

El Paso Community College
Syllabus
Part II
Official Course Description

SUBJECT AREA	<u>Psychology</u>
COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER	<u>PSYC 2320</u>
COURSE TITLE	<u>Abnormal Psychology (F)</u>
COURSE CREDIT HOURS	<u>3 3 : 0</u> Credits Lec Lab

I. Catalog Description

Provides an introduction to the psychological, biological, and socio-cultural factors involved in the development, diagnosis, and treatment of psychological disorders. Includes a review of the historical understanding of abnormal behavior and the development of modern diagnostic systems. Includes discussion of psychological research and practice as it relates to mental health and psychological functioning, as well as legal and ethical issues. **Prerequisite: PSYC 2301. (3:0).**

II. Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Define abnormal behavior and explain the rationale behind it.
- Compare, contrast, and integrate biological, psychological, and sociocultural explanations of abnormal behavior.
- Explain the nature of stress and people's reactions to it.
- Discuss the role of psychological and behavioral factors in the causation of physical problems.
- Describe symptoms of various mental disorders.
- Describe the main factors thought to be involved in the causation of the mental disorders discussed in the text.
- Identify treatments for mental disorders and compare their efficacy in treating such disorders.
- Discuss efforts to prevent psychopathology, giving examples of prevention programs.
- Apply, to selected case examples, what you have learned about the conceptualization, causation, and treatment of mental disorders.

III. THECB Learning Outcomes (ACGM)

- A. Discuss the historical antecedents to modern understandings of abnormal behavior.
- B. Identify and describe the major classes and characteristics of psychological disorders as presented in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM).
- C. Describe the factors and theoretical perspectives related to the development and maintenance of different types of abnormal behavior.
- D. List the primary treatments for psychological disorders and discuss their effectiveness.
- E. Discuss the current research and methodological issues in the study of abnormal behavior.
- F. Discuss the legal and ethical issues associated with the treatment of and research related to abnormal behavior.
- G. Develop an understanding of how social and cultural factors impact the expression of psychological disorders.
- H. Examine the impact of biological factors on the development of psychological disorders.

IV. Evaluation

A. Remediation

The opportunity for remediation is at the discretion of the instructor. Any student performing at an unacceptable level should seek out available tutoring resources provided by the college.

B. Grading

Course grades will be determined in a manner consistent with the grade description in the current course catalog. The student should consult the instructor's syllabus for more detailed information.

V. Disability Statement (Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA])

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

VI. 6 Drop Rule

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.

VII. Title IX and Sex Discrimination

Title 9 (20 U.S.C. 1681 & 34 C.F.R. Part 106) states the following "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits stalking, date violence, sexual violence, and domestic violence for all students, employees and visitors (male and female). If you have any concerns related to discrimination, harassment, or assault (of any type) you can contact the Assistant to the Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services at 915-831-2655. Employees can call the Manager of Employee Relations at 915-831-6458. Reports of sexual assault/violence may also be reported to EPCC Police at 915-831-2200.