

**ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY**  
**ALLEN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**PSYC 230 - 3 Credit hours**  
**Section 01**  
**Fall, 2005**

- CLASS SCHEDULE**                    **MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY**  
**9:00 – 9:55 p.m.**  
**TECH 101**
- INSTRUCTOR:**                    **Professor A. Marie Carroll, M. Ed.**
- OFFICE INFO:**                    **TECH 101**  
**(316) 393-5012/cell**  
**(620) 365-5116 ext. 229/ACCC**  
**carroll@allenc.edu/school**  
**mariecarroll@cox.net – home**
- OFFICE HOURS:**                    **M/W 7-8 a.m. & 12-5 p.m.**  
**T/Th 8-9 a.m. & 2-5 p.m.**
- REQUIRED TEXT:**                    **Abnormal Psychology. The Problem of Maladaptive**  
**Behavior, 2005.**  
**I. Sarason & B. Sarason, Prentice Hall**
- PREREQUISITE:**                    **PSY 101 - Introduction to Psychology**

**Course description:**

This course is designed to provide the learner with the tools required to intellectually and subjectively define the characteristics, classifications, and qualifications associated with atypical patterns of behavior. This course will build on the strengths of existing theoretical systems and clinical methods to provide students with a comprehensive and up-to-date real-world overview of the field of abnormal psychology. We will focus on maladaptive behavior as a product of the interaction between personal vulnerabilities and resiliencies.

**Prerequisite: PSY 101**

## Course Objectives

1. Knowledge of the three basic models used to explain behavior
2. Understanding of the causal factors in abnormal behavior
3. Awareness of the major diagnostic categories of mental illness and their primary symptoms
4. Knowledge of methods of diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders
5. Familiarity with the major research in the field
6. Increased ability to utilize the scientific method to evaluate information and opinions
7. Expanded capacity to engage in divergent and critical thinking
8. Enhanced problem solving skills by utilizing psychological principles to analyze situations
9. Stimulation of curiosity about abnormal behavior
10. Increased insight into yourself and your behavior
11. Enhancement of sensitivity and empathy for people who are mentally ill

## Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes. **BE ON TIME. I hate late!** Any student not attending classes and wishing to withdraw from this class must contact the appropriate office and take the necessary steps to withdraw. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO WITHDRAW – NOT THE INSTRUCTORS.** The last date to drop this course is **November 18<sup>th</sup>.**

## Method of Evaluation

Evaluation of student mastery of course competencies will be accomplished using the following methods:

- Four exams which include definitional, conceptual and analytical questions over course content.
- The completion of a personal project (outside of the classroom). An interview, a reading selection, a movie review and application to theory, design an informational brochure, etc. (possible classroom presentation)
- Select a book or reading on an issue specific to abnormal psychology (selection provided by your professor). Write a two page reflection paper. Incorporate psychological terms from your textbook. \* you read the same book for your personal project and your selected reading.

**Exams -** There will be **four examinations** worth **100points each**. The exam questions will be taken from your textbook, handouts, films, and class lectures. These exams will be in the form of true/false, multiple choice, matching and/or essay. Any or all of these may be on any one exam at the instructor's discretion. Each exam will include **5 pts** possible extra credit. **Your final exam is tentatively scheduled for the week of Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Selected Reading** – Your reflection paper (2 full pages, typed) is due **Monday, September 18th**. This project is worth **150 points**. Your reading selections include:

**An Unquiet Mind, Kay Redfield Jamison**

**A Mind that Found Itself, Clifford Beers**

**A Child Called It, Dave Pelzer**

**Man's Search for Meaning, Viktor Frankl (only the 1<sup>st</sup> half)**

**Divided Minds : Twin Sisters and Their Journey Through Schizophrenia, Pamela Spiro Wagner, Carolyn Spiro**

**The Quiet Room : A Journey Out of the Torment of Madness, Lori Schiller, Amanda Bennett**

**The Speed of Dark, Elizabeth Moon**

**Directed Assignments** – You will be assigned 1 personal project (**out of class assignment**) which will be identified later in the semester by your instructor. These assignments could include: attending a particular movie, reading a particular book, attending a specific lecture, summarizing current news events, etc. **A written summation of each assignment is required.** The summation should be a minimum of 2 full pages computer generated or typed. This directed assignment is worth **150 points**. This is **due Mon., Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>**.

**Attendance** – Students are required to attend each class. If you miss class you miss your opportunity to participate in that days assignment. Trust me, in order to obtain the maximum number of points it is necessary for you to be present at all class meetings.

