

PSYCHOLOGY 220
ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
ITEM 5459, SECTION HYA
COURSE SYLLABUS
WINTER QUARTER 2012

CLASS MEETING TIME AND LOCATION:

Class will meet in Room A138 from 9:30am to 11:20am every Tuesday and Thursday from January 3rd to March 20th, with the following exceptions. There will be no class on Tuesday, January 31st or on Thursday, March 1st. The final exam will be given on Tuesday, March 20th at 9:30am.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Sherry Brodish, M.A., LMHC
Office Location: D110-I
Office Hours by Appointment
E-Mail: sbrodish@bellevuecollege.edu
Phone: 425-564-2296 (Direct Line to Voice Mail)

Social Science Division Office Location: D110
Social Science Division Phone: 425-564-2331
Social Science Division Website:
<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/socsci/>

PREREQUISITE:

Psychology 100 General Psychology

REQUIRED TEXT:

Comer, Ronald (2011) *Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology* (6th Edition). New York: Worth Publishers. Any format is acceptable, including eBook, notebook, paperback, or cloth edition.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces the scientific study of abnormal behavior in an effort to describe, predict, explain, and treat maladaptive patterns of functioning.

COURSE FOCUS:

Psychology 220 is an introductory course on abnormal behavior and the etiology, or causes, description, and treatment of maladaptive psychological disorders. This course will cover theoretical approaches to abnormal psychology, classification and assessment of major disorders, and therapeutic responses to disorders.

A NOTE ABOUT COURSE CONTENT:

Since Abnormal Psychology examines abnormal aspect of individual behavior, this course will discuss some provocative material. Please be advised that when controversial topics are explored, they will be framed within an academic context. Keep in mind that finding oneself in a space outside of one's comfort zone is an opportunity for learning. Students may be confronted with subject matter that is difficult to watch, see, discuss, or listen to. Please note, however, that you will be responsible for any course material you miss if you choose not to participate. If a student has any questions or concerns about course content or climate, feel free to speak with the instructor about it immediately.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the successful student 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 their 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 symptoms, proposed causes, and preferred treatment 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 outcomes:

1. Critical Thinking, Creativity, and Problem Solving
2. Research/Information Literacy
3. Ethics
4. Science and the Natural World

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Your final grade will be based on a total of 750 points. These points are calculated as follows:

400 possible points – Exams
 100 possible points – Video Review and Diagnosis
 100 possible points – Case Study
 100 possible points – Research Assignment
 50 possible points – Class Participation and Attendance

In conformity with BC's grading policy, the grades will be assigned as follows:

A	100% – 94%	750 - 705 Points	C+	79% – 77%	599 - 578 Points
A-	93% – 90%	704 - 675 Points	C	76% – 74%	577 - 555 Points
B+	89% – 87%	674 - 653 Points	C-	73% – 70%	554 - 525 Points
B	86% – 84%	652 - 630 Points	D+	69% – 67%	524 - 503 Points
B-	83% – 80%	629 - 600 Points	D	66% – 60%	502 - 450 Points
			F	59% - Below	449 - 000 Points

EXAMS:

There will be five (5) exams, each worth 100 points. Each exam will cover information from the text, lectures, demonstrations, and videos. The test format may contain multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, or essay questions. Anything covered in the classroom should be considered testable information. *There will be no comprehensive final exam.*

Your grade will be calculated on the basis of your best four (4) exam scores. Your lowest exam score from the first four exams will be automatically dropped. Attendance for the final exam is required and that exam score will be computed into your final grade for the course. You will need to bring a Scantron sheet, a clean sheet of paper, and No. 2 pencil to each exam.

No make-up exams will be given. Exams will not be given after the scheduled exam time. Missed exams will be assigned no points. If you are unable to attend class on an exam day, the missed exam may be used as your lowest score, if it is one of the first four exams. Only one missed exam score will be dropped. If you know ahead of time that you will be unable to attend class on an exam day, you may make arrangements with the instructor to take the exam early. *These arrangements must be made at least two weeks prior to the scheduled exam.* Requests less than two weeks prior to a scheduled exam will not be honored. If you come

late to class on an exam day, you will not be given additional time. See the Course Schedule for tentative exam dates.

VIDEO REVIEW AND DIAGNOSIS:

Students will select a character from a list of films provided by the instructor and write a case description of the character, including a multi-axial DSM-IV diagnosis. Specific details of the assignment and its format will be provided separately.

CASE STUDY ASSIGNMENT:

Students will be given an actual case of a person with a psychological disorder and be asked to attempt a diagnosis using criteria in the diagnostic manual used by mental health professionals. Specific details of the assignment and its format will be provided separately.

RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT:

Students can choose to do a research paper or field experience:

- Research Paper: Students who choose this option will investigate a theme (causal factor, symptom, population, treatment) that connects two or more disorders from different categories using library sources, primarily journal articles. Specific details of the assignment and its format will be provided separately.
- Field Experience: Students who choose this option will design, execute, and write about a “real life” exposure to the issues encountered by people and clinicians dealing with psychological disorders. This could include 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 the student’s individual design. Specific details of the assignment and its format will be provided separately.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

WIRELESS DEVICES & PERSONAL COMPUTERS:

Students may only use personal computers off line for note taking and only if they sit in the first row of the classroom. Students may not use personal computers to access any web sites, other than our own if applicable, during class.

