



PSYCHOL 3310F (570)
Adult Psychopathology
Fall/Winter 2026 - 2027

Instructor: Dr. Kathryn Turnbull
Email: kturnbu3@uwo.ca

Course Information

Mode of Instruction: in-person

Calendar Description: This theory course is designed to introduce the wide-ranging theories and treatment perspectives of psychopathology in adults. The major disorders covered in the DSM will be explored, with an orientation on empirical research findings.

Prerequisite(s): [Psychology 2840F/G](#) (or [Psychology 2801F/G](#), [Psychology 2802F/G](#), the former Psychology 2800E, the former Psychology 2820E, [Psychology 2830A/B](#), [Psychology 2855F/G](#) or [Psychology 2856F/G](#)) and registration in the third or fourth year of Honours Specialization in Psychology, Honours Specialization in Applied Psychology, Honours Double Major, Major or Specialization in Psychology, or permission of the Department.

Antirequisite(s): [Psychology 2030A/B](#), [Psychology 2310A/B](#) and [Psychology 3311](#).

Extra Information: 3 lecture hours.

Course Weight: 0.50

Breadth: Category A

Subject Code: PSYCHOL

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

King's University College
Psychology 3310G Adult Psychopathology/Fall 2026

Course information:

Course Name, Number, Section: Adult Psychopathology, 3310F, 570

Instructor: Kathryn Turnbull, Ph.D.

Contact Information: kturnbu3@uwo.ca

Office hours: TBD – virtual and on-campus office hours by student appointment

Course description: This course will focus on the classification and contemporary theoretical understanding of Adult Psychopathology, with an emphasis on empirically based findings and the DSM-5. Students will learn historical perspectives, research applications, treatment approaches, and broader theories applicable to many of the psychological/behavioural/and personality disorders. The course will also focus specifically on major disorders listed within the DSM-5, particularly those that manifest primarily with symptoms of psychosis, mood changes, and/or anxiety. Other disorders within the purview of Adult Psychopathology and the DSM-5 will also be reviewed based on student topic choices: possibilities include eating disorders, sexual disorders, and sleep disorders.

Course learning outcomes: At the end of this course students can expect to:

1. Understand general principles of how researchers and mental health professionals conceptualize and treat many of the more common psychological disorders in adulthood.
2. Learn how research contributes to defining, classifying, identifying, and treating Adult Psychopathology.
3. Gain exposure to some different perspectives and points of view of Adult Psychopathology, including the consumer/survivor perspective, perspectives of those with disabilities/accessibility barriers, and cultural perspectives within North America outside of the mainstream academic/medical tradition.
4. Show an ability to integrate knowledge gained from the course into written assignments to foster a deeper appreciation of Adult Psychopathology.

Mode of Instruction: *in-person*

Course textbooks/materials:

- Internet connection, web-browser to access assignments and lecture slides on OWL Brightspace, and computer with Microsoft word/pdf document creation software to complete course assignments.
- **Required Textbook:** *Perspectives in Psychopathology, 7th ed (2023), ed. D. Dozois*. This book is available in electronic format only. 12-month access to the textbook is available from the publisher (Pearson.com) for \$71.99 Canadian. Students may use a second-hand printed copy of the previous edition of the textbook (6th edition), if desired: if using the 6th edition, it is recommended that students partner in studying with a student who has access to the updated edition.

Method of evaluation:

Students will complete the following course components:

- **Short Paper and Peer Editing (20%):** Students will select a SHORT (2-3 page paper) that reviews and analyzes the findings of an academic review paper or an original study related to the topic of clinical psychology. After submitting this short paper, students will use class time and instructor guidance to provide feedback and editing suggestions to each other's papers, with the professor's guidance. The goal of this learning exercise is for students to work together to provide feedback to each other.
- **Term Paper Outline and Reference List (10%):** Students are required to submit a topic for their term paper and a Reference List in APA format on the deadline specified.
- **Final Term Paper (30%):** Students will complete an 8- to 10-page term paper focused on a topic within Adult Psychopathology. The structure and elements of this paper will be presented during class and posted on the class website (OWL).
- **Final Exam (30%):** The final exam will take place during the final exam period.
- **Attendance/Participation (10%):** Students are expected to attend class so that they can benefit from lectures, ask their own questions about the material, and learn from questions and comments from other students. Missing one class does not alter participation grade, but a pattern of missing several classes during the term will result in a lower grade for this element of the course.

