

Virginia Western Community College

PSY 215

Abnormal Psychology

Prerequisites

PSY 200, 201 or 202

Course Description

Explores historical views and current perspectives of abnormal behavior. Emphasizes major diagnostic categories and criteria, individual and social factors of maladaptive behavior, and types of therapy. Includes methods of clinical assessments and research strategies.

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Required Materials

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Canvas

Textbook:

Comer, Ronald. (2014). *Abnormal Behavior*. 8th Edition. Worth. New York, NY. *With: Video Tool Kit for students*. ISBN: 978-1-464-13719-8

Other Required Materials:

None

Course Outcomes

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

- explain the history, theoretical perspectives, assessments and diagnosis of abnormal behavior.
- describe the major psychological disorders, causes, and possible treatments.
- critically evaluate issues relating to the classification, etiology and treatment of basic abnormal behavior.
- integrate psychological theory, research and application in the study of abnormal psychology.

Topical Description

1	Introduction to Abnormal Behavior
2	Models of Abnormal Behavior
3	Assessment and Classification of Abnormal Behavior
4	The Scientific Method in Abnormal Psychology
5	Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive, and Related Disorders
6	Dissociative Disorders
7	Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders
8	Trauma- and Stressor- Related Disorders
9	Personality Disorders
10	Substance Related Disorders
11	Disorders of Sex and Gender
12	Mood Disorders
13	Suicide
14	Schizophrenia and other Psychotic Disorders
15	Cognitive Disorders
16	Childhood/Adolescent Disorders
17	Eating Disorders
18	Legal and Ethical Issues in Abnormal Psychology

Notes to Instructors

None