

CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS

Abnormal Psychology

PSYC 2340-01

Fall 2015

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: none **Credit Hours:** 3

Class Time: 9:30 – 10:45am

Days: T/Th **Room:** UU 319

Instructor's Name: Brandon Kosine, Ph.D., LPC #956, LAT #354 **Office:** LH 166

Instructor's Contact Information: Email and voicemail are the best way to contact me.

Office Phone:
307-268-2221

Email:
bkosine@caspercollege.edu

Moodle website:

https://moodle4me.caspercollege.edu/site:

Office Hours: By appointment only

Academic Assistant: Crystal Sosalla Phone: (307) 268-2368 Email: csosalla@caspercollege.edu
Office: LH 166

Required Text:

Comer, R.J. (2011). *Fundamentals of abnormal psychology (7th Ed)*. New York: Worth Publishers.

Course Description: Abnormal psychology familiarizes students with a general overview of abnormal behaviors, etiology, and treatment. Topics addressed include clinical interviewing, DSM-5 diagnosis, etiology of mental disorders, and models/methods of treatment.

Statement of Prerequisites: PSYC 1000 (General Psychology) College level proficiency in reading, writing and verbal comprehension is necessary to successfully complete this course.

Goal: Students will demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding of general abnormal behaviors, clinical diagnosis, and basic methods of treatment. Students will also become familiar with current, relevant research in abnormal psychology. Students will use problem solving to differentiate between the various psychological disorders and identify ways multicultural issues intersect with accurate and inaccurate diagnosis.

Casper College General Education Outcomes: This course's objectives link to outcomes 1, 3, 4, and 6.

1. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication

2. Use the scientific method

3. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity

4. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives

5. Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities

6. Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research

7. Describe the value of personal, civic, and social responsibilities

8. Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data

Course Objectives: Successful students in this course will be able to:

1. Identify various psychological disorders through recognition of specific symptoms. (Gen Ed Outcome #3)
2. Demonstrate the use of DSM-5 in the diagnosis of mental disorders. (Gen Ed Outcome #3)
3. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity in the diagnosis of various mental disorders. (Gen Ed Outcome #3)
4. Identify and apply various psychological theories to etiologies of mental disorders. (Gen Ed Outcome #3)
5. Identify the effective treatment of various psychological disorders from multiple psychological and psychiatric perspectives. (Gen Ed Outcome #3)
6. Identify ways multicultural issues intersect with the diagnosis of mental disorders. (Gen Ed Outcome #4)
7. Demonstrate effective written communication by writing an annotated bibliography of peer-reviewed research. (Gen Ed Outcome #1)
8. Use appropriate library databases and other reputable resources to conduct research in the area of abnormal psychology. (Gen Ed Outcome #6)

The American Psychology Association [APA] Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major Version 2.0 published August 2013 identified five [5] learning goals for Associate/Foundation and Baccalaureate levels.

1. Goal 1 Knowledge Base
2. Goal 2 Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking
3. Goal 3 Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World
4. Goal 4 Communication
5. Goal 5 Professional Development

Casper College Graduates with an Associates Psychology degree will demonstrate competency in the following Foundation Areas. Goals, Outcomes and Foundation Indicators are quoted directly from *The American Psychology Association [APA] Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major Version 2.0 published August 2013.*

Methodology: Course material will be delivered via interactive lecture, guest speakers, discussion, in-class group work, short video segments, and clinical demonstrations.

Evaluation Criteria:

Examinations: There will be 3 (three) examinations throughout the course of the semester. Each exam will cover approximately four chapters. Exams will be in-class, open note, but you cannot work with other students on the exams. Exams cannot be made-up without prior approval or a Casper College excused absence. If you miss an exam, you will receive a zero. Each exam will be worth 100 points. There will not be a final exam in this course. **Exam dates are listed in the course schedule.**

Clinical Vignette Quizzes: Twice throughout the semester you will have a clinical quiz. The quizzes will be a case study that you will have to apply what you have learned in class as well as short answer questions. **Each quiz is worth 50 points for a total of 100 points.**

Annotated Bibliography: You will look up 5 (five) journal articles on a topic of your choice/interest. You will then summarize the journal articles individually. You **MUST** turn in the journal article along with your summaries of them, or you will not receive credit for the assignment. The work must be in your own words—you cannot simply copy the abstract and count that as your annotated bibliography. I will look for evidence that you read the journal article such as underlining, highlighting, etc. **This assignment is worth 50 points and is due the last day of class.**

****Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.****

Grading Scale:

405 - 450 points = A
360 – 404 points = B
315 – 359 points = C
270 – 314 points = D
269 and below = F

Class Policies:

1. Late assignments are not accepted without prior approval from the instructor. Late assignments will only be accepted for college excused absences and major emergencies.
2. Missed examinations: If you need to miss an examination, you need to contact the instructor **BEFORE** the day of the examination. Unexcused examinations cannot be made-up and students will receive a zero for the exam.
3. You are responsible for all the assigned readings. **All assigned readings are testable.**
4. Active participation in class is expected from all students. The research shows there is a strong relationship between students attending and participating in class and grade performance. Please also let me know if you missed a week due to an emergency or illness.
5. Engage with the material, class, discussions, and assignments! Research also shows that students who exert more psychological and emotional energy towards academics have higher satisfaction and grades in college. Plus, it makes class a lot more fun for all of us!
6. Withdrawing from class: The last day to withdraw from this class during the semester is November 12th. Please come see or email me if you feel you need to withdraw.

7. Please come see me during my office hours, or schedule a time to meet if you are having any difficulty with this course. If you are out of town, please let me know as we can use some other communication method such as Skype or Facetime. It is my job to help you succeed!
8. The content in this course can be sensitive in nature. If you are having difficulties or need support, please let me know and also contact the Counseling Center at 268-2267 or go to the Casper College Union Room 202.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college's Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

Course Schedule:

Week	Week of	Topic	Reading and Assignments Due
1	August 25	Abnormal Psychology Past & Present	Ch. 1
2	Sept 1	Models of Abnormality	Ch. 2
3	Sept 8	Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, & Treatment	Ch. 3
4	Sept 15	Substance Use & Addictive Disorders	Ch. 10
5	Sept 22	Substance Use & Addictive Disorders	Ch. 10 EXAM 1
6	Sept 29	Disorders of Mood	Ch. 6
7	Oct 6	Suicide	Ch. 7
8	Oct 13	Eating Disorders	Ch. 9
9	Oct 20 Oct 22	NO CLASS (Fall Break) EXAM 2	EXAM 2 Clinical Quiz #1 Due
10	Oct 27	Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive & Related Disorders	Ch. 4
11	Nov 3	Disorders of Stress and Trauma	Ch. 5
12	Nov 10	Schizophrenia	Ch. 12
13	Nov 17	Personality Disorders	Ch. 13
14	Nov 24 Nov 26	EXAM 3 NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)	EXAM 3
15	Dec. 1	Disorders of Childhood & Adolescence	Ch. 14
16	Dec. 8	Law, Society, & the Mental Health Profession	Ch. 16 Clinical Quiz #2 due (Tuesday) Annotated Bibliography Due (Thursday)

**The course calendar and syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Any changes shall be announced in class. You are responsible for obtaining the changes made during a class period you miss.