Academic Considerations:

- **You are required to communicate with the course instructor through email or to set up a meeting if you are not able to meet a deadline for a written assignment (term paper and/or topic papers) set out within the course.**
- Deadlines for written assignments assist both students and the professor in planning their workload as the course progresses. Professor Turnbull encourages all students to submit their work on the posted deadlines with the goal of managing their work progress through the term. Deadlines for written assignments are posted on the day of class (Wednesday). Assignments can be submitted up until the end of Friday on the week of the deadline for students who require more flexibility. Please note, Friday Make-Up Exams may only be written with the instructor's consent.
- **It is expected that all students will attend the peer writing class session,** as this activity depends upon in-person class attendance. Please contact the professor directly via email if, for any reason, you are unable to attend this class.
- Please note, Friday Make-Up Exams may only be written with the instructor's consent.

Academic Integrity:

- **Plagiarism** is copying and/or using the work of others for academic credit without proper reference and citation or reusing your own work that you have already submitted for academic credit. Plagiarism includes using a substantial amount of someone else's phrasing, writing, and/or ideas without proper acknowledgement, ***even if the entire assignment is not an exact copy.*** The academic penalties when you plagiarize can include loss of academic credit for your entire course, or more serious penalties for repeat offenders. Rather than plagiarize, it is better to turn in a less-than-good assignment: you may get a bad grade, but it is less likely that you will fail the course outright, or worse. **Please make sure that you understand what plagiarism is, and do not plagiarize in any of your written assignments. Please contact the instructor if you feel uncertain about how to meet the writing requirements for the course.**

- This course will follow the general policy of the King's Psychology Department on using LLM (such as ChatGPT, among others) for assignments. ***Students are not permitted to use AI and software translation tools to complete assignments.***
- The purpose of this policy is to encourage students to recognize and develop the skills necessary to communicate clearly in writing.
 - **TurnItIn:** All required papers are subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Schedule of Classes, Readings, Assessments:

Date	Topic	Readings and Deadlines
Sept 9	Psychopathology: Historical and Cultural Contexts	Chapter 1
Sept 16	Theories and Classification in Psychopathology	Chapter 2 & 3
Sept 23	Research Design and Writing	Chapter 4 & APA 7 th ed, Chapters 4-6
Sept 30	Psychological and Behavioural Treatment Models	Chapter 17
Oct. 7	Anxiety Disorders & Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders	Chapter 5 Short Topic Paper Due
Oct 14	Reading Week	
Oct 21	Peer Writing Session	Review APA 7 th edition guidelines & OWL-posted reading
Oct 28	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Trauma in Adult Psychopathology, and Dissociation	Chapter 5
Nov. 4	Mood Disorders	Chapter 8 Term Paper Topic/Reference List
Nov. 11	Psychosis and Schizophrenia	Chapter 9
Nov. 18	Substance Use and Addiction	Chapter 11
Nov. 25	Personality Disorders	Chapter 12
Nov. 30	LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS	
Dec. 2	Student Voted Topic	Term Paper Due
Dec. 11-22	FINAL EXAM: Scheduled date TBD	

Please note, Friday Make-Up Exams may only be written with the instructor's consent.

Department of Psychology Policies Related to AI Tools

1. Policy on the Use of Generative AI Tools

The Department of Psychology expects that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial).

The use of generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT) is not permitted for any submitted coursework unless express permission has been granted by your instructor.

Students **should not have AI tools write any part of their assignments or papers, either by copying and pasting or by paraphrasing the output.** Unauthorized use of AI constitutes an academic offence and will be subject to academic discipline.

Additional information: Students can use AI tools to clarify questions they have about course content (e.g., you can ask ChatGPT about a course concept to help with your understanding), but students should be aware that the response may be inaccurate or inconsistent with the course content. Asking your instructor is a more effective strategy. Students should note that information provided by AI tools such as ChatGPT can include mistakes, inaccuracies, biases, and outdated information. Whenever these tools are used, students should cross-verify the information provided to them. This means verifying that the sources used by AI exist and have been accurately summarized, consulting multiple original and reputable up-to-date sources to verify information, and being cautious of bias that could be present in the information provided.

