

WORLD OF ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
Fall 2008



NAME OF COURSE: THE WORLD OF ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
COURSE #: PSY240.910

FACULTY: Sandra K. Arntz, Ph.D.
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

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TIMELINE: Students must complete all course work on or before
[December 17, 2008.](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course presents the body of scientific knowledge in the field of abnormal psychology with emphasis on the theoretical explanations, experimental data, assessment procedures, treatment modalities and the prevention of abnormal behavior.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:

1. Discuss the major theoretical explanations of abnormal behavior.
2. Assess a particular behavioral problem from a specific theoretical perspective.
3. Utilize the DSM-IV-TR manual for diagnosing problems.

**TEXTBOOKS &
MATERIALS:**

Text: [Understanding Abnormal Behavior, 8th edition.](#) Sue, David; Sue, Derald; Sue, Stanley. 2006. Houghton Mifflin Co.

Telecourse students may obtain the textbooks from the Waubonsee Bookstore at either the Sugar Grove or Aurora Campus. Books may be ordered individually if not in stock.

You will find an instructor created study guide attached to this syllabus.

GRADING POLICY:

Each of the three (3) tests will be graded based upon the following scores:

90 – 100% = A

80 – 89% = B

70 – 79% = C

60 – 69% = D

The final grade will be based on an average of the three (3) test scores.

SEQUENCE:

View the 11 videotape sessions on Abnormal Psychology and take notes on key concepts and terms presented.

Read the text. Certain sections of the text go along with videotapes on the same topic. Focus on key concepts and terms from the text.

If you choose to purchase the Study Guide, you can use it to practice for the tests by working through it. Each section of the study guide is designed to go with the section of the book on the same topic.

TESTS:

Three (3) tests with fifty (50) multiple choice questions each will be given. There is a study guide for each test attached to this syllabus. The exams should be taken at Waubonsee's Center for Learning Assessment either at the Sugar Grove campus (Collins Hall, first floor, room 137) or at the Aurora campus (first floor, room 110). It is your choice. A photo ID is required to take a test. Be prepared to leave your textbooks, notes, handbags, etc. with the assessment staff outside the testing room while taking the exam.

Tests are taken on a computer. You will be informed of your score immediately after taking the test. **Please note that you will not be allowed to take a test prior to the beginning of the semester (August 25, 2008).**

HOW TO SUCCEED:

<u>TEST #1</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>VIDEO</u>
Abnormal Behavior	1	1
Models of Abnormal Behavior	2	--
Assessment & Classification	3	--
The Scientific Method	4	--
The Anxiety Disorders	5	3
Dissociative Disorders & Somatoform Disorders	6	--

TEST #2

Psychological Factors affecting Medical Conditions	7	4
Personality Disorders	8	5
Substance Related Disorders	9	6
Sexual & Gender Identity Disorders	10	7
Mood Disorders	11	8

TEST #3

Schizophrenia: Diagnosis & Etiology	13	9
Cognitive Disorders	14	10
Disorders of Childhood & Adolescence	15	11
Eating Disorders	16	--
Psychotherapies	17	12
Legal & Ethical Issues	18	--

You may view video 2 (The Nature of Stress) and 13 (An Ounce of Prevention), however, they are not necessary for the completion of the course.

UNIQUE FEATURES OF COURSE:

The Abnormal Psychology DVDs are available to borrow from the Distance Learning Office located on the Sugar Grove campus, Collins Hall room 145. Each set may be borrowed for no fee. If you are unable to come to the campus to pick up a set of videos please call 630-466-2402 to explore your options.

The videos are also available to view online at <http://www.learner.org/resources/series60.html>. It is free to view lessons on this site. It is necessary to have an email account to set up your log in and password for the site.

Ch. 1

Concerns of abnormal psychology
Definitions of abnormal behavior
Stereotypes about the mentally disturbed
Historical perspectives
 -Middle Ages
 -Humanism
Early viewpoints (causes)
 -Biological
 -Psychological
 -Cathartic method
Medical student syndrome

Ch. 2

Biological model
 -Neurotransmitters
 -Criticisms
Psychodynamic model
 -Criticisms
Behavioral model
 -Classical conditioning
 -Operant conditioning
 -Observational learning
Cognitive model
 -Irrational & maladaptive thoughts
Humanistic perspective
 -Development of abnormal behavior
Family Systems model
Multicultural models

Ch. 3

Assessment
 -Observations
 -Interviews
 -Errors
 -Projective tests
 -Self-report inventories
 -criticisms
Evaluation of DSM classification system
Objections to labeling

