



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Name: Abnormal Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 2300

Number of Credits: 3.0

Effective Date: November 2017

Course Description:

This course explores the clinical features of a wide range of psychological disorders, their biopsychosocial etiologies, as well as commonly used therapeutic approaches.

School or Centre:

Arts and Sciences

Year of Study:

2nd Year Post-secondary

Course History:

New Course

Name of Replacing Course (if applicable):

Course Pre-requisites (if applicable):

PSYC 1100 or PSYC 1200, or equivalent

Course Co-requisites (if applicable):

PLAR (Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition)

No Yes (details below):

Instructional Strategies:

This course includes lectures, group discussions, and other activities.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- Analyze and evaluate research information about psychopathology (psychological disorders) found in academia, the library, in newspapers and television, online, and in other places
- Apply critical thinking skills to the major issues in the field of psychopathology
- Utilize research skills and quantitative/qualitative reasoning in the design of research projects/papers
- Compare, contrast, and integrate biological, psychological, and sociocultural explanations of abnormal behaviour
- Explain the nature of stress and the reactions to it
- Describe the causes and symptoms of the principal mental disorders, including anxiety, behaviour, psychosis, mood, dementia, and personality disorders
- Identify treatments for mental disorders and compare their efficacy in treating such disorders
- Differentiate between pseudoscientific and evidence-based approaches to treating psychological disorders
- Identify practical issues regarding care provision in contemporary mental health care settings

Program Learning Outcomes:

Evaluation/Grading System

Grading System	Specify if 'Other':	Specify Passing Grade:
Letter Grades		D (50%)

Components and Weighting of the Assessment/Evaluation Plan:

Type	Percentage	Evaluation Plan (provide a brief explanation for each component especially if value exceeds 35%):
Participation	10	Attendance and participation
Assignments	10	Quizzes and/or other in-class assignments
Assignments	20	
Exam	20	Exam 1
Exam	20	Exam 2
Final Exam	20	Non-cumulative in-class exam
Total		100

Learning Environment/Type

Instruction Type	Hours Per Instruction Type	Comments
L - Classroom	60	
Total		60

Resource Material(s):

Resources are items in addition to tuition that the student is responsible for purchasing. Course resource information will be supplied by the department/instructor.

Course Topics:

- Historical and contemporary views of abnormal behaviour
- Thinking critically about psychological disorders
- Assessment and diagnosis
- Emotion, stress and health
- Drug abuse and addiction
- Eating disorders
- Anxiety disorders
- Mood disorders
- Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders
- Personality disorders
- Treatment and therapy

VCC Education and Education Support Policies

There are a number of **Education** and **Education Support** policies that govern your educational experience at VCC, please familiarize yourself with them.

The policies are located on the VCC web site at:

<http://www.vcc.ca/about/governance--policies/policies/>

To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at www.bctransferguide.ca.

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Approved by Curriculum Committee:	November 2, 2017	Approved by Education Council:	
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