

Course Syllabus

Psyc& 220: Abnormal Psychology

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Psych. 100 (General Psychology)

Instructor	Shawn Curtis PsyD Candidate, MSCJ, MA, LMHCA
Office	D110
Mailbox	D110
Phone (Voicemail)	
	(425) 564-2331 (Social Science Division Office)
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Address	D110, Bellevue College, 3000 Landerholm Cr. SE, Bellevue, WA 98007
Email	Use the messenger in Canvas to contact me for all course related issues. Otherwise my school email is shawn.curtis@bellevuecollege.edu
Class Hours	Online
Office Hours	Online or by Apt.

INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to the online version of Psychology 220. This course is designed to meet the academic needs of a unique group of students who may be unable to attend traditional campus classes and who are motivated and self-disciplined. While the class meets in cyberspace, students can expect a heavy workload outside of class in order to meet the requirements of the course.

Check your readiness to take an online course by doing the self-assessment quiz for distance learning at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/distance/WebAssess/>. It is important that students enrolled in the course are reading at college level, are able to work with less direct instruction, and have time available to complete the reading and assignments. The instructor will provide the structure for the class and act as a "coach" as you proceed through the course. You can leave messages for the instructor at any time by e-mail or phone, and he will respond to you as quickly as possible.

FORMAT:

Students are required to read chapters in the assigned text, participate in a weekly discussion forum, submit assignments, and take exams, all on-line.

Instructions for how to access the on-line portion of the class can be found at: http://bellevuecollege.edu/distance/Canvas_classroom.asp, or you can just go to: <http://bc.instructure.com> and log in using your BC Student ID number as your username, and your birthdate (mmddyy) as your password.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Comer, R. (2014) *Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology* (7th Edition). New York: Worth. ISBN # 1-4292-9563-5

There is also a web site from the publisher of the textbook with links to related web sites and student aids: <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/comerfund7e/default.asp> (<http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/comerfund7e/default.asp>).

The text may be purchased from the Bellevue College Bookstore or online at <http://bookstore.bellevuecollege.edu/> (<http://bookstore.bcc.ctc.edu/>). However, since the text is needed right away, an in-person purchase is recommended if you haven't already ordered it.

You can also order the loose-leaf version or e-book directly from Worth Publishers: <http://www.worthpublishers.com/Catalog/content.aspx?Title=247> (<http://www.worthpublishers.com/Catalog/content.aspx?Title=247>).

Power points from the text publisher are also available in each unit to help reinforce the text material. textbook with links to related web sites and student aids: <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/comerfund6e/> (<http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/comerfund6e/>)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Articulate the criteria and controversy regarding the definition of abnormal behavior.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the prevalence and historical/contemporary views of abnormal behavior.
3. Describe current practices of diagnosis, assessment, and research (including DSM) in classifying disorders and determining the need for treatment.
4. Describe the major techniques and theoretical approaches to understanding and treating abnormal behavior.
5. Identify the major diagnostic categories and distinguish among the symptoms, proposed causes, and preferred treatments of each of the following disorders:

- Anxiety disorders
- Mind-body disorders
- Personality disorders
- Substance abuse disorders
- Sexual disorders
- Mood disorders
- Schizophrenia disorders
- Organic brain disorders
- Selected disorders of childhood and adolescence
- Dissociative disorders
- Somatoform Disorders

General Education Outcomes

This course meets the following General Education outcome: Creative and Critical Thinking

How Course Objectives Will Be Met

EXAMS

There will be five exams, each covering 3 chapters (except the last exam, which will be comprehensive). Each exam will consist of objective (multiple choice and short answer) questions, and each will be worth 120 points, or 12% of the grade.