## Grading Scale

Exams, formal paper and random written assignment totals will be evaluated on the following scale:

Percentage Scale:

90-100 = A  
80-89 = B  
70-79 = C  
60- 69 = D  
59 & below = F

Point Breakdown:

650 – 700 = A  
600 – 650 = B  
550 – 600 = C  
500 - 550 = D  
499 & below = F

The final examination may not be taken early or made up if missed on the scheduled class time. Students arriving late on the day of the final exam will not be given extra time to finish the exam. **The proposed date of your final exam is the week of Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>.**

## CLASS POLICIES

### Missed Exams

If a student misses an exam, notice of absence must be made **prior to class time** in order to qualify to take a make up exam. No more than 1 exam may be missed during a semester period. Make-up exams must be completed by the following class period of the original missed exam. These exams will be left in the testing center and it is the student's responsibility to make arrangements for completing the make-up exam in a timely fashion. **You will only be allowed to utilize the testing center once** during the semester. You must present current student identification when using the testing center. No exceptions.

### Absences

It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor that he/she will be absent from a class meeting. You will be expected to contact the instructor in advance of your absence. You may call my office number (620 365-51160 x 229, my cell phone (316) 393-5102, or you can e-mail me at [carroll@allenc.edu](mailto:carroll@allenc.edu) or [mariecarroll@cox.net](mailto:mariecarroll@cox.net).

Please make sure that your message reaches me **prior to class time**. This is simply a courtesy and one that I will extend to you if the situation arises.

## **Cheating Policy**

Any student caught looking at another student's test paper will receive a zero for that exam. A second episode of cheating will result in automatic withdrawal from my class.

## **Plagiarism**

JCCC does not tolerate plagiarism in any form. Any student caught plagiarizing another author's work will receive a zero for that class assignment and runs the risk of failing the class. It will be referred to administration for further disciplinary action. There is zero tolerance for plagiarism.

## **Classroom Decorum**

- 1) **NO** cell phones or pagers, even on vibrate mode. Turn all electronic devices **OFF** when entering the classroom. Should you forget and you get a phone call, **DO NOT** answer your phone in my classroom. Please leave the classroom at once.
- 2) Please do not bring children to class with you. This is for the consideration of your instructor and your fellow students. I understand that things happen, (ex: babysitters die) but please make other arrangements for the short time that you are scheduled for class.
- 3) Please leave (crunchy) food and drink (unless it has a closeable or covered top) outside of the classroom.
- 4) Attendance and participation are mandatory. I will remember these two things when it comes to figuring up your final class scores.
- 5) I require that your papers are typed or computer generated, double-spaced and fully justified.

## **Statement on Special Needs**

If you are a student with a disability, and if you are requesting special accommodations it is your responsibility to contact Special Services. Special Services will recommend any appropriate accommodations to your instructor and his/her dean. The instructor and dean will identify for you which accommodations will be arranged.

### **Written Legal Covenant**

This syllabus is tentative in its content and the instructor reserves the right to make changes as necessary. Any changes will be announced in class or by e-mail.

### **Internet/E-Mail**

I communicate with my students weekly by e-mail. If you do not know what your student (ACCC) e-mail is, please find out as soon as possible. Every student is assigned an e-mail address when they enroll. Please check your e-mail everyday before your scheduled class. I will use this format for keeping you current with any necessary class information (ex: class cancellations, change of class meetings, additional assignments, explanation of chapter material, etc.).

### **Chapter Assignments**

I will announce in class each week what your reading assignments are for the next class period. I will also give you advance notice of the date of each examination. **YOU** are responsible for reading your assignments in advance of class time.

"Abnormal psychology is devoted to the study of mental, emotional, and behavioural aberrations. It is the branch of psychology concerned with research into the classification, causation, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of psychological disorders or psychopathology." (Arnold Lazarus and Andrew Colman.) What's in A Name? In their award winning book 'Psychology, Mental Health and Distress,' John Cromby, David Harper, Paula Reavey Abnormal psychology is an area devoted to the assessment, evaluation, diagnosis, and prevention of mental illness. Learn more about the basics of abnormal psychology.Â Abnormal psychology is an area that focuses on people who exhibit behaviors that are considered atypical compared to a norm group. When most people hear the word "psychology," abnormal psychology is probably what immediately springs to mind. Abnormal psychology is a division of psychology that studies people who are "abnormal" or "atypical" compared to the members of a given society. The definition of the word abnormal is simple enough but applying this to psychology poses a complex problem: what is normal? Whose norm? For what age?