

Springfield Technical Community College
Academic Affairs

OBJECTIVES/COMPETENCIES

Course Objectives	Competencies
1. Develop an understanding of the criteria for defining normal and abnormal behavior.	1.1. Describe the key components of normal and abnormal behavior 1.2. Discuss the social and cultural impacts involved in defining normal and abnormal behavior

<p>2. Examine the history of mental illness, discussing major milestones and models that attributed to the development of psychopathology.</p> <p>3. Summarize the major behavioral disorder classifications, developing an understanding of important terminology and features associated with each.</p> <p>4. Examine a range of assessment methods and evidence-based treatment modalities associated with various types of behavioral disorders.</p>	<p>2.1. Define the characteristics of the supernatural, biological and psychological traditions of psychopathology</p> <p>2.2. Discuss the historical development and impact of the supernatural, biological and psychological models as related to the modern understanding of abnormal behavior</p> <p>2.3. Identify and explain prominent historical shifts in beliefs and opinions surrounding abnormal behavior</p> <p>2.4. Identify major theorists in the field and discuss the contribution of their theories to the development of the etiology, diagnosis and treatment of various psychological disorders</p> <p>3.1. Define the major categories of psychological disorders</p> <p>3.2. Identify the basic elements and key characteristics of the major psychological disorders such as anxiety, somatic symptom, dissociative, personality, mood, sexual, schizophrenia spectrum, neurodevelopmental, neurocognitive, and substance-related disorders</p> <p>3.3. Distinguish among the symptoms and proposed causes of common psychological conditions</p> <p>3.4. Describe the incidence, prevalence and prognosis of common psychological conditions</p> <p>3.5. Identify and describe specific diagnostic criteria outlined in current diagnostic classification systems of common psychological conditions</p> <p>3.6. Describe the strengths and weaknesses of diagnostic classification</p> <p>4.1. Identify and define common assessment tools and techniques</p> <p>4.2. Describe various treatment methods utilized by practitioners</p> <p>4.3. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of particular treatment methods</p> <p>4.4. Analyze the efficacy of various treatment methods as associated with different psychological disorders</p>
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5. Develop an understanding of the different theoretical models utilized in abnormal psychology, exploring how the biological, psychological, and social perspectives are related to the etiology, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of various psychological disorders.

6. Critically question long-held assumptions and beliefs about abnormal behavior and mental illness.

7. Examine current empirical research as related to the understanding and treatment of abnormal behavior.

- 5.1. Describe the major theoretical paradigms utilized in the study of abnormal behavior
- 5.2. Identify the etiology of common behavioral disorders, discussing how the biological, psychosocial, and cultural perspectives influence our understanding of that etiology
- 5.3. Discuss how the various theoretical approaches influence the understanding and treatment of abnormal behavior
- 5.4. Explain the short comings of approaching the study of abnormal behavior from a singular theoretical viewpoint
- 5.5. Explain the advantages of utilizing an integrative approach to assessing, diagnosing and treating abnormal disorders

- 6.1. Utilize knowledge of abnormal behavior to critically examine and reflect on the stigma of mental illness
- 6.2. Discuss common myths and stereotypes often associated with behavioral disorders
- 6.3. Reflect on the human experience, considering the impact and influence of behavioral disorders on that experience to better understand the interpersonal relationships and interactions of individuals diagnosed with such disorders

- 7.1. Demonstrate an understanding of empirical evidence found within scientific literature by applying gained knowledge to class discussions
- 7.2. Discuss case examples of individuals experiencing specific disorders
- 7.3. Utilize best practices for evaluating the credibility of sources

8. Explore ethical and legal issues related to the study, diagnosis and treatment of abnormal behavior.

- 8.1. Describe the role of ethics within the study and application of abnormal psychology
- 8.2. Demonstrate the ability to reflect and evaluate ethical practices utilized in the study and application of abnormal psychology
- 8.3. Consider factors and internal/external influences that can potentially lead to unethical practices within the field of psychopathology
- 8.4. Discuss the implications of ethical dilemmas on the ability to assess, diagnosis and treat behavioral disorders
- 8.5. Demonstrate an understanding of the APA Ethical Principles as related to the scientific study of and clinical practice within the field of psychopathology
- 8.6. Define the legal rights of patients in a clinical setting
- 8.7. Define the legal rights of participants of a research study
- 8.8. Explain the criteria for and implications of civil commitment and criminal commitment laws