

PSYCHOLOGY 220 - Abnormal Psychology, Section A, Fall, 2009, Item 5750

Prerequisite: Psychology 100

Class: TTh, 10:30 AM – 12:20 PM, and F 11:30 – 12:20 PM, Rm. B204

Instructor: Mike Brislawn Telephone: (253) 653-3148 (Cell/Home, emergency only)

Email: mbrislaw@bellevuecollege.edu, mbrislawn@earthlink.net

BCC Office Hours: TTh, 12:30 – 1:30 PM and by Appointment – D110F

BCC Telephone: (425) 564-2335 (Messages)

TEXTBOOK: Abnormal Psychology, 11<sup>th</sup> Ed., by Sarason & Sarason

## OUTCOMES

Psychology 220 is the study of the etiology, symptoms and treatments of psychological disorders. This course will explore the various paradigms, traditions, and controversies regarding psychopathology. It will cover classification, case formulation, and treatment of each of the disorders in the DSM-IV-TR. Learning outcomes in Psychology 220 include:

A. Specific outcomes related to psychology as a discipline

1. Articulate the criteria and controversy regarding the definition of abnormal behavior
2. Describe current practices of diagnosis, assessment and research (including DSM) in classifying disorders and determining their need for treatment
3. Demonstrate knowledge of historical/contemporary views of abnormality
4. Describe the major techniques and theoretical approaches to understanding and treating abnormal behavior
5. Identify the major diagnostic categories and discriminate among symptoms, proposed causes, and preferred treatments of each of the following disorders:
  - Anxiety Disorders
  - Dissociative Disorders
  - Mood Disorders
  - Personality Disorders
  - Substance-Related Disorders
  - Sexual Disorders
  - Schizophrenia
  - Organic Brain Disorders
  - Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence
  - Adjustment Disorders

B. In terms of general education outcomes, students will be able to:

1. In abnormal psychology students must learn to apply critical thinking to the assessment, etiology, and treatment of disorders. A common assessment is the assignment of case studies, for which the students must develop a diagnosis and support the diagnosis with evidence. Students must critically apply diverse perspectives to explain psychological problems, evaluate research studies, and assess sources for credibility and possible bias.
3. Students in abnormal psychology must conduct secondary research, which involves locating, evaluating, summarizing, and citing a range of sources. This is assessed in research writing assignments. Students also often gather data in abnormal psychology by observation, interviews, and field experiences, followed by written assessments of their experience.

5. Students must learn and practice writing in the style of scientific psychology, using journal-style writing and conventions of the discipline. In writing assignments, students are assessed for their ability to connect evidence to assertions, analyze information, and conform to APA style.

11. Understanding and articulating ethical issues is a central concern in abnormal psychology, including ethical practices in human and animal studies, treatment practices, legal issues in mental health, patient rights, and issues of well-being in the community. Through written assignments and exams, students are assessed for their understanding of these critical ethical issues.

17. Abnormal psychology requires students to understand the interplay of genetics/heritability and environmental influences as well as detailed information on the nervous system, the brain, neurotransmission, and related physiological systems. Students are tested on their understanding of causal factors in various disorders, physiologic symptoms, and the effects of medication treatments on behavior.

#### COURSE OUTLINE: 9/22/09 – 12/8/09

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Theoretical Perspectives on Maladaptive Behavior

Chapter 4: Classification and Assessment

Chapter 3: The Therapeutic Enterprise: Choices, Techniques, and Evaluation

Chapter 17: Society's Response to Maladaptive Behavior

10/13 First Unit Exam

Chapter 15: Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence

Chapter 16: Pervasive Developmental Disorders and Mental Retardation

Chapter 13: Cognitive Impairment Disorders

Chapter 14: Substance-Related Disorders

Chapter 5: Stress, Coping, and Maladaptive Behavior (partial)

Chapter 6: Bodily Maladaptations: Eating Disorders, Sleep Disorders, and Psychophysiological Disorders

Chapter 8: Sexual Variants and Disorders

11/5 Second Unit Exam

Chapter 12: Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders

Chapter 11: Mood Disorders and Suicide

Chapter 8: Anxiety Disorders

Chapter 5: Stress, Coping, and Maladaptive Behavior (Acute Stress Disorder, Dissociative Disorders)

