

### Course Outline

Welcome to Abnormal Psychology, a course which deals with maladaptive behavior and includes a history of abnormal psychology, clinical frameworks, causal factors, treatment and outcomes of mental illness, therapy and prevention. Abnormal psychology is a survey of core issues including topics such as maturation, brain development, various clinical theories including psychodynamic, behavioral and cognitive theories of functioning. Major diagnostic categories of the DSM-5 will also be discussed including personality disorders, disorders of childhood and adolescence, disorders of aging and cognition, anxiety and related disorders, disorders of mood as well as trauma and stress and psychosis. Please keep in mind that this syllabus is an approximation of the way the course will proceed & is subject to change.

Other related topics will include discussion of certain disease states and syndromes, medication and psychopharmacological considerations, the role of theory in research (including threats to validity and ethical considerations) as well as clinical case presentations and assessment applications. One of the principal aims of the class is to focus on critical thinking skills. Through the use of material presented in class and as well as referenced research we will discuss and analyze clinical cases, differential diagnosis, and appropriate treatment planning.

It is expected that students attend all classes. Excessive absences or tardiness (20-30% of the time) may result in a loss of points which could result in a lower grade or **being dropped**. If you are absent for three (3) classes in a row and do not contact me, I will assume you will no longer be attending class and I may drop you from the course. A portion of class time will be devoted to providing examples and case presentations which is both helpful and illustrates certain principles more readily.

Week	Topic	Week	Topic	Additional
1 Ch.1&2	Past and present of Abnormal Psychology Models of Abnormality	9 Quiz 3 2 <sup>nd</sup> Article due	Chp 10 & 11 Disorders of Substance Abuse, Disorders of Sex and Gender	
2 Ch 2,3&4	Models; Assessment Dx & Treatment; Anxiety	10 Chp. 11&12	Disorders of Sex and Gender Schizophrenia	Discuss papers
3 Quiz 1	Anxiety Disorders continued	11 Chp12 & 13	Schizophrenia and Personality Disorders	
4 Chp.4,5& 6	Trauma & Stress; Disorders of Mood	12 Quiz 4	Chapter 13 Personality Disorders	
5 1st Article	Disorders of Mood Suicide	13 Chapter14	Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence	
6 Chp 7&8 Quiz 2	Suicide, Disorders with somatic symptoms	14 Chapter14&15	Disorders of Childhood and Disorders of Aging/Cognition	
7 Chp 8&9	Disorders with somatic syx, Eating Disorders	15 Chapter15&16	Disorders of Aging/Cognition Law,Society & Mental Health	
8 Chp9&10	Eating Disorders Substance Abuse/Addictive Disorders	16	- Final	

There will be four quizzes (25 points each), one final exam (50 Points) , one critique of a paper (15 points) and one assigned paper (25 points) This means that there will be **TWO** papers. There will be participation points (10 points) for activities in class (Total Points for the class = 200 points). Grading is based on points accumulated for all quizzes, tests and papers:

A = 180-200 pts; B=160-180 pts; C= 140-160 pts; D=120-140pts.

All papers are to be typed and given in as a hard copy as no hand written work or e-mailed work will be accepted. The first paper to be reviewed will be given out in class and we will discuss how to interpret and write it with guidelines. The second paper will be discussed prior to being assigned

There are no make-ups given for a missed quiz. Please see me regarding any such occurrence. Final grades will be posted and not discussed via telephone or e-mail. I will be in class early, at least ½ hour prior to beginning each class session if you need to discuss any of the above mentioned items. You can also reach me at the following e-mail [camploap@wlac.edu](mailto:camploap@wlac.edu)

If you have missed a class *please* get the notes from another student and after you have reviewed them if you still have questions I will be go over those questions with you. I do not allow cell phones and pagers to be accessed during class. If you must speak to someone on your cell please leave the class to do so. If you decide to stop attending class it is your responsibility to go through the process of dropping at the Admissions Office. There is a standard of conduct in class and as well as when accessing web sites designed to assist students. The classroom (as well as any websites accessed by students) is a place of mutual respect and although opinions and differing points of view are discussed these views are limited to the professional considerations of the class and related professional issues only. We adhere to a dress code in which clothing with offensive words or comments or other inappropriate reference which is clearly outside the realm of academic standards is not allowed

**Student Learning Outcomes.** Students will demonstrate

- 1) Describe major categories of mental illness, diagnoses and relevant treatment for each
- 2) Describe and apply the process of differential diagnosis
- 3) Identify causative factors for various disorders including viral, genetic, biochemical, neuroanatomical and environmental factors
- 4) Identify signs and indications of suicide and danger to self and others in patients/clients
- 5) Demonstrate the ability to critically examine specific topics discussed in class (with a strong emphasis on current literature)
- 6) Demonstrate adequate writing skills in clinical case presentation
- 7) Demonstrate knowledge of the current accepted clinical theories in abnormal psychology such as psychodynamic, humanistic, cognitive-behavioral, family systems

#### Academic Dishonesty Policy

All students are expected to do their own work. All forms of cheating and plagiarism are strictly forbidden. Students who are determined to have cheated will have their assignments marked 0 for failure. Any such incident may be reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs and the Vice-President of Student Services.

Examples of cheating include but are not limited, to the following;

Using unauthorized materials such as notes or “crib” sheets on exams

Copying other student’s exams

Submitting any assigned work that is not the student’s own

Copying other written materials without proper credit to the original author

Downloading from computer networks without citation