
PSYC 316: Schizophrenia and Its Treatment: Historical, Neurobiological and Phenomenological Perspectives

Judd 113

M-F 10:00AM-12:00PM and 1:00PM-3:00PM

1/07/20-1/20/19

Winter Session, 2020

Instructor:

Dr. Matthew Kurtz

Office: Judd Hall 314

Phone: (860) 685-2072

Email: mkurtz@wesleyan.edu

Office Hours: TBD

The goal of this 2-week intensive winter seminar will be to critically investigate the concept of schizophrenia as a unitary disease construct, from historical, neuroscientific, and phenomenological approaches, and the implications of these views for our understanding of treatment in the disorder. How are we to make sense of a psychiatric disorder, which has changed so substantially in definition over time, with wide inter-individual differences in symptom expression and functional outcome, a wide array of competing theories regarding etiology and biological mechanisms, and correspondingly diverse treatment interventions? We will engage these questions through four separate units that will evaluate the disorder from three different levels of analysis: (1) introduction to the syndrome; (2) readings in the history of psychiatry and the perspective they cast on schizophrenia as a unitary disease concept; (3) an analysis of contemporary work in neuroimaging (structural and functional), neurochemistry, and neuropathology and the current status of creating a coherent neuroscientific account of disease mechanisms and treatments; (4) attempts at construction of coherent psychological models of the disorder, including notions of disrupted selfhood and core cognitive impairment models, as well as novel psychological approaches to therapeutic intervention.

Assignments and Grades:

I assume that you are here because you are interested schizophrenia. I expect you to come to all meetings ready to discuss the assigned readings. This will make our meetings more productive and interesting.

Each class participant will be responsible for the following:

1. Be an active class participant (10% of grade).

2. Four quizzes based on class lectures and discussion (40% of grade).
3. Delivering a presentation and leading a subsequent discussion on an article relevant to your selected term paper topic. Each class participant will present for 15 minutes with at least 5 PowerPoint slides with 5 minutes for discussion (10% of grade).
4. Writing a final research paper which is due on the last day of Winter Session Wednesday 1/22 by 11:59PM (35% of grade)

Winter-Session Specific Requirements

5. Students will be asked to complete journal entries for the course through a Moodle discussion forum. **You will be required to write at least three brief journal entries per week (six for the 2-week course), describing which aspects of your course learning have been particularly relevant for your own educational and professional goals and how the course may have changed your attitudes about psychiatric illness (5% of final grade).**

Please feel free to ask me at any time if you are unsure if you are on track in your work in this course.

Research Paper:

At the end of the Winter Session semester, you will be required to write a 7-10 page integrative research paper (in APA format) on a topic relevant to treatment of schizophrenia of your choice **but selected in consultation with your instructor**. The full report will be due at the end of the course, Wednesday, January 23. You will also be asked to provide a rough draft of your paper on 1/18 so that I can give you feedback.

Readings:

Clinical Handbook of Schizophrenia. (2011). Edited by Kim T. Mueser and Dilip V. Jeste. The Guilford Press: New York. ISBN 978-1-60918-237-3. In addition, some classes you will be asked to read 1-2 journal articles or book chapters. I will always provide you with the article (either a hard copy, e-mail attachment or a .pdf link on Moodle) at least a week before we are scheduled to discuss it.

Academic Honesty:

You are expected to adhere to Wesleyan's Honor System as stated in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is not acceptable. Your final research paper must be your own work. In your final research paper you must provide proper citations for any information that you have gathered from research articles, on the web, or from any other sources.

Students with Disabilities:

It is the policy of Wesleyan University to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students, however, are responsible for registering with Disabilities Services, in addition to making requests known to me in a timely manner. If you require accommodations in this class, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible [during the first class], so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The

procedures for registering with Disabilities Services can be found at <http://www.wesleyan.edu/deans/disability-students.html>

Week	Dates	Group Meeting Activity	Assignments Due
UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE DISORDER			
Week 1	1/7 M	Introduction to Schizophrenia	Chapters 1-2 and 9, Mueser & Jeste
	1/7 A	Film: "A Beautiful Mind"/ Discussion	
	1/8 M	Symptom Assessment	
	1/8 A	Symptom Assessment	
	1/9 M	Outcome in Schizophrenia	Chapter 11, Mueser & Jeste
UNIT 2: HISTORY OF THE TREATMENT OF SCHIZOPHRENIA			
	1/9 A	History of the Concept and Treatment of Schizophrenia	QUIZ 1 Excerpts, Porter, A Brief History of Madness, Excerpts from Noll, American Madness (Moodle) Excerpts, Valenstein, Great and Desperate Cures (Moodle)
	1/10 M	History of the Concept and Treatment of Schizophrenia	
	1/10 A	Film: "The Snake Pit"/Discussion	
UNIT 3: NEUROSCIENTIFIC PERSPECTIVES ON TREATMENT			
Week 2	1/13 M	Primer: Human Neuroanatomy	
	1/13 A	Neurobiological Correlates of Schizophrenia I: Dopamine and Glutamate Hypotheses	Chapters 3-5, Mueser & Jeste
	1/14 M	Neurobiological Correlates of Schizophrenia I: Dopamine and Glutamate Hypotheses	
	1/14 A	Visit to Connecticut Valley Hospital (tentative)	
	1/15 M	Neurobiological Correlates of Schizophrenia II: Structural and Functional MRI Findings	Chapters 16-17, Mueser & Jeste
	1/15 A		
UNIT 4: PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON TREATMENT			
	1/16 M	Experimental Psychological Perspectives on Schizophrenia	QUIZ 2 and 3 Harvey & Reichenberg paper (Moodle)

	1/16 A	Experimental Psychological Perspectives on Schizophrenia	PORT treatment guidelines (Moodle) Chapters 10 and 22-25, and 37 Mueser & Jeste Lysaker & Lysaker, Schizophrenia: The Fate of the Self, Chapters 2 & 6-8 (Moodle)
	1/17 M	Contemporary Psychological Treatments for Schizophrenia Prevention: Prodrome in Schizophrenia? Sense of Self in Schizophrenia	
	1/17 A	Contemporary Psychological Treatments for Schizophrenia Prevention: Prodrome in Schizophrenia? Sense of Self in Schizophrenia	Paper Drafts Due
	1/20 M	Paper Presentations	Quiz 4
	1/20 A	Paper Presentations	

Note: M=Morning (10AM-12PM), A=Afternoon (1PM-3PM)

Breakdown of Final Grades:

Class participation=10%

4 Quizzes = 40%

Reflection Journal Entries = 5%

Final Presentation=10%

Final Paper = 35%