All exams will be administered on-line as scheduled on the calendar. Students will have 110 minutes to answer roughly 100 questions within that period of time once they log onto the exam. Total possible exam points will be 600, or 60% of the final grade.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION FORUM

The discussion forum is the heart of the course. Students will be responding to my questions and responding to other students, just as they would in a "live" discussion. There will be 13 discussion sessions, running from Monday to Wednesday and Thursday to Saturday every week. Students will have a choice of questions to respond to and will also need to respond to at least one other student in each half of the week. Specifically, you are expected to participate in the discussion with at least four posts a week, at least twice in response to my questions and at least twice in response to other students' comments. See the "Course Structure and Expectations" for more details on how the discussion will work. The grade for this portion of the class will be a combination of points for participating (up to 20 points per discussion) and points for the quality of participation (20 points to be assigned at the end of the quarter), for a total of 280 points or 28% of the grade.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment 1: Case Study	75 points	Due 5/1
Assignment 2: Research on a Theme of Interest	75 points	Due 5/23
Assignment 3: Field Experience	75 points	Due 6/13

This quarter, you can choose two out of the three possible assignments. Since the assignments are linked to the course material, they do need to be submitted by specific due dates, so you'll need to decide early in the quarter which one you plan to do. I would suggest choosing project in which you have the most interest and that fits your schedule the best. For Assignment 3, an approved proposal must be posted.

Each assignment will be described in detail in the Learning Modules. A grade will be assigned based on criteria for that assignment. It is expected that assignments will be proofread for mechanical errors and will be submitted on time. Assignments will be accepted one day late only with a five-point deduction.

In addition to the formal assignment, you will be asked to post a personal introduction (10 points) and a self-assessment at the end of the quarter (10 points).

FIELD EXPERIENCE (Assignment 3)

If you choose to do the field experience for one of your two assignments, you will need to locate and visit a mental health service. This could involve interviewing someone who works in the mental health field, visiting a local mental health clinic, agency, or hospital, observing (with permission) patients or clients in a mental health setting, doing some kind of volunteer work related to mental health, or creating some other experience of your design. The goal of this assignment is that you have some "real-life" exposure to the issues encountered by people and clinicians dealing with psychological disorders. You will be asked to submit a proposal for this project by week 8, and to write up your experience by week 10. It's best to wait until close to the end of the quarter to conduct this experience so you can apply as much of the course content as possible. Further detail on this part of the course will be available when it is assigned, but it's a good idea to be thinking ahead for this one.

GRADING

Grades will be determined as follows:

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Exams	5@ 120 points	600
Discussions	11@ 20 points	220
Assignments	2 @ 75	150
Personal Introduction		10
Self-Assessment		20
Total =		1000

Grades will be determined by adding up scores for the exams and all of the assignments:

A	94-100%	940-1000	C+	77-79%	770-799
A-	90-93%	900-939	C	74-76%	740-769
B+	87-89%	870-899	C-	70-73%	700-739
B	84-86%	840-869	D+	67-69%	670-699
B-	80-83%	800-839	D	64-66%	640-669

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Students with special learning needs should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Learning Modules/ Topics

Module 1	Foundations of Abnormal Psychology (Ch. 1, 2, 3)
Module 2	Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive, Trauma and Stress, & Somatic Disorders (Ch. 4, 5, 8)
Module 3	Mood Disorders, Suicide, & Schizophrenia (Ch. 6, 7, 12)
Module 4	Eating, Substance-Related & Sexual Disorders (Ch. 9, 10, 11)
Module 5	Childhood Disorders, Personality Disorders & Legal Issues (Ch. 13, 14, 16)

Schedule: Specific dates will be posted in the online calendar in Canvas.

For technical help with the online part of the class and Canvas:

Link to Canvas student guides: <http://guides.instructure.com/m/4212> (<http://guides.instructure.com/m/4212>)

Link to Student Technical Help Desk: <http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/students/> (<http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/students/>)

Accommodations

If you need course modifications / adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please let me know as soon as possible. If you have not done so already, you can contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in B132 or by calling 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110. Information is also available on their website at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/> (<http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>).

Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.

We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

Religious Holidays

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious

holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

College Anti-Discrimination Statement (Title IX)

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates.

For further information and contacts, please consult [College Anti-Discrimination Statements \(http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix\)](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix).

[\(http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/students/\)](http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/students/)

For behavioral and grading guidelines of the Social Science Division: http://bellevuecollege.edu/socsci/student_policies.asp
(http://bellevuecollege.edu/socsci/student_policies.asp)

Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity

Any act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source), and fabrication and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to, talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at: [Student Code \(http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id-2050/\)](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id-2050/)

Important Links

Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: [Create Email \(https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/netid/\)](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/netid/)

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Technology Help Desk \(http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/students/\)](http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/students/)

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact [Autism Spectrum Navigators \(http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/autismspectrumnavigators/\)](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/autismspectrumnavigators/). Email and phone number is on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by Skype: the address is **DRCatBC** (NOTE: There is no @ sign...it is actually **DRCatBC**). Please visit our website at [Disability Resource Center \(http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc/\)](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc/) for application information into our program and other helpful links.

