

**Department:**

Psychology

**Course Description:**

This course is a study of emotional and behavioral disorders. Abnormal Psychology focuses on the description, causes, and treatment of abnormal behavior patterns. Classifications of disorders according to the DSM-V, such as mood disorders, anxiety disorders, psychotic disorders, and personality disorders, will be presented. Methods of treatment, specifically psychotherapies and biomedical therapies, will be discussed.

**Course Competencies:**

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Explain the historical, cultural, and current perspectives on normal and abnormal behavior.
2. Compare and contrast causal factors and theoretical models of abnormal behavior.
3. Explain assessment, diagnosis, and classification of mental disorders.
4. Describe the etiology, symptomatology, and treatment for the following disorders:
  - a. Trauma- and Stressor-Related Disorders
  - b. Anxiety Disorders
  - c. Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders
  - d. Depressive Disorders
  - e. Bipolar and Related Disorders
  - f. Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders
  - g. Dissociative Disorders
  - h. Feeding and Eating Disorders
  - i. Personality Disorders
  - j. Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders
  - k. Paraphilic Disorders
  - l. Gender Dysphoria
  - m. Sexual Dysfunctions
  - n. Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders
  - o. Neurocognitive Disorders
  - p. Neurodevelopmental Disorders
5. Explain the legal and ethical issues associated with abnormal behavior.

**Course Content:**

- A. Abnormal Psychology: An Overview
- B. Historical and Contemporary Views of Abnormal Behavior
- C. Causal Factors and Viewpoints
- D. Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis
- E. Stress and Physical and Mental Health
- F. Panic, Anxiety, Obsessions, and Their Disorders
- G. Mood Disorders and Suicide

- H. Somatic Symptom and Dissociative Disorder
- I. Eating Disorders and Obesity
- J. Personality Disorders
- K. Substance-Related Disorders
- L. Sexual Variants, Abuse, and Dysfunctions
- M. Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders
- N. Neurocognitive Disorders
- O. Neurodevelopmental Disorders
- P. Therapy
- Q. Contemporary and Legal Issues in Abnormal Psychology

## Learning Assessments:

Competencies may be evaluated by multiple measures, including exams, papers, article reviews, research, experiments, and projects.

## Instructional Materials:

Textbook: Butcher, J. N., Hooley, J. M. & Mineka, S. M. (2014). *Abnormal Psychology*, (16<sup>th</sup> ed.). Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-205-94428-6

### **Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition**

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” on our [Disability Services website](#).

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.

### **A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct**

Highland Community College seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX, and College policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Highland Community College encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to report to the Vice President for Student Services, the Human Resources Director or complete an [online report](#) about what happened so that they can get the support they need and Highland Community College can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Highland Community College is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please review our [Equity Grievance Policy](#).