

Psychology 220 Abnormal Psychology

Syllabus Spring Quarter 2016

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Psyc& 100 (General)

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INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to the online version of Psychology 220. This course is designed to meet the academic needs 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 reading about successful eLearning students: <https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/elearning/is-elearning-for-you/>.

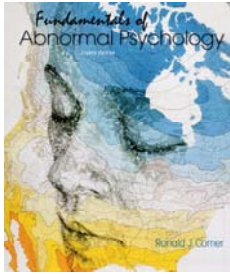
It is important that students enrolled in the course are reading at college level, are able to work with less direct instruction, and have time available to complete the reading and assignments. The instructor will provide the structure for the class and act as a "coach" as you proceed through the course. You can leave messages for the instructor at any time by e-mail, and she will respond to you as quickly as possible.

COURSE FOCUS:

Psyc& 220 is an introductory course on maladaptive behavior and the etiology (causes), description, and treatment of psychological disorders. The course will cover theoretical approaches to abnormal psychology, classification and assessment of major disorders, and therapeutic responses to disorders.

TEXT:

Comer, R. (2016) Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology (8th Edition). New York: Worth. ISBN # 1-4641-7697-3 (Required).



This edition of the text is brand new. Because it will be difficult to locate less expensive used copies, you may also use the previous version of the same text, the 7th edition. Exams will ask questions that can be answered from either edition. There may be some discussion questions that refer to material only found in the new edition, but you will always have options in terms of questions.

The 8th edition of the text may be purchased from the Bellevue College Bookstore or online at <http://bcc.collegestoreonline.com/>. You can also order the loose-leaf version or e-book directly from Worth Publishers: <http://www.macmillanlearning.com/Catalog/product/fundamentalsofabnormalpsychology-eighthedition-comer/valueoptions#tab7>. However, since the text is needed right away, an in-person purchase from the bookstore is recommended if you haven't already ordered it.

There is a web site from the publisher of the textbook with student aids like practice quizzes (note: this site is for the previous edition, but still helpful): <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/comerfund7e/default.asp>. Power points from the text publisher are also available in each unit to help reinforce the text material.

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 and Stress Disorders
Somatic Disorders
Eating Disorders
Sexual Disorders
Disorders of Childhood and Adolescent

Mood Disorders
Schizophrenia Disorders
Substance Disorders
Personality Disorders

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.

COURSE COMPONENTS:

EXAMS

There will be five exams, each covering 3 chapters. Each exam will consist of objective (multiple choice and matching) questions, and each will be worth 100 points, or 10% of the grade.

All exams will be administered on-line and will be open for three days as scheduled on the calendar. Students will have two hours to answer roughly 80 questions within that period of time once they log onto the exam. Total possible exam points will be 500, or 50% of the final grade.

FINAL EXAM

There will be an on-line comprehensive final exam. The final will have 100 objective questions and cover major concepts from the quarter. See the course calendar for the date and time. The final will be worth 10% 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 21 discussion sessions, running from Monday to Wednesday and Thursday to Saturday every week (except the last 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 10 points per discussion) and points for the quality of participation (20 points to be assigned at the end of the quarter). Altogether, discussion points will be worth a total of 230 points or 23% of the grade.

You get a **"free pass"** to miss one discussion for the quarter without a discount. I will give you full credit for one discussion missed entirely; if you participate in all 21 discussions, I will raise your lowest discussion score to a full credit score. If you earn a perfect score in all 21 discussions I will add 5 extra credit points to your total.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

There will be two written assignments this quarter, due as scheduled on the calendar. These assignments will be submitted as word document attachments in the assignment tool. A description of the assignments will be posted early in the quarter. Everyone will do the first assignment, and you will have a choice for the second assignment. Assignments and point values are listed below:

Assignment 1: Case Study	40 points
Assignment 2: DSM-5 Investigation or Field Experience	100 points

Each assignment will be described in detail in the Learning Modules. For Assignment 2, an approved proposal must be submitted, worth 5 points, and a summary will be posted for other students to see, also worth 5 points. A grade will be assigned based on criteria for each 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 assignments, you will be asked to post a **personal introduction** (10 points) and submit a **self-assessment** at the end of the quarter (10 points). There will be a small number of extra credit points given at the end of the quarter for completing the online course evaluation.

GRADING

Grades will be determined as follows:

Exams	5 @ 100 points	500
Final Exam		100
Discussions	21 @ 10 points + 20 points quality	230
Assignments	1 @ 40, 1 @ 100, 1 proposal @ 5, 1 summary @ 5	150
Personal Introduction		10
Self-Assessment		10
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

MODULE ORGANIZATION

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 calendar.

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/>.

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.

For technical help with the online part of the class:

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

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

For behavioral and grading guidelines of the Social Science

Division: <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/socsci/procedures-guidelines/>

I look forward to working with you in this most fascinating class!

Helen or Dr. T.