

Course Description

CLP2470 | Introduction to Childhood Psychopathology | 3.00 credits

This course is designed especially for students interested in completing the RBT examination through the BCBA. It will cover measurement, assessment, skill acquisition, behavior reduction, documentation and reporting, and professional conduct and scope of practice, as well as all subtasks listed in the RBT checklist and the Professional and Ethical Compliance Code for Behavior Analysts by the BCBA. Prerequisite(s): PSY2012.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the nature of abnormal behavior in children and adolescents by:

- 1. Identifying general classifications for behaviors that deviate from what is considered normal
- 2. Examining the categories of psychological disorders

Competency 2: The student will explore different theories for their value in explaining and classifying psychological disorders by:

- 1. Identifying the major theories and theorists
- 2. Analyzing the relationship between theories and research methods
- 3. Applying theories used in studying abnormal behaviors to practical situations

Competency 3: The student will assess research methods used when studying psychological disorders in minors by:

- 1. Exploring various methods of scientific inquiry
- 2. Reviewing research methods and findings related to the area of child psychopathology
- 3. Applying the scientific method to practical
- 4. psychological disorders and childhood/ adolescence cases

Competency 4: The student will become familiar with assessment and treatment of abnormal behavior by:

- 1. Examining the causes of psychological disorders
- 2. Identifying the symptoms of different psychological disorders
- 3. Identifying various ways symptoms can be exhibited in children and adolescents
- 4. Evaluating effective treatment approaches used for children/ adolescents with psychological disorders
- 5. Analyzing the various legal issues related to the treatment of abnormal behavior among children and adolescents

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society

Updated: Fall 2025