Ch. 4

Scientific method
Reliability
Validity
Dependent variable
Independent variable
Correlational studies
Analogue studies
Genetic linkage studies
Ethical issues in research

Ch. 5

5 groups of anxiety disorders
Panic disorder
 -Types of panic attacks
Generalized anxiety disorder
 -Treatment
Subcategories of phobias
Treatment of phobias
Obsessive-compulsive disorder
 -Treatment
Acute stress disorder

Ch. 6

Dissociative amnesia disorders
 -Types
Depersonalization disorder
Dissociative identity disorder
 -Treatment
Somatoform disorders
 -Somatization disorder
 -Conversion disorder
 -Hypochondriasis
 -Body dysmorphic disorder
 -Treatment
 -Behavioral

Study Guide – Test #2 (Ch. 7-11)

Ch. 7

Stress
Stressor
General adaptation model
Life-change model
Transactional model
Stress & the immune system
Mediating effects of stressors
Cancer
Heart disease
Etiology
 -Biological perspective
 -Behavioral perspective
 -Sociocultural perspective
Treatment

Ch. 8

Paranoid personality disorder
Schizoid personality disorder
Schizotypal personality disorder
Histrionic personality disorder
Narcissistic personality disorder
Borderline personality disorder
Avoidant personality disorder
Dependent personality disorder
Antisocial personality disorder
 -DSM-IV-TR criteria
 -Explanations
 -Family & socialization perspective
 -Genetic influence
Intermittent explosive disorder

Ch. 9

Substance abuse
Substance dependence
 -Tolerance
 -Withdrawal
Alcohol-use disorders
 -Effects of alcohol
Crack (cocaine)
Etiology
 -Biological explanations
 -Behavioral explanations
Relapse
Treatment
 -Self-help groups
 -Cognitive & behavioral approaches

PSY240 – Abnormal Psychology

Ch. 10

Homosexuality
Sexual dysfunction
Etiology of sexual dysfunction
 -Biological factors
 -Psychological factors
Gender identity disorder
 -Transsexualism
Etiology of gender identity disorders
 -Biological
 -Behavioral
Paraphilias
 -Fetishism
 -Exhibitionism
 -Voyeurism
 -Pedophilia

Ch. 11

Symptoms of depression
Symptoms of mania
Bipolar disorders
Seasonal affective disorder
Etiology
 -Behavioral
 -Cognitive
Learned helplessness
Attributional style
Treatment
 -Interpersonal psychotherapy
 -Cognitive-behavioral
 -Psychoanalytic

Study Guide – Test #3 (Ch. 13-18)

Ch. 13

Schizophrenia (definition)
Dimensions of schizophrenia
Delusions
Hallucinations
Negative symptoms
Types of schizophrenia
Physiological factors
 -Biochemistry
Neurological findings
Treatment (most beneficial)

Ch. 14

Types of cognitive disorders
 -Dementia
 -Delirium
 -Amnesic disorders
Alzheimer's disease
 -Causes
Epilepsy
Treatment
 -Medication
 -Cognitive & behavioral
Diagnosing mental retardation
Fetal alcohol syndrome
Early intervention (Head Start)

Ch. 15

Autism
Asperger's disorder
Treatment (autism)
ADHD
 -Types
 -Prognosis
 -Treatment
Oppositional defiant disorder
Conduct disorder
 -Treatment
Anxiety disorders
 -Separation anxiety disorder
Reactive attachment disorder
Tic disorders
Enuresis

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Ch. 16

Anorexia nervosa
Bulimia nervosa
 -Course & outcome
Binge-eating disorder
Etiology
 -Socialization
Treatment

Ch. 17

Electroconvulsive therapy
Psychosurgery
Psychopharmacology
 -Antianxiety drugs
 -Antipsychotic drugs
 -Antidepressant drugs
 -Antimanic drugs
Psychotherapy
Humanistic-existential therapies
 -Person-centered
 -Existential analysis
 -Gestalt therapy
Classical conditioning techniques
 -Systematic desensitization
 -Flooding
 -Aversive conditioning
Operant conditioning techniques
 -Token economies
 -Punishment
Cognitive-behavioral therapy
Health psychology
Eclecticism
Prevention

Ch. 18

Criminal commitment
 -Insanity defense
Competency to stand trial
Civil commitment
 -Criteria
 -Assessing dangerousness
Rights of mental patients
Deinstitutionalization
Duty-to-warn