

Syllabus Summer 2007 Psychology 220 (Psyc& 220)

Abnormal Psychology

(Formerly Psych 200)

Syllabus

Summer Quarter

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Psyc&

100 (Introduction)

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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://distance-ed.bcc.ctc.edu/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 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. (2008) *Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology* (5th Edition). New York: Worth. ISBN # 0-7167-7376-7 (Required). The CD that comes with some texts should be useful but will not be required for the class.

Nicolai, K. & Wilson, C. (2008) *Student Workbook for the Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology*. New York: Worth. (Optional)

These texts may be purchased from the Bellevue Community College Bookstore or online at <http://bookstore.bcc.ctc.edu/>.

There is also a web site from the publisher of the textbook with links to related web sites and student aids.

FORMAT:

Students are required to read chapters in the assigned text, participate in a

weekly discussion forum, submit assignments, do a field experience, and take exams, all on-line.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

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

Articulate the criteria and controversy regarding the definition of abnormal behavior.

Demonstrate knowledge of the prevalence and historical/ contemporary views of abnormal behavior.

Describe current practices of diagnosis, assessment, and research (including DSM) in classifying disorders and determining the need for treatment.

Describe the major techniques and theoretical approaches to understanding and treating abnormal behavior.

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

COURSE COMPONENTS:

EXAMS

There will be five exams, each covering 3 chapters (except the last exam, which will be comprehensive). Each exam except the last will consist of objective and essay questions, and each will be worth 100 points, or 10% of the grade. The last exam will include objective questions only and will cover the entire quarter as well as the last unit.

All exams will be administered on-line and will be open for one day from 6:00 a.m. to 11 p.m. as scheduled on the calendar. Students will have 80 minutes within that period of time once they log onto the exam. Total possible exam points will be 500, or 50% of the final grade.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION FORUM

The discussion forum is the heart of the course. Students will be responding to my questions, responding to other students, and asking questions of their own, 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 except the last week of the quarter. Students will be assigned to groups and asked to respond to their group question and to at least one other student in each half of the week. Specifically, you are expected to participate in the discussion at least four times 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 (40

points to be assigned at the end of the quarter), for a total of 300 points or 30% of the grade.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

There will be two major assignments due as scheduled on the calendar. These assignments will be submitted as word document attachments to the instructor and then posted for the entire class to see and respond to. See the Assignments themselves within each module and the calendar for due dates. Assignments and point values are listed below:

Assignment 1: Case Study: Diagnosis

80

Assignment 2: Field Experience Write-Up

100

Each assignment will be described in detail in the Learning Modules. A grade will be assigned based on criteria for that assignment and your response to at least one other student's posting. It is expected that assignments will be proofread for mechanical errors and will be submitted on time. Ten points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late. In addition to the formal assignments, you will be asked to post a personal introduction (10 points), a self-assessment (10 points), and a field experience proposal.

FIELD EXPERIENCE

For the last assignment, you are to 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. You will be asked to submit a proposal for this project by week 3, and to write up your experience by week 6. This project will also be submitted to the instructor and then posted on the discussion site. Further detail on this part of the course will be found in the Learning Modules.

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

GRADING

Grades will be determined as follows:

Exams

Discussion Forums

Assignments

Personal Introduction

Self-Assessment

5 @ 100 points

13 @ 20 points + 40 pts. quality

2 assignments

Total Possible Points =

500

300

180

10

10

1000

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

A

A-

B+

B

B-94-100%

90-93%

87-89%

84-86%

80-83% 940-1000

900-939

870-899

840-869

800-839 C+

C

C-

D+

D 77-79%

74-76%

70-73%

67-69%

64-66% 770-799

740-769

700-739

670-699

640-669

MODULE ORGANIZATION

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)

Schedule: Specific dates will be posted in the calendar.

Week 1:

Module 1: Read Ch. 1, 2

Discussion 1: Mon-Wed

Discussion 2: Thurs-Sat

Assignments: Personal Introduction: due Wed.;

Response to another student's Introduction due Fri.

Week 2:

Module 1: Read Ch. 3

Discussion 3: Mon-Wed.

Practice Assignment due Tues.;

Exam 1: Thurs., 6 a.m.-11 p.m.

Module 2: Read Ch. 4, 5
Discussion 4: Thurs.-Sat.

Week 3:

Module 2: Read Ch. 6
Discussion 5: Mon.-Wed.
Exam 2: Thurs., 6 a.m.-11 p.m.

Module 3: Read Ch. 7
Discussion 6: Thurs.-Sat.
Field Experience Proposal: due Fri.

Week 4:

Module 3: Read Ch. 8, 12
Discussion 7: Mon.-Wed..
Assignment 1: Case Study Analysis, due Mon.; Response to another student's assignment due Thurs.

Discussion 8: Thurs.-Sat.
Exam 3: Fri., 6 a.m.-Sat.11 p.m.

Week 5:

Module 4: Read Ch. 9, 10, 11
Discussion 9: Mon.-Wed. .
Discussion 10: Thurs.-Sat.

Week 6:

Exam 4: Mon., 6 a.m.-11 p.m.
Module 5: Read Ch. 14, 13, 16
Discussion 11: Mon.-Wed. .
Assignment 2: Field Experience Write-Up, due Fri.; Response to another student's assignment, due Tues.
Discussion 12: Thurs.-Sat.

Week 7:

Discussion 13: Mon.-Wed.
Self-Assessment: due Tues.
Exam 5: Wed., 6 a.m. -11 p.m. (on-line)
Last Day of Quarter: Wed.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Revised Fall 2003

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 Community 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 Community 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 the majority of the work for a course due to unforeseen circumstances, an instructor may or may not 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 BCC 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 date posted in the quarterly schedule. 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.

Disabled Students

Students with a disability requiring special accommodation from the College and/or the instructor are required to discuss their specific needs with both the Office of Disabled Students (B233) and the instructor. If you require accommodation based on a documented disability, emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case of emergency evacuation, please make an appointment with your instructor as soon as possible.

If you would like to inquire about becoming a DSS student you may call 564-2498 or go in person to the DSS (Disability Support Services) reception area in the Student Services Building.

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 BCC 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 one year and one quarter following the end of the registered quarter.

* If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue Community College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110C), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.