Chapter 7: Disorders of Bodily Preoccupation

Chapter 10: Personality Disorders

11/6 Last Day to Withdraw from Class

11/26-27 Holiday (Thanksgiving)

12/3 Third Unit Exam

12/3 Special Presentation on William Perry's Theory of Intellectual and Ethical Development in College Age Individuals

12/4 Ted Bundy Final Interview Video

12/8 Optional Retake Exam, 9:30 AM – 11:20 AM

### STUDY OBJECTIVES:

A list of objectives will be distributed the first week of the quarter, identifying areas that will be covered on the exams. This list of objectives will be used for all of the three unit exams, and should be saved.

### ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION:

Anything covered in the classroom presentations should be considered as testable information, unless otherwise specified. Some information that will be presented is not covered in your textbook. It is each student's responsibility to arrange with classmate(s) to get notes for presentations from which s/he has been absent. Participation is encouraged but not mandatory during classroom discussions. Actual class attendance and participation will not be used as factors in grading.

### STUDENT CONDUCT:

Student conduct expectations will be in compliance with policies described in the BCC student handbook. Of particular note: Abusive and/or harassing language will not be tolerated towards other students, guests, or the instructor in the class. Also, cell phones and pagers should always be turned off prior to entering class.

### EXAMS:

Each of the three Exams will contain 10 Definition Items and 10 Short Essay Items. Students will complete five of the ten Definition Items and five of the ten Short Essay Items of their choice on each Exam. Each of the three Exams will be worth 50 points.

### MAKE-UP EXAMS:

In the event of an absence, please contact me prior to the regularly scheduled exam time to schedule a time for the makeup exam.

### PROJECT:

Each student will be required to do one project on a topic in the field of abnormal psychology, which has been preapproved by the instructor. In order to foster creativity, a student must develop his/her own topic, and then get it approved by the instructor before actually beginning work on the project. The project will be due on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Projects are experiential, and will involve the student actually going 'somewhere' and doing 'something'. Documentation on a project should consist of a title page, a blank page for comments, 3-5 pages of single-spaced, typewritten content. Projects shorter than the 3-page minimum length of actual content will not be accepted. If you choose to talk about anyone you know in the Project, even a family member, remember to maintain confidentiality, changing his/her name and identifying information. The Project will be worth 50 points.

Five Insurance Points may be earned per week, up to three weeks worth of Insurance Points, for turning in the Project early. Note: It is not possible to earn more than the maximum 50 points for the Project using Insurance Points. Conversely, five penalty points per week will be subtracted for turning the Project in late. Please remember to follow the Writing Guidelines.

## DIAGNOSES/ TREATMENT PLAN HOMEWORK:

Homework assignments will begin during the week after the first exam, and each will be due approximately one week after they are distributed in class. Homework will consist of sets of approximately five case studies per week, plus relevant diagnostic information for use with that week's case studies. Each student will select one of the case studies to diagnose and develop an initial treatment plan for. Format for the documentation on the homework will be discussed in class, prior to distribution of the first set of case studies/diagnostic information. There will be five Homework assignments distributed. Students are required to complete four of the five Homework assignments. Each of the four required Homework assignments will be worth 25 points.

## GRADING:

The three Exams will constitute 50% of the grade for the course. The Project and the four required Homework Exercises will constitute the other 50% of the grade for the course. The fifth Homework Exercise may be used as extra credit to improve a student's course grade, with that Exercise being worth 30 points.

Please be aware: There are NO nonpassing grades at BCC, other than a Failing grade, which will result in 5 credits of 0.0 being factored into your cumulative grade point average. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of their grade for the class, and to Withdraw before the deadline of November 6<sup>th</sup>, if they feel their performance is unsatisfactory.

Exam and course grades will be assigned through converting final point totals into letter grades, as follows:

		B+	260	C+	230	D+	200
A	280	B	250	C	220	D	190
A-	270	B-	240	C-	210	D-	180

## PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION Revised Summer 2009

### 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.

### 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."

### 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

**Academic Year:** 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.

**Summer Quarter:** College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the fifth week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). After the sixth day and through the end of the fifth week of the quarter, the "W" grade will become part of the student's transcript record.

### 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 Centre](#) (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 Centre](#), 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 secretaries 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.*