Course Prefix and Number: PSYC 299  
Credit hours: 3

Course Title: Abnormal Psychology

Course Prerequisites: None

Textbook(s): Comer. *Abnormal Psychology*. Worth Publishing. (For the exact textbook requirement, please refer to your instructor’s course information syllabus.)

Course Description: This course is an introduction to theories and research concerning abnormal behavior (psychopathology). Additionally, it will address such topics as the incidence of abnormal behavior of various types; how abnormal behaviors are classified into various diagnostic categories; the causes of psychological disorders; and the variety of methods employed in the treatment of abnormal behavior.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, the student will:

A. analyze theoretical and practical perspectives in clinical psychology
B. understand the biological, social, psychological, and sociocultural issues relevant to the diagnosis and treatment of mental issues
C. understand various diagnostic concepts as applied to different populations
D. describe various methods of intellectual, physical, developmental, and behavioral evaluation as applied in a clinical setting
E. analyze the DSM methods of classification of mental disorders: Axis I, Axis II, Axis III and Axis IV categories

To achieve the learning outcomes, the student will:

1. identify and explain the Biological Dimensions: Genetics, brain anatomy, CNS functioning, biochemical imbalances, and autonomic nervous system; (B)
2. identify and explain the Social Dimensions: Family, relationships, social support, love, belonging, marital status, and community; (B)
3. identify and explain the Psychological Dimensions: Personality, cognition, learning, emotions, stress-coping, self-esteem, values, self-Efficacy, self-concept, and developmental history; (C)
4. identify and explain the Sociocultural Dimensions: Race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, culture, ethnicity, and social economic status; (D)
5. describe Psychological Theories in regards to abnormal behavior: Psychodynamic Model, Behavioral Model, Observational Learning Model, Cognitive Model, Humanistic Model, and Existential Model; (A)
6. describe Axis I, II, III, and IV disorders, symptoms and possible treatments.
   (E)

Course Requirements:

A. regular and prompt class attendance reflected in class roll and/or contact;
B. read assigned chapters and materials (i.e. handouts, power points, articles, lecture notes, etc.);
C. successful completion of all administered examinations to assess knowledge of concepts with 70% passing as a minimum requirement;
D. conduct library and internet research on assigned topics;
E. active participation in class discussion through oral communication (i.e. debates, class presentation, class discussion, etc.);
F. critically analyzing information through submission of written and/or typed assignments on materials (i.e. videos, power points, handouts, lectures and lecture notes, etc.) presented in class as well as information gathered through library and internet research.

In addition to requirements stated herein, each instructor will communicate additional requirements unique to his/her section via the instructor’s section syllabus.

Course Grading Scale:

A 90-100%
B 80-89%
C 70-79%
D 60-69%
F 59% or below

Attendance Policy: The college attendance policy is available at http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html

Course Fees: None

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