



## MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

### A. PSYC 1250 Abnormal Psychology

### B. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an overview of abnormal behavior and mental illness. The format of the course follows the psychiatric diagnostic scheme of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, (current edition)* and includes a discussion of symptoms as well as the possible causes of and treatments for various personality and psychological disorders. Legal and social issues concerning abnormal behavior and psychopathology are also presented.

**MnTC (Goal 5/SS and Goal 7/HD); (3 Cr – 3 lect, 0 lab)**

### C. \*MnTC Discipline: History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences \*\*Core Theme: Human Diversity

### D. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

#### Introduction to Psychopathology

- Historical perspective on abnormal behavior
- Theories of abnormal behavior
- An integrative approach to abnormal psychology
- Clinical assessment and diagnosis
- Research methods in abnormal psychology

#### Psychological Disorders

- Anxiety disorders
- Obsessive-compulsive and related disorders
- Trauma and stressor-related disorders
- Depressive, bipolar, and related disorders
- Dissociative disorders
- Somatic symptom and related disorders
- Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders
- Disruptive, impulse-control, and conduct disorders
- Personality disorders
- Neurocognitive disorders
- Substance-related and addictive disorders
- Developmental and Childhood Disorders

#### Mental Health Services

- Ethical and Legal Issues

E. GOAL TYPES, OBJECTIVES, AND OUTCOMES

<b>GOAL</b>	<b><u>OBJECTIVES</u></b> <b>Students will be able to</b>	<b><u>OUTCOMES</u></b> <b>The student will successfully</b>
<u>MnTC Goal</u> <u>5a</u>	employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. evaluate major historical and contemporary theoretical and treatment perspectives associated with the field of abnormal psychology.</li> <li>2. identify principal research methods and types of questions that emerge in the science of abnormal psychology.</li> </ol>
<u>MnTC Goal</u> <u>5b</u>	examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. describe and explain the historical context surrounding the definition and treatment of abnormal behavior.</li> <li>2. describe and discuss the development, growth and decline of social institutions designed to house and care for the mentally ill.</li> <li>3. explain how psychologists use their understanding of the APA Ethics Code and legal system to guide decisions in clinical and legal situations.</li> </ol>
<u>MnTC Goal</u> <u>5c</u>	use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. discuss alternative systems for classifying abnormal behavior.</li> <li>2. identify and discuss alternative theories and explanations for the causes and treatments of abnormal behavior.</li> </ol>
<u>MnTC Goal</u> <u>7a</u>	understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States, history and culture.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. discuss the implications of being labeled mentally ill.</li> <li>2. identify and discuss the changing attitudes of the United States and other societies towards the mentally ill across time.</li> </ol>
<u>MnTC Goal</u> <u>7b</u>	demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. discuss the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between individuals labeled as mentally ill and other groups in contemporary society.</li> </ol>

<u>MnTC Goal</u> <u>7d</u>	describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify and examine the experience and contributions of the mentally ill to the political, social, and economic shaping of American society.</li> <li>2. identify and examine American society's perception and treatment/discrimination of the mentally ill.</li> <li>3. describe how diversity in age, race, culture, gender and class relates to understanding psychological processes.</li> <li>4. apply psychological constructs to understand and improve intrapersonal, interpersonal and intercultural dysfunction with case studies.</li> </ol>
<u>CS</u>	become familiar with the basic terminology related to abnormal behavior and psychopathology.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. define and describe the terminology related to abnormal behavior and psychopathology.</li> </ol>
<u>CS</u>	discuss the incidence of psychological disorders in the United States and the ethical, social, and legal controversies concerning care of the psychologically ill.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify and analyze the ethical, social and legal controversies concerning care of the psychologically ill.</li> </ol>
<u>CS</u>	describe and discuss methods of clinically assessing and diagnosing psychological disorders.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify and demonstrate psychological assessment and diagnostic methods.</li> <li>2. distinguish between normal and abnormal behavior.</li> <li>3. identify the characteristics, strengths and limitations of the current diagnostic system (DSM).</li> </ol>
<u>CS</u>	describe and discuss the symptoms, possible causes, and treatment for various personality and psychological disorders.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. describe the epidemiology, etiology, assessment, symptoms, and scientifically validated treatments of specific psychological disorders.</li> </ol>

F. SPECIAL INFORMATION:

This course may require use of the Internet, the submission of electronically prepared documents and the use of a course management software program. Students who have a disability and need accommodations should contact the instructor or the Student Success Center at the beginning of the semester. This information will be made available in alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or current media, upon request.

G. COURSE CODING INFORMATION: Course Code A/Class Maximum 48; Letter Grade

Revision date: 02/10/17; 12/5/17

AASC Approval date: 12/12/17; 12/17/19

<b>*Riverland Community College Disciplines</b>	<b>MnTC Goal Number</b>
Communication (CM)	<b>1</b>
Natural Sciences (NS)	<b>3</b>
Mathematics/Logical Reasoning (MA)	<b>4</b>
History and the Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS)	<b>5</b>
Humanities and Fine Arts (HU)	<b>6</b>

<b>**Riverland Community College Core Themes</b>	<b>MnTC Goal Number</b>
Critical Thinking (CT)	<b>2</b>
Human Diversity (HD)	<b>7</b>
Global Perspective (GP)	<b>8</b>
Ethical and Civic Responsibility (EC)	<b>9</b>
People and the Environment (PE)	<b>10</b>

\*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Disciplines.

\*\* These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Core Themes. NOTE: The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum “10 Goal Areas of Emphasis” are reflected in the five required discipline areas and five core themes noted in the Riverland Community College program of study guide and/or college catalog.