

**Course Description****CLP2140 | Abnormal Psychology | 3.00 credits**

This course examines the major categories of mental disorders and their diagnostic criteria and treatments. Students will analyze the impact of mental disorders on individuals, families, and society and the impact of cultural factors, public attitudes, community resources, ethical issues, and legislation on the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders. Prerequisite: PSY2012.

**Course Competencies:**

**Competency 1:** The student will demonstrate knowledge of the foundations of abnormal psychology by:

1. Defining the term abnormal behavior as used in the science of psychology
2. Identifying cultural beliefs and attitudes about abnormal behavior
3. Analyzing the major theoretical perspectives/frameworks of abnormal behavior from ancient times to the modern era
4. Examining relevant historical and current events from the Perspective of Abnormal Psychology

**Competency 2:** The student will demonstrate knowledge of the classification and assessment of abnormal behavior by:

1. Identifying classification systems used in the discipline of psychology
2. Identifying standard methods used to assess abnormal behavior
3. Describing reliability, validity, and socio-cultural factors in assessing abnormal behavior
4. Analyzing the effects of culture and language on classifying and assessing abnormal behavior
5. Examining the exclusion and inclusion of diagnoses about evolving social norms

**Competency 3:** The student will demonstrate knowledge of the primary, formal categories of abnormal behavior by:

1. Identifying mental disorders as defined in commonly used classification systems
2. Describing biological, psychological, and socio-cultural Influences on behavior
3. Analyzing theoretical perspectives regarding the development of mental disorders
4. Analyzing research on mental disorders' etiology, incidence, and prevalence
5. Examining treatment modalities for abnormal behavior based on the different theoretical perspectives

**Competency 4:** The student will examine abnormal behavior in a social context by:

1. Describing the impact of mental disorders on individuals, families, and society
2. Identifying risk factors for violent behavior
3. Analyzing the deinstitutionalization movement and the availability of community resources

**Competency 5:** The student will demonstrate knowledge of ethical and legal issues involved in abnormal psychology by:

1. Identifying ethical principles that govern medical health professionals
2. Describing ethical issues involved in diagnosing and treating mental disorders
3. Examining the impact of abnormal behavior on individuals involved in the legal system
4. Examining the impact of involuntary commitment on an Individual's human rights

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society