**Community College of Philadelphia**

PSYC 205 - Psychopathology/Abnormal Psychology

# Winter

# [Online]

**Course Instructor…**

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**Course Goals…**

**Course Description:** The course examines the characteristics of psychological disorders. For each disorder, multiple theoretical explanations are examined, including the psychoanalytic, behavioral, cognitive, biological, socio-cultural and humanistic. Secondary consideration is given to the treatments derived from the theories examined.

**Prerequisites:** [PSYC 101](http://ccp.edu/college-catalog/course-offerings/psychology-courses#psyc101). Fulfills Writing Intensive requirements.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

* Describe the history and current trends related to the conceptualization and treatment of psychological disorders.
* Apply the scientific method to understand the causes of psychological disorders and evaluate their treatment and prevention.
* Describe, differentiate and integrate the various theoretical perspectives on psychological disorders, including the psychoanalytic, cognitive, behavioral, humanistic, sociocultural and biological perspectives.
* Apply the various theoretical perspectives on disorders to form an understanding of individual cases, as well as diagnostic groups.
* Discuss the various legal and ethical issues involved in the diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders
* Write cogently regarding psychological disorders and adhere to the writing conventions of the psychology discipline.

**Required Materials…**

**-Textbook:** Comer, R.J. (2016). *Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology. (8th ed).* Worth Publishers.

-Regular and reliable access to **Canvas** for all course related documents and activities.

**Course Grading…**

Students will earn points for various assignments, activities and assessments throughout the course and the final grade will be based on the following grading scale (in points):

A = 448 - 500 B = 398 - 447 C = 348 - 397 D = 298 - 347 F = 0 - 297

90-100% 80-89% 70-79% 60-69% Below 60%

**Course Assignments, Activities & Assessments…**

**Class Participation Activities:** (several throughout the course - worth 250 points total)**:** Students will be required to complete various activities throughout the semester. Activity instructions will open at 8AM on the start date shown in schedule and remain open until 8AM on the end date shown in schedule. Weekly activities will remain open for the entire week and can be completed and submitted anywhere during the period that it is open. The exception to this will be for the discussion activities for which the main discussion response must be submitted by 8AM Thursday! Each week the activity will highlight an important aspect of the material covered in an attempt to have the student integrate and apply what they are learning. The activities will vary between class discussions, short written assignments, article reviews, case analysis and/or worksheet completions.

**Chapter Quizzes:** (10 throughout course - worth 100 points total): *Quizzes will be administered in Canvas*. Students will be required to take the quiz at their convenience anywhere during the period that it is open. Quizzes will open at 8AM on the start date shown in schedule and remain open until 8AM on the end date shown in schedule. Make up quizzes are NOT given since you have so much flexibility of when you can take them. Quizzes will be multiple choice, open book and open note, BUT will be timed. Each quiz can be taken TWICE and the highest of your two attempts will count towards your final grade. Students are required to work on the quizzes ALONE and not in a group setting. Quizzes will cover material from textbook, class discussion, and the assigned reading.

**Film Case Presentation:** (worth 50 points): Students are expected to choose a movie to review as an Abnormal Psychology student, not just a movie-watcher. Students are expected to watch the ENTIRE movie before proceeding to write an analysis of it. The analysis must include a summary of the selected movie and a discussion of it from a psychological perspective. The discussion should clearly diagnosis the character you identified, supporting your diagnosis with examples form the movie that support this diagnosis. Lastly, using the knowledge from class and the text, a discussion of whether the film accurately depicts the disorder identified, or if it is flawed, is required. Students will be required to present their discussion in an APA format paper shared with the class for a final case presentation discussion.

**Midterm and Final Exam:** (worth 50 points each)**:** A Midterm and Final Exam will be administered in Canvas during the assigned week. Each exam will be comprehensive spanning the material from the textbook, class discussion, and the assigned reading. Exam will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and short questions. Make-up exams will only be scheduled in extreme cases.