Accessibility

The online elements of this course are designed to be welcoming to, accessible to, and usable by everyone, including students who are English-language learners, have a variety of learning styles, have disabilities, or are new to online learning. Be sure to let me know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you. Also, let me know of changes I can make to the course so that it is more welcoming to, accessible to, or usable by students who take this course in the future.

Public Safety

Public Safety and Emergencies

Public Safety is located in the K building and can be reached at **425-564-2400** (easy to remember because it's the only office on campus open 24 hours a day—2400). Among other things, Public Safety serves as our Parking Permits, Lost and Found, and Emergency Notification center. Please ensure you are signed up to receive alerts through our campus alerting system by registering at [RAVE Alert Registration \(http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/alerts/?ref=footer\)](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/alerts/?ref=footer).

If you work late and are uneasy about going to your car, Public Safety will escort you to your vehicle. To coordinate this, please phone ahead and let Public Safety know when and where you will need an escort.

Please familiarize yourself with the emergency postings by the door of every classroom and know where to go in the event of an evacuation. Your instructor will be asked if anyone might still be in the building, so check in before you do anything else. Emergency responders will search for anyone unaccounted for.

If a major emergency occurs, please follow these three rules:

1) Take directions from those in charge of the response -We all need to be working together.

2) Do not get in your car and leave campus (unless directed to) - Doing so will clog streets and prevent emergency vehicles from entering the scene. Instead, follow directions from those in charge.

3) In an emergency, call 911 first, then Public Safety.

Please do not hesitate to call Public Safety if you have safety questions or concerns at any time. You may also visit the [Public Safety](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/) (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>) web page for answers to your questions.

Academic Calendar

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

- **Enrollment Calendar** (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/deadlines/>). On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.
- **College Calendar** (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/holidays/>). This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.

PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Fall 2015

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services and at [http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_\(Procedures\).asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_(Procedures).asp) ([http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_\(Procedures\).asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_(Procedures).asp))

Email Communication with instructors must be done through student email accounts only. Instructors cannot communicate with students about their course work or grades through student's personal email accounts.

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Center and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and program assistants or coordinators will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.

I look forward to working with you in this most fascinating class!
Shawn Curtis, MA

Date	Details	
Sun Sep 27, 2015	Discussion 01: What is Abnormal? (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089677)	11:59pm
	Introduction Letter (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089682)	11:59pm
Sun Oct 4, 2015	Discussion 02: Nature vs. Nurture (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089676)	11:59pm
Sun Oct 11, 2015	Discussion 03: Assessments (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089675)	11:59pm
	Exam Module 1 (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089663)	11:59pm
Sun Oct 18, 2015	Assignment 1 (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089678)	11:59pm
	Discussion 04: Psychopharmacology or Psychotherapy	11:59pm
	(https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089674)	11:59pm
Sun Oct 25, 2015	Discussion 05: Stress and Health (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089673)	11:59pm
	Exam Module 2 (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089664)	11:59pm
Sun Nov 1, 2015	Discussion 06: Sadness and Depression	11:59pm
	(https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089672)	11:59pm
Tue Nov 10, 2015	Assignment 2 (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089679)	11:59pm
	Discussion 07: Schizophrenia Fact and Fiction	11:59pm
	(https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089671)	11:59pm
Exam Module 3 (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089667)	11:59pm	
Sun Nov 15, 2015	Discussion 08: Eating Disorders (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089670)	11:59pm
Sun Nov 22, 2015	Discussion 09: Addiction (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089669)	11:59pm
	Exam Module 4 (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089665)	11:59pm
Fri Nov 27, 2015	Assignment 3 (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089680)	11:59pm
	Evaluation Extra Credit 1 (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089681)	11:59pm
Sun Nov 29, 2015	Discussion 10: Personality Disorders	11:59pm
	(https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089668)	11:59pm
Tue Dec 1, 2015	Exam Module 5 (https://bc.instructure.com/courses/1196243/assignments/6089666)	11:59pm