

Portland State University

Counseling 570  
**Intro to Psychiatric Diagnoses**  
Summer 2011

**Time:** Mon/Wed 6:00-9:15

**Place:** ASRC 220

**Instructor:** Will Meek, PhD

**Email:** willmeekphd@gmail.com

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**Course Description**

This course examines abnormal psychology from biological, psychological, and socialcultural lenses. This course will include an overview of systems which influence understanding and treatment of major mental disorders and conditions. Methods of instruction include lecture, small group work, individual assignments, and discussion.

**Required Materials**

Halgin, R.P & Krauss-Whitbourne, S. (2010). *Abnormal Psychology: Clinical Perspectives on Psychological Disorders* (6th edition). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.

**Department Policy Statement**

The counseling profession requires a high level of personal integrity, self-awareness, and personal maturity. Demonstrating professionalism in classroom behavior, as well as being present and engaged in classroom activities is expected at all times as a graduate student in Counselor Education.

Students are expected to attend all class meetings; however, one absence is not considered excessive. Students whose beliefs, religious practices, or lifestyles may conflict with class attendance from time to time should discuss such issues with the course instructor at the beginning of the term. If possible, arrangement should be made to make up missed attendance related assignments and experiences. It is up to the student and instructor to negotiate a satisfactory solution with respect to absences.

Students and faculty are expected to maintain an atmosphere in which controversial issues, germane to the subject matter, can be examined and discussed. In exercising this freedom of expression, faculty and students are expected to exercise appropriate restraint and show respect for the opinions of others.

The Counselor Education program seeks to balance providing care and support, high expectations, and opportunities for participation in meaningful activities. All students are expected to participate in constructing a respectful learning environment in the classroom. Arrive to class on time, stay for the entire class, come back from breaks on time, turn off cell phones, etc. Be mindful of what might detract from the learning experience of students and faculty alike (e.g. talking to fellow students during the lecture).

All students in the program must demonstrate behavior that is consistent with the Ethical Standards put forth by the American Counseling Association. Failure to do so will result in termination from the program.

Demonstrating effective ethical and professional conduct is extremely important and will be monitored and reviewed by the faculty throughout your time in the program in order to assess your development as a professional counselor. Formal occasions for feedback in this regard occur following First Year Student Reviews (May of each year) and during Practicum and Internship. Concerns and deficiencies will be brought to your attention and used by faculty in assessing your overall academic/professional progress in the program. Deficiencies which are not corrected will be cause for disciplinary action which may include termination from the program.

### **Course Objectives**

1. Provide a groundwork for understanding abnormal psychology
2. Improve students' ability to reason about normal and abnormal behavior
3. Explore the major categories of psychiatric disorders

### **Additional Class Information**

**Assistance/Accommodations:** PSU is committed to providing equal access to its learning environment. If you are an individual with a specific hearing, sight, physical, psychiatric, learning or other disability, you may be eligible for support services. Please contact the Disability Resources Center for more information (<http://www.drc.pdx.edu>). Students who anticipate they will need any special assistance or accommodations due to a disability should contact me prior to the second class meeting so we can make those arrangements.

**Academic Honesty:** Academic honesty is essential for the intellectual life of the University. Students have an obligation to adhere to the standards in the student Code of Conduct (<http://www.pdx.edu/dos/conductcode>).

### **Course Requirements**

**Attendance:** Attendance, preparation, and participation in class discussions are required. Missing one class will not result in a penalty, but each additional class will result in a *5pt deduction from the final grade*. If you know in advance that you are going to miss a class, please contact me as soon as possible. For all other attendance policies, particularly regarding illness, please follow standard university protocol.

**Readings:** Students are expected to come to class prepared to fully participate in discussions. In order to do so, students are expected to have read the required reading assignments prior to class attendance. The readings for each class session are noted in the course outline.

**Extra Credit:** No extra credit will be given in the class.

**Assignments:** There will be two exams in the class, each worth 35 points (70pt total), and conducted through TK20. There will also be a paper worth 30pts, totaling 100 points for the class. Details for these exams and assignments will be provided in class. This paper will have different requirements for students at the BA level and students at the grad level. Late assignments and exams are subject to a *5pt per day penalty* without exception.

**Grading:** Students' course grades will be determined by scores on the grades on assignments and considerations from attendance and participation, and will be calculated on the following scale.

Grade	Points	Percent
A	94	94 - 100
A-	90 – 93	90 – 93.9
B+	87 – 89	87 – 89.9
B	84 – 86	84 – 86.9
B-	80 – 83	80 – 83.9
C	79.9 and lower	79.9 and below

Calendar		
Date	Subject	Reading
M Jun 20	Overview & Treatment	Ch 1-2
W Jun 22	Assessment & Theory	Ch 3-4
M Jun 27	Anxiety & Mood Dx	Ch 5 & 8, Exam 1 starts
W Jun 29	Thought & Personality Dx	Ch 9-10, Exam 1 due
M Jul 4	<b>NO CLASS, HOLIDAY</b>	
W Jul 6	Development & Aging Dx	Ch 11-12
M Jul 11	Substance & Eating Dx	Ch 13-14, Exam 2 starts
W Jul 13	<b>NO CLASS</b>	Final paper & Exam 2 due