

# Minnesota State College Southeast

## PSYC 2526: Abnormal Psychology

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites:

This course requires either of these prerequisites

PSYC 1110 - Introduction to Psychology

PSYC 2510 - General Psychology

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 07 - Human Diversity

Abnormal Psychology explores in greater depth the psychological disorders that are introduced in General Psychology. Students will examine diagnostic criteria, etiology, prevalence rates, age of onset, and treatments for psychological disorders included in the DSM-V. Social, ethical, cultural, and legal issues that are relevant to the mental health field will also be discussed. (Meets MnTC Goals 5 & 7) (Prerequisite: PSYC1110 Introduction to Psychology) (3 credits: 3 lecture/0 lab)

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 08/17/2016 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Sociocultural and legal responses to mental disorders throughout history
2. Research methodology and ethical considerations in the study of mental disorders
3. Major theoretical perspectives and methods pertaining causes and treatment of mental disorders
4. Assessment and DSM-V diagnosis of mental disorders
5. Overview of the major mental disorders:
  - a. Anxiety disorders
  - b. Obsessive-compulsive and related disorders
  - c. Trauma and stress-related disorders
  - d. Somatic and related disorders
  - e. Dissociative disorders
  - f. Mood disorders
  - g. Eating disorders
  - h. Sleep-wake disorders
  - i. Sexual disorders and gender dysphoria
  - j. Substance use disorders
  - k. Developmental disorders
  - l. Conduct and personality disorders
  - m. Schizophrenia and other psychoses
  - n. Dementia and other neurocognitive disorders

#### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. Compare and contrast both historical and modern perspectives in abnormal psychology pertaining to causation and treatment
2. Discuss the major research methods, and understand ethical guidelines in conducting studies, diagnosis and treatment, and participation in the legal system
3. Distinguish between normal and abnormal behavior, taking into account how various aspects of diversity (e. g., age, socioeconomic status, culture, gender) and context influence what is considered normal or abnormal behavior and mental processes
4. Describe the current DSM system, and its strengths and weaknesses, as it relates to abnormal behavior
5. Identify the current epidemiology, causal and correlative factors, symptoms, assessment process, and accepted treatment of various mental disorders
6. Apply concepts and theories toward understanding and improvement of intrapersonal, interpersonal, and intercultural dysfunction

#### **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

##### Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
3. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

##### Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
2. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
3. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.

#### **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

#### **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

This course was previously PSYC 2525.