COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: PSYC 2622: Abnormal Psychology

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): College level reading and writing
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None

This course is an analysis and understanding of abnormal behavior, covering topics such as the historical background, mood, anxiety and schizophrenic disorders: personality disorders, substance related disorders of childhood and adolescence: causes of abnormal behavior, prevention and therapy; cultural diversity of abnormal behavior.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: Proficiency in English writing reading and comprehension.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): September, 2013

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. What is psychopathology
2. Historical background
3. Theoretical perspectives
4. Classification and Assessment
5. Stress, Coping and Maladaptive Behavior
6. Major psychological Disorders
7. Prevention and Therapies
8. Cultural Diversity of abnormal behavior

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Describe abnormal behavior.
2. Describe how the views and treatments of abnormal behavior have changed throughout the history.
3. Identify the major classifications of mental disorders.
4. Describe the assessment of abnormal behavior.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the research methods used to investigate mental disorders.
6. Identify the psychological and physical symptoms of major disorders.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the major theoretical perspectives on mental disorders.
8. Describe how to prevent maladaptive behavior.
9. Describe the different psychotherapies.
10. Describe the biological therapies.
11. Discuss society's response to abnormal behavior.
12. Describe cultural and gender differences in abnormal behavior.
13. Use critical thinking skills in written or oral discussion material.
14. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between poverty and psychopathology.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):
Goal 2/Critical Thinking: The student will be able to:
1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives, which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
3. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.

Goal 5/History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences: The student will be able to:
1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): Continued...
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

Goal 7/Human Diversity: The student will be able to:
1. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts, and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
2. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.
3. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
1. Tests
2. Papers
3. Class discussion
4. Field observations
5. Case studies
6. Classroom presentation

RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S) Addressed:
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Global Awareness/Diversity

SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None