Overview

The goals of this class are to:

1. Gain a deeper understanding of psychopathology and its treatment;
2. To better understand research methodology and ethics as they relate to clinical studies;
3. To develop a greater facility with statistics;
4. To increase your skill at using SPSS.

Grades

The grades for the semester will be based on the four basic components of the course:

1. In-class studies and the accompanying worksheets;
2. The three laboratory reports that will be written in APA style.
3. The midterm examination that will cover research methodology and research ethics;
4. The final exam which will involve running another study and filling out an answer sheet; it will be given on the last day of class.
The Studies

Because of the difficulty in doing actual research involving psychopathology, the in-class studies and the laboratory reports will be based on the re-creation of interesting and compelling studies that have been culled from the psychiatric and psychological literatures. Using real and simulated data, class members will re-run these studies using SPSS and then write-up the results using the standard outline for research papers.

The projects for this class are:

9/8: Introduction and Anger and Exposure Therapy
9/11: CBT and Light Therapy for Seasonal Affective Disorder
9/15: Emergency Room Medication Study
9/18: Psychotherapists and Meditation
9/22: Malevolent Introjects and Borderline Personality Disorder
9/25: Cognitive Restructuring, Exposure, and Trauma
9/29: Contingency Management and Cocaine Addiction
10/2: Long-term validity of the Hypomanic Personality Scale

10/6 & 10/9: Lab Report 1: Psychopathology and Murder


10/13: Midterm Lecture
10/16: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Gambling
10/20: Lab Report 1 Due
10/20: Midterm
10/23: Pleasure
10/27: Body Image and Anabolic Steroid Use in Men
10/30: “Empty Chair” Dialogues as a Psychotherapeutic Technique in the Resolution of Past Difficulties
11/3: Behavioral Activation and CBT for Depression
11/6 & 11/10: Lab Report 2: Psychophysiology of Self-Mutilation


11/17: Imagery Rehearsal Therapy for Nightmares
11/20: Film – Miss Ever’s Boys [This class will run 10 minutes longer than usual.]
11/24: Brain Imagery Studies in Dissociative Identity Disorder
11/24: *Lab Report 2 Due*

12/1 & 12/4: Lab Report 3: Political Ideology as a Protective Factor in the Context of Torture


12/8: Liberals and Conservatives
12/11: Dissociative Identity Disorder and Brazilian Spiritualists
12/15: *Lab Report 3 Due*
12/15: Final Exam

*Laboratory Reports*

I will provide you with a more detailed outline of what is required as we begin that project.