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## **47.272 Abnormal Psychology**

### STUDY GUIDE FOR FINAL EXAM

Time of Exam: Thursday, May 12, 11:30 AM-2:30 PM

Locations: Mahoney 207

Quiz 3 will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> of our multiple-choice quizzes and it will cover Topics 7-9. The questions will focus on specific biological, psychological, and social-environmental factors in causation, and on specific biological, psychological, and social-environmental methods of treatment.

Following Quiz 3 will be our essay-style final exam. You will be given several questions to consider and will be asked to choose any 6 of them. The final is comprehensive, and to help you focus your study efforts, here are the areas from which specific questions will be drawn:

- Understanding and explaining the differences between categorical and dimensional classification
- Why “diagnosis” in abnormal psychology does not have the same meaning that it has in medicine
- Discussing the differences between the different DSM mental disorders that involve depression
- Why the personality disorders are the most controversial aspect of DSM-IV
- How are we supposed to be able to distinguish between normal and abnormal use of alcohol and other drugs
- The similarities and differences between disorders in DSM that are referred to as “psychotic”
- Why pinning down specific causal factors in psychopathology is such a daunting task
- Assessing just how much of a role we should attribute to genetics in explaining psychopathology
- Explaining how different forms of psychopathology can be attributed to learning
- Explaining how different forms of psychopathology can be attributed to cognition
- Pinpointing the key differences between the major psychological approaches in treatment
- Identifying where the use of prescription medications might be most useful in treating various mental disorders
- Understanding the role of society and culture in psychopathology