

## *Psyc 220: Abnormal Psychology*

10:30-11:20 Daily

Room A138

5 credits

Prerequisite: Psych. 100 (General Psychology)

**Instructor**

**Dr. Helen Taylor**

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**B100C**

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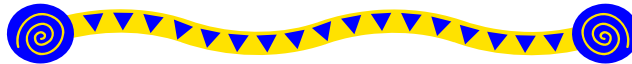
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**Email**

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**Office Hours**

**M-F 9:30-10:20**



### **COURSE FOCUS:**

Psych. 220 is an introductory course on abnormal 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. (2011) Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology (6th Edition). New York: Worth. ISBN #-10: 1-4292-1633-6 (Required)

The text may be purchased from the Bellevue Community College Bookstore or online at <http://bcc.collegestoreonline.com/>.

There is also a web site from the text publisher with links to student aids and other resources: [http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/comerfund6e/#t\\_595240\\_\\_\\_\\_](http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/comerfund6e/#t_595240____). On this site, for each chapter you will find:

- chapter outlines
- learning objectives
- practice quizzes
- flashcards
- crossword puzzles

**All course materials (syllabus, calendar, assignments) will be available on MyBC.**

## **COURSE FORMAT:**

The class will be conducted in lecture/ discussion mode, with group discussions, learning activities, film clips, and occasional speakers.

## **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 outcomes:

Critical Thinking, Creativity, and Problem Solving  
Research/Information Literacy  
Ethics  
Science and the Natural World



## COURSE COMPONENTS

### Attendance, Discussion, and Participation

Class discussions are an integral part of the course and attendance is required. Periodically, the instructor will post questions that will be the focus of an in-class writing assignment and/or be discussed in small groups or the large group. A grade will be assigned for consistent attendance, completed in-class written work, and active participation in discussions, with points assigned out of 100 points, or 10% of the point total. There will be no opportunity to make up these discussions.

### Exams

There will be five exams, each covering 3 chapters. Each exam will consist of 50 objective (multiple choice) questions, with the score doubled so that each exam will be worth 100 points, or 10% of the grade. All exams must be taken as scheduled and no score will be dropped; in the case of a legitimate problem, one exam can be made up. Total possible exam points will be 500, or 50% of the final grade.

### Written Assignments

There will be two major written assignments. Assignments and point values are listed below:

Assignment 1: Case Study	100 points
Assignment 2: Field Experience or Research Paper	200 points

Each assignment will be described in detail in class and on additional handouts, but are briefly described here:

**1. Case Study Assignment:** For this assignment, you 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.

**2. Research Assignment:** For this assignment, you can choose to do a research paper or a field experience:

- **Research Paper:** If you choose this option, you will investigate a theme (causal factor, symptom, population, treatment) that connects two or more disorders from different categories using library sources, primarily journal articles. The write-up will be 6-8 pages, using at least 5 credible, research-based sources and cited using APA format.

- **Field Experience:** If you choose this option, you will design, carry out, and write up some kind of field experience in the area of abnormal psychology. 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.

An approved proposal will be required for both of the research assignments. For all assignments, five points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late.

### Final Exam

The comprehensive final will have 100 objective questions and cover major concepts from the quarter.

### GRADES

**Grades will be determined as follows:**

Exams	5 Exams @ 100 each	500
Assignments	2 Assignments, one @ 100, one @ 200	300
Attendance and discussions		100
Final Exam		100
Total Points	=	1000

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

A	94-100%	940-1000
A-	90-93%	900-939
B+	87-89%	870-899
B	84-86%	840-869
B-	80-83%	800-839
C+	77-79%	770-799
C	74-76%	740-769
C-	70-73%	700-739
D+	67-69%	670-699
D	60-66%	600-669
F	59%>	599>

**Learning Modules/ Topics** (See the course calendar for specific dates).

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

**Class Conduct Guidelines**

- Please arrive at class on time (attendance will be taken at the beginning of class)
- Please treat each other and the instructor with respect and common courtesy
- Please turn off all cell phones and pagers when entering class and refrain from texting or using laptops during class

**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/>.

**Inclement Weather Announcements**

If we should get hit with a snowstorm, here are some ways to determine if the college is open:

- Receive email and text messages through the BC Alert System (sign up at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/alerts/>).
- Visit [www.SchoolReport.org](http://www.SchoolReport.org) or subscribe to their emergency email and text message service.
- Call BC's emergency information line: (425) 401-6680.

If the college is open, I will most likely be in class, but check our course site in MyBC to be sure.

**Services for Students**

You are encouraged to take advantages of services available for students, including the Academic Success Center and Tutoring (D204), the Counseling Center (B234), Multicultural Services (B233), and the Writing Lab (D204).

**PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION**  
**Revised Winter 2010**

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

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 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.*