PSY 212
Abnormal Psychology

Course Description
This course is a study of the nature and development of behavioral disorders, including the investigation of contemporary treatment procedures.

Prerequisite: PSY 201 or instructor approval.

3.0 Cr (3 lect/pres, 0 lab, 0 other)

Course Focus
This course will enlighten the student about the causes, symptoms, nature, and treatment of abnormal behaviors. Upon completion, students should be able to recognize psychological disorders in themselves and others and recognize treatment options. Students will also understand legal concepts related to mental health.

Text and References

PSY 200 Level+ Core Curriculum Competencies
All courses approved for the general education core curriculum help students develop communication skills and/or critical thinking.

This course develops students’ communication skills by requiring the use of the formal register when participating in classroom discussions. Students will also be required to write a 4-5 page paper on a research topic.

This course develops critical thinking skills for both speakers and listeners since students are expected to employ evidence that they understand the thesis of the discussions. Students will also be required to write a 4-5 page paper on a research topic. They will identify the hypothesis, describe the research method(s) used, give a description of subjects used, describe the statistics used, and if the results were statistically significant. They will also be required to discuss whether or nor the research methods were valid and if replicating the study, what they would do differently.
Course Goals
The following list of course goals will be addressed in the course. These goals are directly related to the performance objectives. (*designates a CRUCIAL goal)

1. Define abnormal behavior
2. Recognize psychopathology historical context
3. Describe clinical research methods
4. Compare theoretical paradigms
5. Differentiate biological, psychological, and social factors
6. Evaluate treatment methods
7. Research therapeutic techniques
8. Evaluate classification systems
9. Categorize assessment procedures
10. Assess biological, psychological, and social systems
11. List mood disorder symptoms
12. Distinguish unipolar depression and bipolar disorder
13. Summarize suicide risks
14. Identify anxiety disorders
15. Analyze anxiety disorder treatments
16. Understand PTSD symptoms and treatment
17. Outline somatoform disorders
18. Distinguish dissociative disorders
19. Comprehend stress and physical health relationship
20. Explain cardiovascular disease and stress relationship
21. Specify personality disorder symptoms
22. Discriminate personality disorder treatments
23. Characterize eating disorder symptoms
24. Learn eating disorder treatments
25. Characterize substance abuse and dependence
26. Consider substance use disorder causes
27. Contrast substance use treatments
28. Research sexual and gender identity disorders
29. Examine paraphilia causes, frequency, and treatments
30. Summarize schizophrenia symptoms
31. Know schizophrenia frequency, causes and treatment
32. Categorize schizophrenia subtypes
33. Contrast delirium, dementia and amnesia symptoms and treatment
34. Understand dementia causes
35. List mental retardation criteria
36. Explore pervasive developmental disorders
37. Research autism
38. Discriminate childhood externalizing and internalizing disorders
39. Scrutinize ADHD symptoms and treatment
40. Review childhood disorder treatments
41. Evaluate adjustment disorders
42. Review life cycle transitions
43. Define insanity as legal concept
44. Assess mental health and civil law
45. Explore mental health and family law
Student Contributions
Each student will spend at least 6 hours per week preparing for class. Attendance is critical in this class.

Course Evaluation
Your final grade for the course will be determined by the average of all exam/test/quiz scores and completion of all required assignments. See CLASS INFORMATION Section for specific details about scoring procedures and due dates.

TCL’s grading scale is:

90 - 100 = A
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
Below 60 = F

Course Schedule

The class meets for 3 lecture/presentation hours per week. The course content goals will be covered in the chronological order which they are presented in the syllabus.

Developed/Revised: February 4, 2010

ADA STATEMENT
The Technical College of the Lowcountry provides access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation, contact the counselor for students with disabilities at (843) 525-8228 during the first ten business days of the academic term.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
There is no tolerance at TCL for academic dishonesty and misconduct. The College expects all students to conduct themselves with dignity and to maintain high standards of responsible citizenship.

It is the student’s responsibility to address any questions regarding what might constitute academic misconduct to the course instructor for further clarification.

The College adheres to the Student Code for the South Carolina Technical College System. Copies of the Student Code and Grievance Procedure are provided in the TCL Student Handbook, the Division Office, and the Learning Resources Center.

ATTENDANCE
The College’s statement of policy indicates that students must attend ninety percent of total class hours or they will be in violation of the attendance policy.

- Students not physically attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.
- Students taking an online/internet class must sign in and communicate with the instructor within the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester to indicate attendance in the
Students not attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.

- Reinstatement requires the signature of the division dean.

- In the event it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from the course OR if a student stops attending class, it is the student’s responsibility to initiate and complete the necessary paperwork. Withdrawing from class may have consequences associated with financial aid and time to completion.

- When a student exceeds the allowed absences, the student is in violation of the attendance policy. The instructor MUST withdraw the student with a grade of “W”, “WP”, or “WF” depending on the date the student exceeded the allowed absences and the student’s progress up to the last date of attendance or

- Under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the class, allow the student to continue in the class and make-up the work. This exception must be documented at the time the allowed absences are exceeded.
  - Absences are counted from the first day of class. There are no "excused" absences. All absences are counted, regardless of the reason for the absence.
  - A student must take the final exam or be excused from the final exam in order to earn a non-withdrawal grade.
  - A copy of TCL’s STATEMENT OF POLICY NUMBER: 3-1-307 CLASS ATTENDANCE (WITHDRAWAL) is on file in the Division Office and in the Learning Resources Center.

HAZARDOUS WEATHER
In case weather conditions are so severe that operation of the College may clearly pose a hardship on students and staff traveling to the College, notification of closing will be made through the following radio and television stations: WYKZ 98.7, WGCO 98.3, WGZO 103.1, WFXH 106.1, WWVV 106.9, WLOW 107.9, WGZR 104.9, WFXH 1130 AM, WLVH 101.1, WSOK 1230 AM, WAEV 97.3, WTOC TV, WTGS TV, WJWJ TV, and WSAV TV. Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp

EXTRA:
Emergency Text Message Alert
Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. Participants receive immediate notification of emergency events and weather cancelations via text messaging on their cell phones. Participants can also opt in to receive non-emergency news and announcements. Go to www.tcl.edu. On the homepage, click on “emergency TextAlert at TCL” and fill out the form or go to www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp

GRADING METHODOLOGY
The final grade must be 70 or more in order to pass the course and progress in the program. Students absent from an examination or presentation will receive a “0” grade for the examination unless other arrangements are made with the individual instructor prior to the examination or presentation day or on the examination or presentation day before the test/presentation is scheduled to be given.

The student is responsible for notifying the instructor for the reason of the absence. It is also the responsibility of the student to contact the appropriate instructor to arrange to make up the examination. Arrangements may be completed by telephone.
If the instructor is not available, a message should be left on the instructor’s voice mail AND with another member of the faculty or administrative assistant. The make-up exam will be scheduled and the instructor will decide the method of examination. Messages sent by other students are unacceptable.