**Course Schedule…**

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| **Date** | **Topic(s)** | **Tasks** |
| Week 1  Monday 8AM ~  Thursday 8AM | Introductions of students & instructor.  Class expectations & course requirements.  **Chapter 1** – Defining the field **Chapter 1** – Past & Present  **Chapter 16** – Law & Society | \*’It’s me’ discussion  \*’What and why’ discussion  \*Syllabus Quiz  \*Position Assignment  \*Defining the field discussion  \*Quiz 1 (Chapter 1 & 16) |
| Week 1  Thusday 8AM ~  Sunday 8AM | **Chapter 2 –** Models of Abnormality  **Chapter 3** - Clinical Assessment & Treatment  **Chapter 4 –** Anxiety Disorders | \*DSM-5 assignment  \*Treatment Discussion  \*Quiz 2 (Chapter 2 & 3)  \*Case Studies  \*Quiz 3 (Chapter 4) |
| Week 2  Monday 8AM ~  Thursday 8AM | **Chapter 5 –** Stress & Arousal  **Chapter 5** – Dissociative Disorders  **Chapter 7 -** Suicide | \* Burnout discussion  \* Arctic Suicides assignment  \*Eve & Sybil discussion  \*Quiz 4 (Chapter 5 & 7) |
| Week 2  Thursday 8AM ~  Sunday 8AM | **Chapter 6 –** Mood Disorders  **Midterm (Chapters 1-7, & 16)** | \*Case Studies  \*Quiz 5 (Chapter 6)  \*Complete Midterm Exam |
| Week 3  Monday 8AM ~  Thursday 8AM | **Chapter 8** - Somatic Symptoms **Chapter 10 –** Substance Abuse  **Chapter 9** – Eating Disorders | \*Mass Hysteria Discussion  \*Opioid Crisis assignment  \*Media’s impact discussion  \*Quiz 6 (Chapter 8 - 10) |
| Week 3  Thursday 8AM ~  Sunday 8AM | **Chapter 12 -** Schizophrenia **Chapter 13** – Personality Disorders | \*Culture’s impact assignment  \*Quiz 7 (Chapter 12)  \*Case Studies  \*Antisocial PD discussion  \*Quiz 8 (Chapter 13) |
| Week 4  Monday 8AM ~  Friday 8AM | **Chapters 14 & 15 –** Disorders across Lifespan  **Case Presentations**  **FINAL (Chapter 8-15, not 11)** | \*Across the Lifespan discussion  \*Quiz 9 (Chapter 14-15) \*Film Paper & Discussion  \*Complete Final Exam  \*Final thought assignment |

*Providing adequate notification to the students, the instructor reserves the right to alter the course requirements and/or course schedule as listed above if deemed necessary.*

**Course Policies & Procedures…**

**Attendance**: Attendance in this course does not mean simply accessing the course. There are weekly assignments to be completed. You must complete at least one of the assignments of the week to receive a mark for being in attendance for that week. Failure to complete the first week tasks OR during the other weeks... missing two consecutive weeks of submitting assignments, are reasons for withdrawal from the course for failure to make academic progress. I.e. attendance is not merely logging into the course, you must actually complete the weekly work... If I see a lack of participation, I will contact you by email to discuss ways in which I can help get you back on track. However, failure to respond to these emails along with a continued lack of participation will lead to me withdrawing you from the course.

Students who stop attending without officially withdrawing, will receive a grade of F and the last date of attendance will be recorded for financial aid purposes. Students can withdraw from a 15-week course either online on MyCCP or by submitting the appropriate paperwork to the Office of Records and Registration by the deadline published in the College Calendar online, to get a “W” and not an “F” for a class. After this date, you must accept the grade you earn.

**Academic Honesty**: The core of a College’s integrity is its scholastic honesty. There it is essential that students be held to the highest level of academic integrity. It is ultimately the student’s responsibility to uphold standards of academic honesty at all times and in all situations. Students will be found to have violated their responsibilities if they: a) copy from another classmate during a test; b) use notes or other materials during a test; c) use unfair methods to learn what is on a test before it is given; d) submit work as their own that was the work of another person; e) provide assistance to another person engaging in academic dishonesty. In other words… **Cheating means taking quizzes with others, getting help with answers from other people, or sharing answers with students current/past/future, merely copy/paste material as an answer, or not submitting work in your own words or appropriately referenced!** The student handbook states that students who violate their responsibilities will be liable for disciplinary action by the College.

**Class Etiquette:** The Student Code of Conduct provides the specific policies and procedures regarding standards of acceptable behavior. As a CCP student, you agree to:

1. Preserve the integrity of the learning community
2. Respect the rights of others
3. Cooperate with faculty, staff and administrators to further the mission of the College
4. Obey all laws and policies of the College.

