



Course Description

CLP2140 | Psychopathology | 3.00 credits

This course examines the major categories of mental disorders. Diagnostic criteria, treatment methods, cultural factors, public attitudes, community resources, ethical issues, and legislation applicable to individuals with mental disorders are studied. The impact of mental disorders on individuals, families and society are discussed. Prerequisite: PSY2012.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the foundations of psychopathology by:

1. Defining the term psychopathology as used in the science of psychology
2. Identifying cultural beliefs and attitudes about mental disorders
3. Analyzing the major theoretical perspectives/frameworks of psychopathology from ancient times to the modern era
4. Examining relevant historical and current events in relation to the conceptualization and treatment of mental disorders

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the classification and assessment of psychopathology by:

1. Identifying classification systems used in the discipline of psychology
2. Identifying common methods used to assess psychopathology
3. Describing reliability, validity, and socio-cultural factors in the assessment of psychopathology
4. Analyzing the effects of culture and language on the classification and assessment of psychopathology
5. Examining the exclusion and inclusion of diagnoses in relation to evolving social norms

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the primary, formal categories of psychopathology 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 the etiology, incidence, and prevalence of mental disorders
5. Examining treatment modalities for mental disorders based on the different theoretical perspectives

Competency 4: The student will examine psychopathology in a social context by:

1. Describing the impact of mental disorders on individuals, family and society
2. Examining risk factors for violent behavior in relation to mental disorders, including common misconceptions
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 psychopathology by:

1. Identifying ethical principles that govern medical health professionals
2. Describing ethical issues involved in the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders
3. Examining the impact of mental disorders 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