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Office Hours: By scheduled appointments

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION
An overview of the basic theories, concepts and structures that form an understanding of psychopathology. Development of skills in using DSM-IV. Pre-requisite: CO 500. Open to M.A. in counseling students only.

COURSE PURPOSE:
This course examines the classification, etiology, and intervention for a wide variety of identified mental diseases, and the theoretical underpinnings for each, including the history of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual. Students will study historical, cultural, and religious differences related to mental illness, for the purpose of forming their own views and critical thinking skills, most specifically in diagnosis and theoretical orientation toward etiology and treatment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
The objective of the course is to provide the student with the opportunity to:

1. Develop a broad theoretical knowledge in the area of psychopathology, the empirical study of psychological disorders.

2. Be exposed to and develop an advanced understanding of abnormal psychology as it relates to the etiology, development and sustaining factors contributing to a wide range of psychological dysfunctions.

3. Learn from the existent biological, social, psychological, and spiritual areas of explanation and research in psychopathology and to integrate such areas.

4. Focus on specific conditions and to learn to utilize the available systems of classification, such as DSM IV, in a functional way.

5. Integrate theoretical, clinical, and practical knowledge in the formulation of cases, diagnosis and selection of proper modalities in treatment. Students are required to practice in writing at the graduate level so as to learn to express the events and process of therapy in terms of case presentations.

Upon completion of the course, the student will have:

- Defined abnormal.
- Described categories of abnormality and how they are determined.
- Designed an intake form.
- Formed a personal theoretical orientation for addressing etiology and treatment.
- Used critical thinking skills in determining normal vs. abnormal, especially as related to lifespan development.
- Been aware of and demonstrated high standards of ethical behavior.
- Used meaningful terms specific to the field.
- Compared and contrasted historical and cultural differences in the field of abnormal psychology as viewed globally.
- Used technology in a variety of ways related to the field of abnormal psychology.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Textbooks

1. American Psychiatric Association. Washington, DC. Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV TR). Must have a copy of a DSM-IV-TR Manual. It may be the pocket size Quick Reference. The manual is a functional tool that serves as a common denominator to providers of health services among psychologists, psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, clinical social workers, and counselors. The student is expected to be acquainted with the manual as it refers to areas of diagnosis, research, and common classification as a means of communication in interdisciplinary settings.


Recommended:

Readings

1. - The Assigned Textbooks
2. - Weekly Assigned Collateral Readings

Exams:

One Comprehensive Exam. Study Questions will be provided

Term Paper and Presentation
A term paper is required for the course which is to be 12-14 pp. in length (double spaced) and should be completed in APA style

The topic is open to the student's choice, but must be approved by the Instructor; it must deal with a discrete psychopathology (illness, syndrome, or dysfunction), mainly from areas such as mood disorders, anxiety disorders, psychosis, or character pathology. As an example, it may include the following:

1. Description of the issue/problem/dysfunction with etiological considerations (dynamic/social/physiological/spiritual explanations as to probable origins and development of psychopathology).

2. Current research done in the area, with treatment available and with a theoretical/practical emphasis. Issues and problems in classification and description of symptomatology, mental status, diagnosis, choice of treatments, outcomes, may be included. Brief statements as to the current approaches utilized in treatment of the problem described may be included. The utilization of journals in the field is expected, beyond textbooks and topical texts.

3. Presentation to the class: pamphlets, organizations, information for helping those with this illness. (Due at assigned time.)

Attendance
The student is expected to attend all classes and participate in the classroom experience. Students who are absent, late, or leave early will have their grade lowered. There will be one or two breaks each class period.

**Final Grade**
The final grade will reflect the results of the combined efforts represented by the quality of the term paper and presentation, the results of exam, and attendance/participation/the reading log.

**Course Content:**
1. Introduction to the course, introduction of peers as a community of learners.
2. Views of what is normal and abnormal in domains, historically, culturally, and according to DSM-TR.
3. Causes and therapeutic strategies as described by theorists/theories such as Hippocrates, Freud, Erikson, Behaviorists, Geneticists, Interactionists, Social learning theory, Social theory, Information Processing and Brain development, as well as Bio-physical models. Intake form based on these theories, and personal theoretical orientation.
4. Abnormal development from conception through old age.
5. Ethical guidelines related to treatment of the mentally ill and research with human subjects.
8. Specific mental illnesses.

**Course Outline**

**Proposed Topics**

1. Introduction to the course; Psychopathology in perspective. Definitions and classifications Nosology and diagnosis Multiaxial Classification (DSM-IV) and nomenclature


3. Anxiety disorders, panic disorders, and phobias. Issue: obsessive compulsive disorders; spirituality and the quest for perfection and existential anxiety.


6. Personality disorders. Character pathology: Schizotypal, narcissistic, and borderline conditions. Antisocial, avoidant, and dependent characters; Issue: Dissociative disorders; Multiple personality disorders; Psychopathology vs. other explanations. Extremes: Sadducees vs. zealot exorcists.

7. Disorders in childhood, adolescence. Eating disorders: Bulimia, anorexia


Issue: Developmental issues, pathology and sin.

10. Integrative efforts. Is an integrative approach to psychopathology possible? Course summary and concluding comments: The fall and the need for redemption, restoration to wholeness.
**BIBLIOGRAPHY**


Journals:

American Psychologist
American Journal of Psychiatry
Archives of General Psychiatry
British Journal of Psychiatry
Clinical Psychology Review
Journal of Abnormal Psychology
Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology
Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease
Journal of Personality Disorders
Psychological Bulletin
Schizophrenia Bulletin