

PC 680: Psychopathology for Counselors

Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Fall Semester 2014

Thursday, 6:30p – 9:20p

Instructor: Denise Lewis, Ph.D., LPC, NCC

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Office Hours: Wednesday 12:00p – 2:00p

Thursday 4:00p – 6:00p

Course Information

Call #: PC680

Credit Hours: 3

Location: L200

Required Text

Comer, R. J. (2014). *Fundamentals of Abnormal Psychology*. New York: Worth Publishers

Course Description

This course is designed to provide an overview of theoretical concepts that pertain to psychopathology and related mental disorders listed in the DSM-V. The studies of socio-cultural views of normalcy and deviance, as well as theoretical and clinical views of the continuum of psychological functioning, are addressed. The class examines classification and some research in psychopathology within psychology and psychiatry. It also defines classes of disorders as well as individual diagnoses found within each class. Theories of etiology will be discussed. Students will acquire basic information, theory and beginning skills in order to identify different mental disorders to prepare them for future course work and experience in diagnostics and treatment of these disorders.

Course Objectives

Based on the course philosophy and goals, students will:

A. Students will gain knowledge of (based on CACREP Standards, 2009):

1. Diagnostic criteria of psychiatric disorders and methodology utilized in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders 5 (Section II: G.5.d.; Section III CMHC: C2, E2, G1, G2, K2, K4, L1, L2, L3; SC: D3, G1, G2).
2. Sources of psychological assessment (Section II: G.5.d., G.7.b.; Section III CMHC: D2, G2, H1, H2, H3, K1, K4; SC: D3, D4, H5; SC: D4)
3. Basic psychopharmacological interventions for psychological disorders (Section II, G.5.c, G.7.b.; Section III CMHC: C2, G2, G3).
4. Ethical and legal issues regarding diagnosis (Section II: G.1.j.; Section III CMHC: D2; Section III SC: A2).
5. Research on best practices/evidenced based treatments (Section II: G.8.e.; Section III CMHC: K1, K2, K4)
6. Major indicators of mental impairment (Section II: G.3.e.; Section III CMHC: C2, C7, G1, K3; SC: D3)
7. Principles of risk assessment (Section II G.7.b.; Section III CMHC D6; SC: D4).

B. Students will develop skills to:

1. Correctly diagnose clients' mental disorders in classroom case studies and related course assignments (Section II: G.5.c.; Section III CMHC: G1, G2, H1, H2, H3, K1, K2, L1, L2; SC: D3, D4, G2).
2. Demonstrate knowledge of commonly used psychotropic medications (Section II: G.5.c.; Section III CMHC: C2, G3).
3. Demonstrate a basic knowledge and understanding of writing psychological evaluations using mental status exam and psychosocial history when formulating a treatment plan for clients (Section II: G.5.c., G.7.b.; Section III CMHC: C2, C7, D2, G1, G2, H1, H2, K1, K2, K3, L1; SC: D3, D4).
4. Be familiar with the age, race, cultural and gender assessment issues (Section II: G.3.b., G.3.d., G.3.f., G.7.b.; Section III CMHC: D2, E2, G1, K4; SC: D3, D4)
5. Demonstrate the ability to create treatment plans consistent with DSM 5 criteria (Section II: G.5.c.; Section III CMHC: G1, H2 ; Section III SC: G2)
6. Be able to present research on best practices/evidenced based treatment (Section II: G.7.b., G.8.e.; Section III CMHC: K1, K2, K4; SC: D3)
7. Conduct risk assessments and identify the impacts of crisis, disaster, and other trauma causing events. (Section II: G.3.d., G.5.c.; Section III CMHC: G1, L1; SC: D4)

Course Policies

Please see Student Handbook for sections providing policy details on the following:

ADA—MTSO seeks to remove barriers to inclusion in its learning communities. Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a documented disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs at the beginning of the semester. Please contact the Director of Student Services to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Any accommodation must be agreed upon prior to the due date of the affected course requirement.

