



**KENNEBEC VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FAIRFIELD & HINCKLEY, MAINE**

Approval Date: (Last committee approval)

Rotation: Spring

Year: 2018

COURSE NUMBER: PSY204
COURSE TITLE: Abnormal Psychology
CREDIT HOURS: 3
CLOCK HOURS: 45

PREREQUISITES: PSY101
CO-REQUISITES: None

INSTRUCTOR: Joel Goodstadt (see Blackboard for contact information)
VOICE MAIL: xxx
E-MAIL ADDRESS: xxx
OFFICE: xxx
OFFICE HOURS: xxx

TEXTS:

Barlow, D. H. & Durand, V.M. (2012) Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach, 7th edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning

OTHER MATERIALS:

xxx

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines behavior identified as different from societal norms. Lectures and discussion topics will include psychopathology, assessment, diagnoses, the impact of physical health, review of the research, and the impact on our society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate the use of the DSM-IV TR.
2. Document the classifications of various disorders.
3. Demonstrate an appreciation of individual differences and diversity in regard to mental illness in our society.
4. Evaluate recovery from the point of view of culture and state government.
5. Evaluate the impact of stigma on recovery.
6. Illustrate the perseverance of mental illness in our society.

COURSE CONTENT:

Introduction and Orientation

Chapter 1: Abnormal Behavior Historical Context

Chapter 2: An Integrated Approach to Psychopathology

Chapter 3: Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis

Chapter 4: Research Methods

Chapter 5: Anxiety Disorders

Chapter 6: Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders

Chapter 7: Mood Disorders

Chapter 8: Eating and Sleep Disorders

Chapter 9: Physical Disorders and Health Psychology

Chapter 10: Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders

Chapter 11: Substance-Related and Impulse-Control Disorders

Chapter 12: Personality Disorders

Chapter 13: Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders

Chapter 14: Developmental Disorders

Chapter 15: Cognitive Disorders

Chapter 16: Mental Health Services: Legal and Ethical Issues

Wrap-Up and Evaluation

COURSE ACTIVITIES:

For each week in this class you will be assigned specific activities. These activities may include reading in the textbook, reading outside material, participation in discussions, quizzes on the text content, and reflection quizzes.

Lesson Plans

The entire course is divided into “Lessons” that cover specific topics and learning objectives in the class. The Lessons are listed in the Course Outline above. Each Lesson introduces you to specific subject matter and asks you to engage in a number of activities. These may include reading, exploring the web, researching, participating in online discussions, quizzes (multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions), and assignments (written work submitted as an attached document in a “drop box”)

Each Lesson consists of:

- A Lesson Plan that outlines the content and provides detailed instructions as to any assignments
- Direct links to any Discussions, Assignments, or Quizzes that go along with that Lesson.

All the Lessons are located in the “Lessons” folder. Click on the Lessons link in the course Menu.

Chapter Quizzes

For each Chapter in the book there will be a quiz that you will take online. Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions that will be randomly selected from a database each time you take the quiz. You can take the quizzes as many times as you wish, but understand that each time you take the quiz you may get different questions. The HIGHEST of all your attempts will be the one that counts so there is no risk in taking the quiz over and over. The quizzes will be available from the beginning of the class but they must be completed by the end of the week in which the reading is assigned. Feel free to work ahead on these quizzes.

Links to these quizzes are located in the corresponding Chapter Quizzes link.

Extensions on the due dates for Chapter Quizzes may be allowed with sufficient reason, however, I reserve the judgment to not grant an extension. If you anticipate needing extra time it is best to get in touch with me PRIOR to the due date.

Attendance (Face-to-Face Classes)

Attendance is graded very simply in this class, either you are there (score = 100) or you are not (score = 0). I will be taking attendance each session we meet and I will simply average all these scores together to formulate this part of your grade.

Attendance in this class is critical as we will be going over Lesson material pertinent to you completing the Lesson Quizzes...we will also be doing in-class activities to help facilitate your learning of the material.

Please review the online document titled "Course Expectations and Policies"

Graded Online Discussions (Online/Hybrid Classes)

If you are taking your class in Online or Hybrid format you will be expected to participate in graded Online Discussions.

Each discussion will be posted in Bb with a prompt composed by your Instructor. You are required to post your own reply to that prompt and to reply to at least two of your peers' posts for full credit on the discussion. Specific expectations for these discussions will be included in the course.

It is very important for you to participate actively and fully in these discussions. These discussions will be graded and will be available for a specified amount of time (Monday morning until Sunday night on a given week in the course).

Lesson Assignments

Most Lessons in the class will have you complete written analysis of case studies, apply the use of the DSM 5, and reflect upon treatment options.

These Assignments will be used to evaluate students' understanding of the Chapter material and Lesson material as applied to the case study

Extensions on the due dates for assignments may be allowed with sufficient reason; however, I reserve the judgment to not grant an extension. If you anticipate needing extra time it is best to get in touch with me PRIOR to the due date.

GRADING:

1: Attendance/Graded Discussions	40%
2: Chapter Quizzes	20%
3: Lesson Assignments	40%

GRADING SCALE:

Letter Grades---Based on a final grade scale of 0-100, the following letter grades will be assigned:

95-100	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+

83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
Below 73	F

Please note that I will not be giving grades below a C. The rationale to this is that students who do not master more than 72% of the material in this class are not prepared to meet the expectations of future classes or programs that require this course. It simply means that you have not learned enough material to really say that you have “passed” the class.

INCOMPLETES:

Students who make arrangements for submitting work after the course is completed will be given a letter grade reflecting the work they HAVE done. I will not be submitting grades of “I” or “Incomplete”. When the student has completed the work that is missing I will then change the final grade accordingly. Considering the structure of this class I anticipate that I will be rarely making these sorts of accommodations and they will only be made under extreme circumstances...do not assume that a request for an incomplete will be approved.

LATE WORK:

One of the key skills that one learns through their college career is task and time management. You have to learn to balance your life obligations and your school commitments. Each of us has only 24 hours a day to do what we need to do, so the difference between success and failure often comes down to how well you manage your time.

While you have to manage your time to get your work done, we, as instructors, need to manage our time in order to get your work graded and to provide timely feedback (where the REAL learning happens!). It is important that you submit your work by the due dates provided in the class so that your instructor can grade this work in a timely fashion.

If, for some reason, you are not able to get your work done, you must contact your instructor as soon as possible. This means you have to contact your instructor BEFORE the work is due, not after the due date. It is the sole discretion of the instructor as to if they will provide you any extra time to do any work. We are NEVER obligated, outside of official accommodations for disability, to provide extra time for you to get your work done, so do not consider this a “right” that you have under whatever circumstances you have encountered.

Hint: If you have unintentionally overlooked a due date for an assignment, your best course of action is to complete the assignment and send it to your instructor right away. Explain your circumstances and simply request that the instructor look at your work and provide feedback even if they are not going to award you any grade for the work. It is STILL the sole discretion of the instructor to award credit or not, but this method will demonstrate more commitment on your part and may influence that decision.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance in this class is crucial for you to pass this class. Attendance in this class is monitored by your completion of the assigned weekly activities and your attendance in class (face-to-face classes) or participation in online discussions (online classes). If you fail to come to class and/or participate in the assigned activities for a given week you will receive an attendance warning, even if you have logged into the course. You are given credit for the WORK that you complete, not just logging in. Consistently missing class, discussions, and/or other assignments will devastate your grade.

Regardless if this is a face-to-face or online class, if you have inconsistent access to a computer or the Internet it is likely that taking this class is NOT a good idea. It is YOUR responsibility to assure that you have the computer, software, and Internet access to participate in the course. Keep this in mind...the vast majority of this class can

be done from any public workstation... a library computer, a friend's computer, etc. There really is no excuse for not accessing the class to complete assignments.

If you anticipate that you will have difficulty meeting these requirements due to vacations, weddings, childbirth, alien abduction, or any other reason, you should consider taking the class at another time.

The "No Excuse" Policy

While I am deeply dedicated to your success as a student and as a person, and I understand that "life" can get in the way of your goals, I am also deeply committed to ensuring that my grading and interactions with you are fair and equitable. To this end, I have developed a policy that I call my "No Excuse" policy. Portions of this class, whether conducted online (mainly discussions) or in class (attendance) simply cannot be "made up" in any way. As adults, you entered into a "contract" to take this course understanding the demands that it will make on your time and external commitments.

Therefore, I do not incorporate any process of "make up" for specific aspects of this class that require your "presence" (such as online discussions and class attendance). If you miss class or miss participating in any graded online discussions you simply cannot make it up regardless of the reason why you missed them. It is not for me to judge the decision you made to not attend or participate therefore I do not place myself as a judge in these circumstances: determining which "excuses" are valid or not.

Consider this course as you would a "part-time, hourly job". You get "paid" when you are "here" and you would certainly not expect to get paid if you were not "there".

This includes medical and disability issues related to your ability to take this class. Accommodations for medical and disability-related conditions need to be verified through the Dean of Students (see below) but apply only to "non-essential" aspects of the course. Attending class and participating in online discussions are considered essential aspects of the course and are not subject to accommodation.

For example:

Let's say you broke a leg while skydiving in Peru and you didn't get back home in time to participate in class. If you missed a live class or missed online discussions during that absence, you could not make that up (because participation in these aspects of the course are time dependent and essential to the class).

However, if you missed an online test during that time, I might be able to make accommodations for you to take the test at another time (since being available during a specific time period is NOT essential to taking the test---though an alternative test may be created to ensure that you don't benefit from others having already taken the test!)

If circumstances arise that impact your ability to meet the ESSENTIAL aspects of this course (class attendance, participation in online discussions, lack of access to the internet), you need to contact me immediately so that we can do what we can to find the best solution for your circumstances.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students are required to read all assigned chapters before class and are expected to participate in class discussion and small group activities. In the classroom I will be preparing a number of lectures and activities. It is vital that all students attend each and every lecture. Students will be quizzed on all modules in the book. Students will complete one midterm exam and one final exam on relevant chapters. Students will also complete ten case studies and a diagnostic exercise. Students are expected to gain a basic understanding of the concepts outlined in the syllabus and be able to apply them accordingly. This class will prepare students for additional upper level psychology courses.

INSTRUCTOR POLICIES:

See documents in Blackboard

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (2016/2017)

Kennebec Valley Community College welcomes students with disabilities, and in accordance with state and federal laws, KVCC is committed to assisting students with disabilities to achieve their educational goals.

In order to receive reasonable accommodations for this course:

- Students must contact the Director of Learning Commons at 453.5084 or cjohnson2@kvcc.me.edu
- Students must provide current, appropriate documentation of their disability
- Students must make a timely request for accommodation to the Director of Learning Commons
- Accommodations will not be provided until the faculty member receives a letter requesting accommodations. This letter is created with the director of learning commons and is supported by the documentation of stated disability
- Requests for accommodation(s) must be renewed each semester for each course

To begin this process, please contact Christy Johnson, Director of Learning Commons at cjohnson2@kvcc.me.edu or 207.453.5084

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION (2017):

Kennebec Valley Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. KVCC does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities. Students requesting classroom accommodation should be forwarded to the Director of the Learning Commons, Lunder Library, phone: 453-5084

Complaints about College decisions related to disability accommodations or discrimination must be forwarded to the Dean of Student Affairs, Enrollment Services Center, 92 Western Avenue, Fairfield, ME 04937, phone: 453-5822.