Course: PY 209: Abnormal Behavior

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: PY 101: General Psychology

Description: This course is an examination of the nature, causes, classification, diagnosis, and treatment of abnormal behavior.

Learning Outcomes:
At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Discuss the problems inherent in defining abnormal behavior
- Discuss the theoretical perspectives regarding psychopathology
- Identify and describe the categories of abnormal behavior listed in the DSM-IV.
- Describe the principal treatment procedures used for each of the disorders studied.
- Through this study you will gain a greater ability to think critically about the world around you, understand life issues and events and apply your knowledge in your everyday life.
- Students will be asked to explain, analyze, synthesize and evaluate basic concepts in Psychology through class discussions, projects, written assignments, presentations and cooperative teamwork

Topical Outline:

- Abnormal Psychology: Overview and Research Approaches
- Historical and Contemporary Views of Abnormal Behavior
- Causal Factors and Viewpoints
- Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis
- Stress and Physical and Mental Health
- Panic, Anxiety, and Their Disorders
- Mood Disorders and Suicide
- Somatic Symptom and Dissociative Disorders
- Eating Disorders and Obesity
- Personality Disorders
- Substance-Related Disorders
- Sexual Variants, Abuse and Dysfunctions
- Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders
- Neurocognitive Disorders
- Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence
- Contemporary and Legal Issues in Abnormal Psychology

Student Assessment: Assessment may be accomplished through projects, portfolios, exams, presentations and/or papers.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation. Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense. As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Tutoring & Project Assist
If you are having difficulty with work in this class tutoring is available through the Center for Academic & Student Success. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600 x 1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

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Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.