Class attendance—Regular attendance is expected in all classes. During unavoidable absences, students are responsible for missed work. An excessive number of absences may result in grade reduction or course failure, despite successful completion of all assigned work. In most cases, a student will not be allowed credit for a course if he or she is absent for 25% of the class sessions. As it relates to blended courses, students may not be allowed credit if they are absent for 25% of class meetings or if 25% of online course work is not completed. Use of Skype or similar technology is not a substitute for attendance in class.

Electronic Devices—Turn mobile devices off or “vibrate only” during class. Browsing the Internet or engaging in email or social network conversations during class is discouraged. Instructors have the right to impose grading penalties for disruptions due to electronic devices.

Human Subjects Research—Research by MTSO faculty, students, or affiliated personnel that collects non-public information from and/or about living individuals or contemporary organizations/groups for purposes of publication or public presentation (including class assignments) must be approved by the Human Subjects Research Committee. MTSO faculty, students, or affiliated personnel should err on the side of caution and apply for committee approval of any activity that may fit this description.

Inclusive Language—In accordance with MTSO's policy on inclusive language, all students are expected to use gender inclusive or gender neutral language in their writing and in the classroom discussions when referring to human beings.

Incompletes—To receive a course grade of Incomplete, students must submit the petition form from the Registrar with all signatures to the Dean's Office before the last day of regularly scheduled classes. See Student Handbook for intensive term deadlines. Any petition submitted without a due date for outstanding work will be denied. If work is not complete by the due date the Registrar will record the grade of F for the course.

Pass/Fail—The decision to exercise this option must be made before the end of the second week of the course by completing the appropriate form available through the Registrar. To receive a grade of "pass" the student must do at least the equivalent of C minus work in the course.

Plagiarism—Plagiarism is a serious matter of academic, professional, and personal integrity. All students at the master's level are expected to understand the requirement to provide attribution when the work of others is used. Students are also expected to be familiar with and understand the school's policy on Academic Misconduct found in the Student Handbook. If students have questions about attribution, citation, and how to avoid plagiarism they should consult the course instructor, the school's writing instructor, or library staff. When in doubt it is better to provide attribution even if one is uncertain about the proper citation form. Plagiarism is a form of academic misconduct that results in disciplinary actions per the Student Handbook that may range from failing an assignment or course to expulsion.

Assignments

Mid-Term/Final Examination (200 points each)

Students will take a multiple choice and/or short answer mid-term and final examination that will come directly from the selected textbook for the course.

FINAL COURSE GRADES WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

Mid Term Examination	200 points
Final Examination	200 points

A	= 369-400	B-	= 317-328	D+	= 269-276
A-	= 357-368	C+	= 309-316	D	= 249-268
B +	= 349-356	C	= 289-308	D-	= 237-248
B	= 329-348	C-	= 277-288	F	= 236 and below

Course Schedule

Aug. 28	Course Introduction Chapter 1 – Abnormal Psychology: Past & Present Chapter 2 – Models of Abnormality
Sept. 4	Chapter 3 – Clinical Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment
Sept. 11	<u>Problems of Anxiety & Mood</u> Chapter 4 – Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive, and Related Disorders
Sept. 18	<u>Problems of Anxiety & Mood</u> Chapter 5 – Disorders of Trauma and Stress
Sept. 25	<u>Problems of Anxiety & Mood</u> Chapter 6 – Disorders of Mood
Oct. 2	<u>Problems of Anxiety & Mood</u> Chapter 7 - Suicide
Oct. 9	Mid-Term Examination
Oct. 16	No Class ~ Midterm Break
Oct. 23	<u>Problems of the Mind & Body</u> Chapter 8 – Disorders Featuring Somatic Symptoms Chapter 9 – Eating Disorders
Oct. 30	<u>Problems of the Mind & Body</u> Chapter 10 – Substance Use and Addictive Disorders Chapter 11 – Disorders of Sex and Gender
Nov. 6	<u>Problems of Psychosis & the Cognitive Function</u> Chapter 12 – Schizophrenia
Nov. 13	<u>Life-Span Problems</u> Chapter 13 – Personality Disorders
Nov. 20	<u>Life-Span Problems</u> Chapter 14 – Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence
Nov. 27	No Class ~ Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 4	<u>Life-Span Problems</u> Chapter 15 – Disorders of Aging and Cognition
Dec. 11	Final Examination