All wireless devices are to be turned off and out of sight while in this classroom. Students who abuse the privilege of using personal computers during class, whose cell phones ring, who engage in sending or receiving text messages, are seen wearing ear buds, or are using electronic devices for any purpose not associated directly with the classroom or course work will be asked to remove themselves from the classroom for the remainder of the class period. I also reserve the right to answer any student’s phone that rings during class. If the problem persists, the student(s) will be referred to the Dean of Student Success for appropriate disciplinary actions.

CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE:

Students are encouraged to participate in discussions of the theories and concepts that will be presented in class. Some of the theories may seem counter-intuitive and may provoke much reaction, sparking lively discussions. Within these discussions, it is important to remain respectful of your fellow students. Everyone has a point of view and you are encouraged to share your reactions with the class as long as they pertain to the material. However, distractions from the lecture or topic discussions will not be tolerated.

Students are required to attend every class. If you cannot attend faithfully, arrive on time, and remain for its entirety, you should not take this course. If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining lecture or class notes from another student and to gain information regarding class announcements or changes to the schedule that you may have missed. Do not contact the instructor for this information.

Please be on time for class. Arriving late or leaving early undoubtedly breaks the flow of the class and causes a distraction. If you arrive late, please take a seat close to the door. If you need to leave early, make arrangements with me ahead of time and sit close to the door.

In accordance with the Washington State Attorney General's ruling on attendance, ten (10) absences or 20% absence during a course may constitute an automatic failure of the course.

This course meets 20 times Winter quarter, so more than four absences could mean an automatic failure simply based on attendance alone.

DUE DATES AND DEADLINES:

No late work will be accepted. "My computer isn't working" or "my hard disk broke" is not an acceptable excuse. It has become the new "my dog ate my homework." There are enough computers on this campus that every student should be able to find one to use if you plan ahead. Save your work early, often, and in multiple locations.

COLLEGE POLICIES AND RESOURCES:

DISABLED STUDENTS:

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 the DRC as soon as possible. The DRC office is located in B132. Their reception desk can be contacted by calling 425-564-2498 or TTY 425-564-4110. Information is also available on their website at <http://www.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. As such, our classroom is a Safe Space where your individuality is welcome. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, queer-identified, and transgendered students along with students of all cultures, nationalities, and spiritual beliefs are welcome in this classroom and I will defend your right to be yourself in the spirit of learning and in an environment of mutual respect. For more information, visit: <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

PLAGIARISM AND OTHER CONDUCT POLICIES:

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty that occurs when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

- a. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas.
- b. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
- c. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in your own words and/or doesn't document your source.
- d. You turn in work created by another person.
- e. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course *without express permission* from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.

Consequences: If it is determined that you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action.

Cheating, stealing, plagiarizing, and inappropriate or 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 or 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.

INCOMPLETE:

If a student fails to complete all the required work for the course, the instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). You must contact the instructor before grades are assigned to be considered for this exception and you 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 the course will receive a letter grade of "F".

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. There will be no comprehensive final exam.

WITHDRAWAL:

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter during the standard academic year (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course. Check Enrollment Calendar Deadlines, Refunds/Withdrawals, for additional details. As with most enrollment deadlines, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of these dates and act accordingly.

HARDSHIP WITHDRAWAL:

The instructor may assign a grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at his or her discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances that may have occurred after the withdrawal period. A student must contact the instructor *before* grades are assigned to be considered for this exception and the student must provide *documented proof* of need for this exception.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES:

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division office or in faculty offices. Students should access their grades through the Bellevue College web site.

RETURN OF PAPERS:

The return of assignments and/or Service Learning Journals will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if a student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage). Unclaimed papers and/or journals must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter. After that time they will be shredded.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

Submit proofread work only. If you need help with your writing, please make use of the following student support services:

- Academic Success Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/academicsuccess/>
- Academic Tutoring Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/tutoring/>
- TRiO Student Support Services: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/TRiO/>
- Bellevue College Writing Lab: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/>

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER:

Students are strongly encouraged to visit the LMC at least once a week, but you can also access it via the web. Talk to a Reference Librarian at the Library (D-126), by calling 425-564-6161, or by email at reference@bellevuecollege.edu.

- Main Library Media Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/>
- For the LMC online catalog: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/catalogs.html>
- For article databases: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/periodicals.html>

ADVISING:

The Psychology Department has an in-house advisor, Deanne Eschbach, located in D110C. Call 425-564-2216 or 425-564-2212 for an appointment.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

The Bellevue College Public Safety Department's well-trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Their phone number is 425-564-2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements, and critical information in the event of an emergency. The Public Safety office is located in K100 and on the web at: <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>

CAMPUS CLOSURES:

To get announcements of campus closures:

- Receive email and text messages through the BC Alert System (sign up at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/alerts>).
- Visit www.SchoolReport.org or subscribe to their emergency email and text message service.
- Call BC's emergency information line: 425-401-6680.
- Check the BC home page (<http://bellevuecollege.edu>) for a link to the BC emergency information website, or access that page directly at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>