week 4 22/11/11;**


Optional: See Pope’s website: http://www.ks Pope.com/fallacies/index.php and many other areas within for valuable readings...

**Week 5 29/11/11:** continuum vs. category and comorbidity: theoretical, empirical, and clinical issues:

and


**Summary:** write a 1-2 page paper summarizing what you think are the important issues related to the definition of psychopathology

**Weeks 6-8 (6/12/11, 13/12/11, 20/12/11)**

**Models of psychopathology (debate and integration)**

i. Biological /evolutionary


ii. Cognitive /behavioral/emotional


iii. Psychodynamic /developmental /interpersonal (Blatt)


Write a 1-2 page paper that describes the overlap or integration of the various theories.

Practical issues: the intake interview, mental status, diagnosis, and evaluation of suicidality

Week 9 (27/12/11): Diagnosis and DSM: how to make a diagnosis

(DSM intro and section on intermittent explosive disorder and trichotillomania)

DSM and its structure (DSM)

Readings from: DSM IV-TR: Intro, warning, and structure

Week 10 (3/1/12) The interview

PRACTICE GUIDELINE FOR THE Psychiatric Evaluation of Adults Second Edition
(Appic) Read: Table 1 (pp. 15-18, rest is all for your reference/optional)

Week 11 (10/1/12) Assessing mental status


Mental Status Form

Week 12: (17/1/12) Overview of diagnoses: structured interview and what do you tell the patient? (Labeling theory)

ii. MINI and other diagnostic interviews (MINI in Hebrew + Screen) (read, administering to one of your patients)


And http://www.srmhp.org/0301/labels.html

week 13: (24/1/10) Assessing suicidality and treating

(ApA quick guidelines)


Case presentation: define the risk
Week 14: a taste of things to come and further questions about diagnoses...

(31/1/12) Dissociative disorders: