

ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

Professor: Jonathon Rottenberg, Ph.D.

Hi. I'm John Rottenberg, your instructor for Abnormal Psychology this semester, and I'm very glad that you decided to take this course. This is a subject that's really near and dear to my heart. I've been here at USF for 10 years, and my major area of study is mood disorders. And I've taught Abnormal Psychology a number of times. I think it is one of the most interesting subjects that there is. We all know someone who has suffered from anxiety or depression or eating disorders.

In this course, you'll get to learn about what are the things that cause these sorts of problems, and how can we best treat people who have these sorts of problems. And we're going to take a really broad look at it. You're going to understand the ways that these problems relate to how we think, how we behave, our social lives, and changes in our brains and our bodies. So it's going to be a very broad and dynamic look at a really important subject that I think many of you care about.

So the course is going to be very structured. You're going to have assignments every week. But I also really hope to keep it lively. So we'll have discussions of abnormal psychology that's in the news. You'll have a group presentation, where you'll present on some topic that's of great interest to you, in greater depth.

So I think we can all agree that this is a fascinating subject, but to do really well in this course, you're going to have to keep up, because it's going to be pretty fast-paced. We have a great textbook, Barlow and Durand, and there's reading in it every week. And there will also be quizzes. And either every week or every other week, there'll be tests as well.

So it'll be really important to keep up, and if you have questions, I'm always available. Make an appointment to see me at my office hours. I'm really looking forward to getting to know you all better, and to meeting some of you. And I'm looking forward to the semester and this opportunity to work with you in abnormal psychology.