

**SAULT** COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ON

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

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CODE NO.: PSY 208-3 SEMESTER: WINTER

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PROGRAM: CORRECTIONAL WORKER/LAW AND SECURITY  
ADMINISTRATION

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**W** SOCIAL SCIENCES

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AUTHOR:

DATE: JANUARY 1992 PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED: January 1991

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APPROVED:  
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to assist students in gaining an understanding of the causes, symptoms, and treatment of various behavioural and mental disorders. Discussion will include societal and community reactions to persons with abnormal behaviour.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of the course the student will:

1. have a greater understanding of abnormal psychology.
2. list and explain, at a basic level, the distinguishing characteristics of various mental and behavioural disorders.
3. gain a basic understanding of various therapeutic approaches in dealing with mental and behavioural disorders.
4. review society's reaction to abnormal behaviour and emotional disorders.
5. students should also refer to the course text's accompanying "study guide" for more specific learning objectives, related to each topic area covered in this course.

**TEXTBOOKS:**

1. Abnormal Psychology. Ratus and Nevid. Prentice Hall, 1991.
2. "Study Guide" accompanying textbook

Additional audio-visual materials and readings will be assigned during this course. Students will be responsible for understanding audio-visual, lecture and class discussion material.

**SYLLABUS:**

**Topics - Section I (assigned readings)**

- introduction to course and overview of course outline

CHAPTER 1 (PAGE 1 TO 19 ONLY) - What is abnormal psychology?

- criteria **for** defining abnormal behaviour
- history and concepts

CHAPTER 3 (PAGE 79 TO 93 ONLY) - An overview of classification and methods of assessing abnormal behaviour

CHAPTER 4 - Stress related disorders

- sources, responses to and moderators (of the impact) of stress

Test #1 - Date - To be announced (at approximately week 5 of the course

- covering all of Section I assigned readings

**Topics - Section II (assigned readings)**

CHAPTER ([ - Anxiety disorders - historical and theoretical perspectives and various types of anxiety disorders

CHAPTER I\_ - (PAGE 225 TO 240) - Dissociative disorders and a brief overview of somatoform disorders

Test #2 - Date - To be announced (at approximately week 8 of the course)  
- covering all of Section II assigned readings

**Topics - Section III (assigned readings)**

CHAPTER J3 - Mood disorders and suicide  
- various types of mood disorders, depression and suicide  
- theoretical perspectives and treatment

CHAPTER j) - Disorders of personality and impulse control  
- various types of personality and impulse disorders  
- classification problems, theoretical perspectives and treatments

Test #3 -Date - To be announced (at approximately week 11 of the course)  
- covering all of Section III assigned readings

• **Topics - Section IV (assigned readings)**

CHAPTER 11 - Sexual disorders - cultural influences on definitions of abnormality

- homosexuality, gender disorders, pornography  
- rape, paraphilias and sexual dysfunctions

CHAPTER 12 - Schizophrenia and delusional (Paranoid) disorders

- prevalence, phrases, features and types of schizophrenia  
- theoretical perspectives and treatments

Test #4 - Date - To be announced (at approximately the last week of the semester)

- covering all of Section IV assigned readings.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:**

Student learning will be facilitated by lectures, class discussions and activities, as well as audio-visual presentations.

**EVALUATION:**

The final course grade will be determined as follows, in accordance with the grading policy of Sault College:

A+	=	90 - 100%
A	=	80 - 89%
B	=	70 - 79%
C	=	60 - 69%
R	=	Below 60%

Test #1.	. . . . .	.25%
Test #2.	. . . . .	.25%
Test #3.	. . . . .	.25%
Test #4.	. . . . .	.25%
Total.	. . . . .	.100%

Students will be responsible for regular attendance and class participation in all areas of the course and for all reading assignments and tests as requested. The course curriculum and evaluation system can be modified at the discretion of the instructor.

**NOTE:** Students unable to write tests as regularly scheduled must:  
1) notify the instructor prior to the test date, to make alternative arrangements  
2) be prepared to document their need (i.e. physician's note) for alternative testing arrangements.