This translates to specific expectations of classroom behavior:

* It is the instructor’s obligation to provide a learning atmosphere for all students enrolled in the course. Any behaviors which disrupt the learning environment are not acceptable and will not be tolerated. I will email you privately about the matter at first, but a continuation of the behavior will warrant a discussion involving other college administration.
* Mutual respect for everyone in the class is essential for a learning environment. This starts by showing respect to another when they voice their opinion, share their views or discuss their take on the material. Even though this is an entirely online course, there will still be several opportunities for you to interact with other students. If you disagree with something ‘said’ in a discussion, do so diplomatically. ALWAYS be respectful in your responses. No name-calling, disrespect, or other use of profane language will be tolerated. Let’s treat each other with basic human courtesy and respect, even if we disagree.

**Technology/Email/Submitting work:** Students are expected to master the technological skills necessary to perform in the course, such as word processing and use of the internet, particularly MyCCP and Canvas. This is an entirely online class, everything you will be required to complete, review, submit, etc. will be done so electronically using canvas1All work must be submitted via the appropriate link on Canvas by the due date and time. Work submitted in any other fashion will not be evaluated for a grade. Computer or internet connection problems are not an acceptable excuse for not completing work. College libraries as well as public libraries provide free computer and internet access. Participants are expected to retain an electronic copy of all work submitted. If transmission of the work fails, participants are expected to “resend” the document under directions of the instructor.

Students are expected to check Canvas and their CCP emails for any class related announcements regularly. **Students are expected to use their CCP email for course communications.** Please include your class number in the subject line! Students can expect a reply within 24 hours to emails send Monday through Friday. Emails send after 5pm Friday through Sunday will be replied to within 48 hours.

**Deadlines/Late Submission/Make-Up Work**: Work is due when it is due. You will find that there is a lot of flexibility and time BEFORE and even during deadlines. Please plan accordingly to prevent you from not meeting a deadline. That being said, there are times when a true emergency (i.e. serious illness or hospitalization, family situation or accident) keeps one from meeting a deadline. Be sure to contact the instructor ASAP (at least within 24 hours) in the event of such an emergency to allow for a discussion about an extension. Each situation will be considered on a case-by-case basis**. You must demonstrate responsibility to be granted any extensions, which means you need to communicate with me.** Note that computer or internet problems due not fall within the spirit of this exceptions policy.

**Getting Help: Resources and Learning Tools**

There are lots of resources available should you need extra help:

* **The Syllabus**: If you have a question about the course: what, when, why, how… It is almost certain that the answer is somewhere here in the syllabus. **Read the syllabus, carefully, all the parts!** Review it, many times throughout the course! And if you truly still don’t see the answer then be sure to ask.
* **Your teacher**: Anytime you are having trouble with the class you should contact me right away. Email is the fastest way to reach me. For office hours, it’s best to gives me a heads up you are coming.
* **Your classmates**: You can email some/all of your classmates in Canvas.
* **Tech Support**: Canvas has tech support and help features. Please use these for technical related issues. It is important that if you have a tech issue in Canvas, you report it to them right away.
* **The Central Learning Lab**: Located in Room B1-28, it’s full of help: tutoring for this course, and the Writing Center, where you can get help with papers.
* **Computer Labs**: Computer labs available for you to type papers, print out course documents, check CCP email and Canvas. You need your student ID to access the labs, located in rooms B2-33, C3-17, and the Library. Printing is limited to 30 pages!
* **Library**: Visit MyCCP for hours of operation and access to the catalog and online databases. A valid Student ID is required to enter the library.
* **Center on Disability**: Students with disabilities (eg. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc) should contact the Center on Disability early in the semester for a confidential discussion of academic accommodations. The Center on Disability is located in BG-39 and their phone number is 215-751-8050; additional information can be found on MyCCP.
* **Single Stop**: This center is located in M1-21 and can help students access state and federal financial resources and local community services. The aim is to help students overcome economic barriers, continue with their education and move towards economic mobility. You can get help with legal issues, finances, healthcare, and so much more!
* **The Counseling Center**: Professional counselors are available in room BG-07 for **free** personal, career, academic, & transfer counseling.