

Montgomery County Community College
 PSY 215
 Abnormal Psychology
 3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Biology, behavior and environment interact in complex ways to produce what is defined as abnormal. Historical material, pertinent research and relevant case studies provide an understanding of abnormal psychology and its impact on all of us.

PREREQUISITE(S):

None

CO-REQUISITE(S):

None

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Describe major historical and current theoretical perspectives on abnormal behavior and explain how each shapes societal reactions and treatment approaches.	Lecture Discussion Reading	Quiz Group Presentations
2. Explain the ways in which biological, psychological and social forces interact to collectively, and individually, impact human behavior.	Lecture Reading Videos Discussion	PPT Presentation Critical Summaries of Videos Quiz
3. Summarize the classification system used by the DSM 5 and the ICD 10 to classify mental disorders, causes and treatments.	Lecture Reading Videos Discussion	Case Study Quiz

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
4. Define and give examples of key terms and research methods used in studying psychopathology.	Read Journal Articles Critically analyze and summarize an example of recent research	PPT Presentation Quiz Written Summary of Service Learning Experience
5. Differentiate among major mental illnesses and summarize the diagnostic criteria and clinical assessment processes for each.	Lecture Discussion Videos Individual and Group Case Study Analysis	Case Study Paper Quiz
6. List and describe the major biologically-based and psychologically-based treatments of mental disorders.	Readings Videos Discussion Lecture Interviews	Quiz Brief Video Essays Summarizing Key Points Written Summary of Service Learning Experience
7. Identify major legal and ethical challenges to addressing issues in which law and abnormal psychology intersect.	Analysis of Current Events Discussion- Privacy, Safety and Mental Health	Quiz Research Paper

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. What Is Abnormal-Abnormality Psychology In Historical Perspective
2. Contemporary Perspectives On Abnormal Behavior and Methods of Treatment
3. Research Methods In Abnormal Psychology
4. Stress Related Disorders, Anxiety and Related Disorders
5. Diagnosis and Assessment
6. Dissociative Disorders, Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders
7. Anxiety, Somatoform, and Dissociative Disorders
8. Psychological Factors Affecting Physical Health
9. Mood Disorders and Suicide
10. Substance Related and Addictive Disorders
11. Eating Disorders and Sleep-Wake Disorders
12. Disorders Involving Gender and Sexuality
13. Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders
14. Perspectives on Schizophrenia
15. Personality Disorders and Impulse-Control Disorders

16. Abnormal Behavior in Childhood and Adolescence
17. Neurocognitive Disorders and Disorders Related to Aging
18. Legal Issues and Abnormal Psychology

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Nevid, J. S. (2014) *Abnormal psychology in a changing world* (9th ed.) Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: P. Maher

Date:

Revised by: Dr. Mary Lou Whitehill

Date: 3/2000

Revised by: Mary Lou Whitehill

Date: 5/27/2014

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:

Date: 6/9/2014



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.