

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

PSYC 30203 Abnormal Psychology

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: PSYC 21003 Developmental Psychology: A Life Span and one of the following:
ENGL 10203 Composition II, ENGL 14343 Honors Composition, or ENGL
24603 Introduction to Writing Studies

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Examines various types of abnormal and maladaptive behavior with emphasis on developmental and contributing factors, common diagnostic categories, therapy, and prevention.

B. Additional Information

This course is an elective course for a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. It may also be taken as an elective for students with a minor in psychology or related degree program such as criminal justice.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Discuss the concept of abnormality and list criteria for abnormal behavior;
2. Identify research issues specific to the field of abnormal research;
3. Distinguish major mental disorders as they are outlined in the DSM-IV; and
4. Analyze issues related to etiology and treatment of major mental disorders.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate effectively with a variety of audiences in any setting.

Analytical Skills**Critical Thinking Skills**

Students will draw conclusions and solve problems.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Definition and Criteria for Abnormal Categorization
- B. History of Abnormality Research Methods
- C. Procedures used to investigate Etiology and Treatment
- D. Assessment and Diagnosis using the DSM-IV-TR
- E. Somatoform and Dissociative
- F. Mood
- G. Eating and Sleep
- H. Physical Disorders and Health Psychology
- I. Sexual and Gender
- J. Substance Related
- K. Personality Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders