

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Abnormal Psychology

Course #: PSY 245

Course Description: (3 Credits) An exploration of the causes, effects and treatment of abnormal behavior. Topics covered include the difficulty in defining normal and abnormal behavior, critical understanding of diagnostic and research tools used by mental health professionals, and discussion of the possible developmental roots of psychological disorders.

Pre-requisite/Co-requisite: PSY 111 with a grade of “C” or better.

Goals: :

- a. To explore the difficulties in defining abnormal behavior due to overlaps with normal behavior.
- b. To explore the concepts of stigma and distress as they apply to an individual with a psychological disorder.
- c. To explore how psychological disorders affect the individual, the family, community and society.
- d. To explain the assumptions of **DSM-IV-TR & DSM-5**, including the medical model, integrative approach, categorical and dimensional approach and multiaxial system.

Outcomes: By the end of the semester students should:

- a. define the diagnostic process for **DSM-IV-TR & DSM-5**
- b. discuss the ways a clinician arrives at a differential diagnosis
- c. contrast treatment goals, integrative approaches & modalities of treatment
- d. identify the symptoms of each of the major diagnostic categories
- e. discuss advantages and limitations in providing effective treatment.
- f. identify the goals and types of assessment procedures.
- g. compare and contrast treatment choices for each diagnostic category.
- h. discuss basic ethical and legal issues affecting the study and practice of clinical psychology.

College Policies

Plagiarism: Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty are not tolerated at Northwestern Connecticut Community College. Violators of this policy will be subject to sanctions ranging from failure of the assignment (receiving a zero), failing the course, being removed/expelled from the program and/or the College. Please refer to your “Student Handbook” under “Policy on Student Rights,” the Section entitled “Student Discipline,” or the College catalog for additional information.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented learning, physical, or psychiatric disabilities. Students should notify Dr. Christine Woodcock, the Counselor for Students with Disabilities. She is located at Green

Woods Hall, in the Center for Student Development. Her phone number is 860-738-6318 and her email is cwoodcock@nwcc.edu.

School Cancellations: If snowy or icy driving conditions cause the postponement or cancellation of classes, announcements will be made on local radio and television stations and posted on the College's website at www.nwcc.edu. Students may also call the College directly at **(860) 738-6464** to hear a recorded message concerning any inclement weather closings. Students are urged to exercise their own judgment if road conditions in their localities are hazardous.

Use of Electronic Devices: Some course content as presented in Blackboard Learn is not fully supported on mobile devices at this time. While mobile devices provide convenient access to check in and read information about your courses, they should not be used to perform work such as taking tests, quizzes, completing assignments, or submitting substantive discussion posts.

Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team: NCCC is committed to creating a community that is safe and supportive of people of all gender and sexual identities. This pertains to the entire campus community, whether on ground or virtual, students, faculty, or staff.

Sexual assault and intimate partner violence is an affront to our national conscience, and one we cannot ignore. It is our hope that no one within our campus community will become a victim of these crimes. However, if it occurs, NCCC has created the SART Team - Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource Team - to meet the victim's needs.

SART is a campus and community based team that is fully trained to provide trauma-informed compassionate service and referrals for comprehensive care. The team works in partnership with The Susan B. Anthony Project to extend services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week throughout the year.

The NCCC team members are:

Ruth Gonzalez, Ph.D.	860-738-6315	Green Woods Hall Room 207
Susan Berg	860-738-6342	Green Woods Hall Room 223
Kathleen Chapman	860-738-6344	Green Woods Hall Room 110
Michael Emanuel	860-738-6389	Founders Hall Annex Room 308
Seth Kershner	860-738-6481	Library
Jane O'Grady	860-738-6393	Founders Hall Annex Room 212
Robin Orloski	860-738-6416	Business Office Room 201
Patricia Bouffard, Ex-Officio	860-738-6319	Founders Hall Room 103
Savannah Schmitt		Student Representative

At NCCC we care about our students, staff and faculty and their well-being. It is our intention to facilitate the resources needed to help achieve both physical and emotional health.