

**PSYC S-1240. Abnormal Psychology (CRN: 30206)**

*Daniel Perschonok PhD, Lecturer on Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School*

An intensive exploration of the conceptual framework of psychopathology and the explanations of impaired psychological functioning. The course focuses on the forms of major mental disorder and of abnormal personality; on their possible causes (for example, cerebral dysregulation or internal conflicts, dysfunctional cognitions or developmental liabilities) and on several prevailing modes of treatment. Mood disorders will be emphasized to exemplify some of the controversial issues of classifying and understanding psychopathological phenomena. Students will examine several illustrative literary and case studies to note dilemmas of applying theoretical constructs to an individual case.