2. Policy on Use of Translation Tools*

The Department of Psychology views the unapproved use of translation or language applications as an academic offence.

Any usage of translation applications or language generation by students to complete specific assigned work for this course **must be approved** by the instructor **prior** to submitting the work **and noted by the student in the submitted work** itself.

Writing text and then feeding it into a computer application to improve or translate your own words, changing a few words, and then submitting this text as if it was your own **constitutes plagiarism.** You must compose text, choose words, construct logic flow, structure sentences and paragraphs to organize, synthesize, interpret information with your own mind. When you borrow language or ideas from another person or from a machine this must be acknowledged with quotation marks and/or citations.

Why do we have this policy?

- Translation is intellectual work and produces intellectual property, thus any text which is translated must cite the translator.
- Psychology endeavors to advance students' linguistic, analytic, and reasoning competencies – this can not happen outside of specific language competencies.
- Earning a university degree signals that an individual has advanced literacy and communicative skill in the language of instruction at the university; this is English at King's University College at Western University. If translation machines are used by students without regulation, we will have no way of certifying whether these competencies exist and fewer mechanism for encouraging students to do the hard work to develop them.

** Based on the policy developed by the Department of Child and Youth Studies*

KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
GENERAL COURSE POLICIES
2026-27

1. Academic Accommodations (Accessibility)

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found at [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

2. Academic Consideration for Student Absences

Students must be approved to write a makeup exam or for an extension of the assignment deadline. If you need to miss an exam or the deadline for the assignment, please follow these instructions.

There are two ways to seek academic consideration:

(i) Academic consideration based on medical or compassionate grounds

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate grounds), they should contact the Academic Advising Office. As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration.

For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is the appropriate documentation. The SMC is available at <https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/pdfs/student-medical-certificate.pdf>

- King's students: The Academic Advising Office website is located in DLH 104. The Academic Advising website is <https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/academics/academic-advising>.
- If your home faculty is Huron or at Western, please submit your documentation to your faculty's academic counselling office.
- Requests must be made as soon as possible, and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

You may submit requests for academic consideration through the **Student Absence Portal**, linked on this website: <https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/academics/academic-advising/academic-consideration-requests-and-student-absence-portal>.

(ii) Academic consideration through an undocumented absence

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per half-course (0.5) weight.

- Note that instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline to confirm this which assessment has been designated as requiring documentation for consideration (that is, exempt from undocumented absences).
- Undocumented absences can not be used as the basis for academic consideration for December or April exams.

If an instructor has built flexibility into their assessments (e.g., “complete 8 of 10 quizzes”), this flexibility will already address consideration needs and thus academic consideration may be denied.

For further information on the academic consideration policy, please see

https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf

c) Absences from Final Exams

If you miss the Final Exam, **contact your Academic Advising Office** as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the “Special Examination” (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a multiple exam situation (i.e., you are scheduled to write more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

d) Religious Accommodations

Students should consult the University’s list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and their Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

3. Support Services

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King’s University College:

<https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/student-supports-and-services/accessibility-services>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King’s University College:

<https://kings.uwo.ca/campus-life/student-supports/>

Good2talk is an online and phone resource for students, available 24/7, with services in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options on how to obtain help:
<https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental-health/index.html>

Academic Support Services at King's University College: <https://kings.uwo.ca/academics/academic-supports/>

4. Statement on Gender-Based Sexual Violence

King's and Western are committed to reducing incidents of gender-based sexual violence (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website: [Mental Health and Wellness at King's](#).

You can reach supports at King's by emailing care@kings.uwo.ca or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a Social Worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western's Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by email (health@uwo.ca) or by calling 519-661-3568. Additional support services can be found <https://www.uwo.ca/health/gbsv/support/index.html>

5. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Use of Electronic Devices: Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom: King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see https://kings.uwo.ca/sites/2025/assets/files/campus/Kings_Code_of_Student_Conduct.pdf

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

6. Statement on Academic Offences

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_offences.pdf

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. **Check with you instructor to**

check which tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in each course. Note that although some courses may permit the use of such tools, it does not mean use of such tools is permitted in other courses.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system; see [https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/OriginalityReports - TurnItIn.html](https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/OriginalityReports-TurnItIn.html).

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

7. Copyright of Course Material

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

8. Use of Recordings

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

9. Policy on Attendance

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.