

**MAYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Welcomes You To:**

**PSY 281.HY20
Abnormal Psychology
3 credit hours, 3 contact hours**

Summer, 2007

Course Description

This course provides an examination of the various psychological disorders, as well as theoretical, clinical, and experimental perspectives of the study of psychopathology. Emphasis is placed on terminology, classification, etiology, assessment, and treatment of the major disorders. Upon completion, students should be able to distinguish between normal and abnormal behavior patterns as well as demonstrate knowledge of etiology, symptoms, and therapeutic techniques. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in social/behavioral sciences.*

Prerequisites: PSY 150

Instructor: Cathy B. Morrison
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E-mail Address: cmorrison@mayland.edu
Office Hours: 8:00 A.M. till 5:00 A.M.

Course Information

This course meets on Thursday at the Main Campus from 5:00-7:50 p.m. in Room 238.

Required Text(s): *Essentials of Abnormal Psychology in a Changing World.*
(2001) by Jeffrey S. Nevid and Beverly Greene, Prentice-Hall

Course Objectives/Competencies:

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Recognize the problems associated with defining, predicting, and treating abnormal behavior
2. Understand the system of classification that is currently used in the diagnosis of mental disorders
3. Identify the different theoretical views regarding abnormal behavior and the causes of abnormal behavior
4. Identify the various types of behavior disorders and describe the symptoms associated with individual psychological disorders.

Mayland Community College's General Education core courses will provide the essential body of knowledge and skills that enable all degree-level students to perform competently as employees and as contributing members of society. Graduates of all degree programs at Mayland Community College will have completed the general education core. That core encompasses the essential knowledge and skills that enable all degree-level students to perform competently as employees and as contributing members of society. Upon completion of the general education core, students will be able to demonstrate the following:

- 1. Effective communication in speaking and listening situations for college, personal and work successes**
- 2. Effective communication in writing and reading situations needed for college, personal, and work successes**
- 3. Logical, critical, and creative and thinking to evaluate evidence and reach a conclusion**
- 4. Application of basic computer skills**
- 5. Application of fundamental math skills**
- 6. Basic awareness of the diversity of various world groups from both historical and contemporary contexts**

For each of the following goals of Abnormal Psychology, the applicable General Education Learning Competencies are noted.

To be successful in this course you will need to:

- Be an active participant in class and small group discussions regarding topics in psychology (1 and 2).
- Apply critical thinking skills to material presented in the textbook, lectures, activities, and discussions (1, 2, and 3)
- Work independently and as part of a group to successfully complete written assignments related to material from the course (1, 2 and 6)
- Develop an understanding of cultural, racial, and ethnic differences in human thought and behavior (6).

Attendance Policy/Tardiness/Make-Up Work:

Attendance and participation are important in order for you to be successful in this course. You will be responsible for material that is covered during class lectures that is not covered in the textbook.

Make-Up Work/Later Assignments:

There will be no make-up for missed tests. All tests will be online, and there will be an adequate amount of time for the tests to be completed. Written assignments that are submitted late will be assessed a 10-point per day late penalty for each calendar day that they are late. This means that an assignment submitted a week late will be assessed a 70 point penalty.

Grading Criteria/Tests/Projects:

Tests.....	60%
Written assignments.....	30%
Group presentation.....	10%

Tests: There will be four tests on the dates and chapters listed in the attached course outline. Tests will cover material from the textbook and from class lectures.

Written Assignments: Each week you will be required to find a current news article (within the last calendar year) about one of the disorders that you have read about in the week’s assignment. A written assignment will be required and submitted electronically discussing the disorder from the theoretical perspective and from the treatment perspective. The article that you find will be cited in the work. **No paperwork should be turned in for these assignments. Papers are always due by 5:00 p.m. on the day of class.**

Grading Scale:

- A =93-100
- B =85-92
- C =77-84
- D =70-76
- F = 0-69

Inclement Weather Procedures:

In the event of inclement weather, personal safety is always the first concern. IF the college is not closed, and it’s at all possible, plan to be in class. If you are unable to get to class, you will be responsible for all notes and activities from that class.

Academic Standards/Student Expectations/Ethics:

Honesty and integrity with respect to academic work is expected in this and all classes at Mayland Community College. As outlined in the MCC Student Code of Conduct, any form of academic dishonesty is subject to disciplinary action. At the minimum, students who engage in academic dishonesty of any type will receive a grade of “F” for the course. For a description of the code of conduct, refer to the MCC Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook.

Withdrawal Dates:

Summer, 2007

End of Unconditional Withdrawal—Thursday, June 21

End of Conditional Withdrawal—Tuesday, July 16

Administrative Withdrawal: If a student has not been in contact with the instructor and has not attended class for a consecutive two-week period, an administrative withdrawal will be submitted by the instructor.

Any student requesting special accommodations for this course due to a disability should apply for services through the SOAR Office or the Counseling Center, which will document the disability. A counselor will then help determine which accommodations, if any, the student needs for success in this course.

Course Outline/Weekly Topics
(Syllabus subject to change as adjustments become necessary)

	Class	Assignment
06/07/07	Introduction, Syllabus Film	Chapters 4 & 5 (66)
06/14/07	Discussion, 4 & 5	Chapter 6 & 7 (68) Article due for 4 & 5 <i>Test #1, Chapters 4 & 5</i>
06/21/07	Discussion 6 & 7	Chapter 8 Article due for 6 & 7
06/28/07	Discussion 8	Chapter 9 Article 8 <i>Test #2, Chapters 6, 7, 8</i>
07/12/07	Discussion 9	Chapters 10 & 11 Article 9
07/19/07	Discussion, 10 & 11	Chapters 12 & 13 Article due 10 & 11 <i>Test, Chapters 9, 10, 11</i>
07/26/07	Discussion, 12 & 13	Chapter 14 Article due, 12 & 13
08/02/07	Discussion, 14	Group presentation <i>Test, Chapters 12, 13, 14</i>