

Psychology 220 Abnormal Psychology

Syllabus Winter Quarter 2018

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Psyc& 100 (General)

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INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to the online version of Psychology 220. I look forward to working with you! 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.

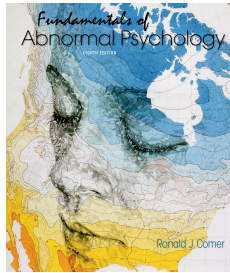
This course is designed to meet the academic needs of students who need flexibility, who may be unable to attend traditional campus classes and who are motivated and self-disciplined. While the class meets in cyberspace, students can expect a heavy workload outside of class in order to meet the requirements 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. I will provide the structure for the class and act as a "coach" as you proceed through the course. You can leave messages for me at any time by e-mail, and I will respond to you as quickly as possible. I check in on weekends as well as weekdays.

TEXT:

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



The 8th edition of the text has been available for several years, so you should be able to find used copies, but you may also use the previous version of the same text, the 7th edition. Quizzes and 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>. There is a link to free access to the text for 21 days (just click on “I need to pay later”) in the Week 1 Module that will allow you to read at least Chapters 1 and 2 even if you don’t yet have your text.

Power points from the text publisher are also available in each module 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

Schizophrenia

Sexual Disorders

Eating Disorders

Disorders of Childhood & Adolescence

Mood Disorders

Substance Disorders

Personality Disorders

Somatic Disorders

Cognitive Disorders of Old Age

FORMAT:

Students are required to read chapters in the assigned text, participate in a twice-a-week discussion forum, submit assignments, and take quizzes, all on-line.

COURSE COMPONENTS:

QUIZZES

There will be a quiz on each chapter we cover (some chapters will be divided in half), two quizzes a week, 21 quizzes in all. Each quiz will consist of 25 objective (multiple choice) questions.

All quizzes will be administered on-line and will be open from Monday to Wednesday and Thursday to Friday of each week. Except for the first week, one quiz will need to be taken by Wednesday at 11 pm and the other quiz by Saturday at 11 pm. Students will have 30 minutes to take each quiz once they log in. For the first week, there will be only one quiz, which will need to be completed by Saturday at 11 pm. Check the calendar for exact dates.

The lowest quiz score will be dropped at the end of the quarter. This also means you can miss one quiz without penalty. Total possible quiz points for the 20 remaining quizzes will be 500 points or 48% of the final grade.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION FORUM

The discussion forum is the heart of the course. There will be two discussions a week, one on each chapter or half of a chapter. 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 first week), plus a closing discussion. 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. Just like with the quizzes, the lowest discussion score will be dropped, so in essence you get a **"free pass"** to miss one discussion. The grade for this portion of the class will be a combination of points for participating (up to 15 points per discussion) and points for the quality of participation (20 points to be assigned at the end of the quarter). There will be an additional 10 points assigned for posting a **personal introduction** and 10 points for participating in a **closing discussion**. Altogether, discussion points will be worth a total of 340 points or 33% of the grade.

ASSIGNMENTS

There will be two short written assignments this quarter, due as scheduled on the calendar. The assignments will be submitted as word document attachments in the assignment tool. A description of the assignments will be posted early in the quarter. In brief, the assignments will be:

Assignment 1: Journal Summary
Assignment 2: Field Experience

Both assignments will be described in detail in the weekly Modules. For the Field Experience, an approved **proposal** must be submitted, and a **summary** will be posted for other students to see, worth 5 points each. One option for the field experience this quarter will be to take a **tour of Fairfax Hospital in Kirkland on Mar 7**. A grade will be assigned based on criteria for each assignment, worth a possible 40 points each. 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 submit a **first-day assessment** (5 points) and a **self-assessment** at the end of the quarter (5 points). There will be a small number of extra credit points given at the end of the quarter for completing the online course evaluation.

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 roughly 10% of the final grade.

GRADING

Points will be accrued as follows:

First Day Assessment		5
Personal Introduction		10
Quizzes	21 @ 25 points ea. minus lowest score	500
Discussions	21 @ 15 points ea. minus lowest score + closing discussion @ 10 points + 20 points quality	330
Assignments	2 @ 40 points + 1 proposal @ 5 points + 1 summary @ 5 points	90
Self-Assessment		5
Final Exam		100
Total =		1040

Grades will be determined by adding up scores for all of the assignments and using the percentages below:

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	60-66%	600-669

MODULE ORGANIZATION

Week 1	Ch. 1 Abnormal Psychology, Past and Present
Week 2	Ch. 2 Models of Abnormality
Week 3	Ch. 3 Clinical Diagnosis, Assessment, and Treatment
Week 4	Ch. 4 Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive, and Related Disorders
	Ch. 5 Disorders of Trauma and Stress
Week 5	Ch. 6 Depressive and Bipolar Disorders
	Ch. 7 Suicide
Week 6	Ch. 8 Disorders Featuring Somatic Symptoms
	Ch. 9 Eating Disorders
Week 7	Ch. 12 Schizophrenia
Week 8	Ch. 10 Substance Use and Addictive Disorders
	Ch. 11 Disorders of Sex and Gender
Week 9	Ch. 13 Personality Disorders
Week 10	Ch. 14 Disorders Common Among Children and Adolescents
Week 11	Ch. 15 Disorders of Aging and Cognition
	Ch. 16 Law, Society, and the Mental Health Profession
Week 12	Last Week

Schedule: Specific dates will be posted in the calendar.

Late work policy

The two written assignments (Journal Summary and Field Experience) will be accepted one day late with a deduction. No other work (discussions, quizzes) will be accepted late unless you can supply a note from a physician, emergency room, police report, etc. As noted above, the lowest quiz score and the lowest discussion score will be dropped, which usually takes care of the occasional inability to complete one or both of these.

My availability

Unless otherwise notified, I will be checking the site several times a day, including weekends. I make an effort to respond to emails within a few hours if possible.

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.instrcture.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. Taylor or Dr. Helen, whichever you prefer