EASTFIELD COLLEGE
WINTER 2017

Instructor: Phillip Ortiz, Ed.D, LCSW
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Office: N-210
E-mail: philliportiz@dcccd.edu

Course: SCWK 2331: Abnormal Behavior

Office Hours: By appointment only

Required Text:

Abnormal Psychology: Clinical & Scientific Perspectives 5th ed. (2014)
By Charles Lyons & Barclay Martin
Published by BVT Publishing Company
ISBN: 978-1-61882-634-3

Course Description: An introduction to the literature concerning maladaptive behavior including characteristics, classification, diagnosis, and treatment modalities. Topics include factors associated with defining and identifying abnormal behavior. (3 Lec.)

Student Learning Outcome: Upon completion of this course a student will be able to identify and distinguish between all the major mental health disorders as prescribed by the American Psychiatric Association (APA) in the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health Disorders (DSM5).

Student Evaluation: The student will be evaluated on the following:

✓ Their ability to discuss defining characteristics of various mental health disorders and recommended treatment approaches.
✓ Their ability to identify different treatment providers and community resources for mental health disorders.
✓ Their ability to accurately identify and discuss areas of ethical concern related to mental health treatment, such as involuntary or civil commitment, competence to stand trial, and insanity defenses.
Additional Requirements:

Continuous and reliable internet access during the entire semester is required for successful completion of this course. If you do not have continuous and reliable internet access please consider taking this course in a lecture or hybrid class setting.

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE:

1. Make sure your current email address is indicated in ecampus. Check it under your profile in the students course “tools” page.
2. Please read all textbook material as assigned in the syllabus, and review all online materials.
3. Complete all online activities to reinforce your understanding of the course material, and be better prepared at exam time.
4. Participate in required course discussions.
5. Stay current with course assignments and discussions. Good time management is an essential skill for successful completion of this course.
6. Make sure all written assignments are submitted in Microsoft Word format or Word Perfect, or Power Point.

NEW:

7. Make sure all written assignments are submitted electronically in the ASSIGNMENTS folder Discussion Forums created specifically for this course! Do NOT email me your work or submit by other means w/out instructor permission.

YOU WILL BE GRADED ON THE FOLLOWING:

Class Discussions:
✓ You will be required complete the weekly lessons. These will usually consist of reading a several chapters and answering a related question in the designated weekly discussion forum. You must also respond to at least 2 other student postings. These must be completed normally by the end of each week at Midnight or on the due date specified in the course calendar! Completion of each weekly assignment is worth points. Remember this is NOT a self pace course! You can NOT wait until the end of the term to do everything. You must check-in regularly (each week). Each discussion forum will disappear approximately 24 hours after the designated due date.

Assignments:

1. **Interview Assignment:** Choose one of the options below:

   A.) You may interview someone who has been diagnosed with a bona fide mental health disorder, as listed in the DSM-5 or in our textbook. This can be a familiar member, friend, acquaintance or a stranger, as long as they are +18 yrs old and have a legitimate mental illness, **excluding substance use disorders.** A list of the questions will be provided in the assignments folder in ecampus.

   B.) You may interview a mental health professional who works with persons afflicted by mental illness, preferably someone who works at a psychiatric hospital, psych-unit of a general hospital, or community mental health clinic, i.e. Dallas Metro Care, Timber Lawn, Green Oaks, etc. A list of the questions will be provided in the assignments folder in ecampus.

Tests:

✓ **Exams:** There will be a mid-term & final exam for this course. Details on the length, format, and questions will be provided in the discussion forum prior to the exams.

Grades and Points:

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Discussion Questions</td>
<td>40 pts (10pts per week/Lesson)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tests/Exams</td>
<td>40 pts (20pts per exam)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interview Assignment</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total possible pts</strong></td>
<td><strong>100 pts</strong></td>
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90 - 100 = A
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
59 or below = F

Course Schedule:

Posted on ecampus

Withdrawal Policy:

If you are unable to complete this course, you must withdraw through the Admissions Office. You will not be dropped if you stop participating in class. You will still receive a performance grade of “F”. You must fill out the necessary paper work to withdraw to avoid it affecting your GPA. Sometimes students drop classes when help is available that would enable them to continue. I hope you discuss your plans with me should you decide to withdraw.

Late Assignments:

All assignments are due on the date indicated on the course schedule section. All assignments will lose 2 points for every class day they are turned in late. In the event of an emergency it is your responsibility to contact me, or the social science division (972-860-7159) to avoid penalties.

Academic Dishonesty:

Scholastic dishonestly shall constitute a violation of these rules and regulations and is punishable as prescribed by Board policies. Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but not be limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. This especially applies to copying content over the internet and passing it on as yours!

Six Drop Rule:

NEW! A first-time freshman student who enrolls in a Texas public institution of higher education during the fall semester of 2007 or thereafter, may drop no more
than six college level credit courses unless the student demonstrates to an appropriate college official that extenuating circumstance exits.

Grade Reporting:

Grade reports are no longer mailed. Convenient access is available online or by telephone. Use your student identification number when you log in to e-Connect or call DCCCD Touch Tone Services. Web site address: http://econnect.dcccd.edu. Telephone number: 972-613-1818.

Students with Learning, Mental, or Physical Disabilities:

Students requesting accommodations due to the presence of a disability must identify themselves in a timely fashion and demonstrate or document the need for accommodation through the Disability Services Office (DSO). For information regarding the rights and responsibilities of students with disabilities, contact the DSO at (972) 860-8348.

Repeatability Issue:
Pending legislative action and DCCCD Board approval, effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and Continuing Education/Workforce Training courses will result in higher tuition to be charged. Developmental Studies and some other courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 semester. For complete information and updates, go to: http://www.dcccd.edu/ThirdCourseAttempt/.

FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974):

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the College may release information classified as "directory information" to the general public without the written consent of the student. Directory information includes: (1) student name, (2) student address, (3) telephone numbers, (4) date and place of birth, (5) weight and height of members of athletic teams, (6) participation in officially recognized activities and sports, (7) dates of attendance, (8) educational institution most recently attended, and (9) other similar information, including major field of student and degrees and awards received. Students may protect their directory information at any time during the academic year. If no request is filed, directory information is released upon written inquiry. No telephone inquiries
are acknowledged. No transcript or academic record is released without written consent from the student, except as specified by law.

* The Instructor reserves the right to revise the syllabus.