

WELCOME TO PSYCHOLOGY 205 DISTANCE EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION TO ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

Welcome to Psychology 205 – Abnormal Psychology

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTOR:

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My website: <http://faculty.ccp.edu/faculty/dsberg/>

Communicating With Me

Built into WebStudy is a communication system that will permit you to contact me.

Further, you will note that all replies to you will show up in the first screen of WebStudy when you sign on -- this is the way to communicate with me during the semester. I will reply back to you within 24 hours.

About Netiquette: When you communicate with me, other classmates, or respond to the Forums, you must use good grammar and spelling. Students make the mistake of using text messaging or IM style in professional communications -- please be careful. Use good grammar, spell checking, capitalization, and no abbreviations for your writing.

What you will be studying: Principal forms of maladaptive behavior, both personal and societal are the focus of the course. Etiology, symptomatology and treatment are

viewed from both the theoretical and practical points of view. (College Catalog Description)

Comer (your textbook author) states that “since ancient times, people have tried to explain, treat, and study abnormal behavior. We have come a long way in achieving these goals, but we still have far to go. This chapter examines the most important perspectives in abnormal psychology, with an emphasis on the origins of illness, the factors that determine the course of symptoms, and treatment of abnormal functioning.”

You will be embarking on a journey that will challenge your understanding and your everyday opinions about abnormal behavior and psychopathology. By the end of the course, you will understand the field from a Psychologist’s point of view. To this end you will gain knowledge from an award-winning textbook and be asked to demonstrate your learning by way of answering important questions (Work2Do) related to the learning objectives for each chapter. To bring the material to life you will also view two videos per week (Work2Do) that relate to the topics about that you will be reading and writing. Additionally, you will have the opportunity in the course FORUM to comment on another interesting video, express your personal opinion, and then your expert opinion as though you were a Psychologist. Of course as in all academic endeavors, there will be a number of exams; however all of your accomplished work will contribute to your final grade for the semester. You will find all of the weekly assignments broken down and sessions, weeks, and dates in the ***Timeline tab***.

FYI: PLAGIARISM ISSUES

Please be careful to PARAPHRASE your answers, other than technical terms. All of your written work should be in your own voice and words unless you use quotation marks and cite your sources. Copying another’s words is plagiarism. Plagiarism will lead to an “F”.

If you are not certain what plagiarism is, go to:

<http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/plagiarismtutorial/>

WEBSTUDY: HOW TO

If you have not participated in a distance learning course, you should go to:

Go To: <http://www.ccp.edu/site/de/>

Once at the site, click on the various links which will familiarize you with WebStudy. Also, you can determine, in advance, if distance education best meets your learning style.

WHY IS MY PSYCHOLOGY 205 COURSE DIFFERENT THAN OTHER OTHERS?

First, this is an online distance teaching class that assumes that you are knowledgeable enough to work with your computer as the vehicle for learning as opposed to sitting in a classroom with face to face discussion.

To determine whether this is the correct mode of learning for you, go to

http://www.ccp.edu/site/de/self_asmt.php

and do a self-assessment. Additionally this course assumes that you are a self-starter, will stay motivated, do good time management and keep up with the work.

PROBLEMS WITH WEBSTUDY OR TECHNICAL ISSUES

If you have an issue with the content of the course or assignments then contact me immediately through your webstudy email access.

If you are having technical difficulties, then please contact Ms. Vaishali Sharma at vsharma@ccp.edu for other types of technical assistance, click on the link at the bottom of the WebStudy screen.

The WebStudy screen will provide you with information about your computer requirements, issues regarding AOL users, and link you to plug-ins for use in the course. You should examine the minimum requirements and have a good understanding of how the system works and an even better understanding of what you need for your computer skills.

THINGS TO DO

1-- GO TO SESSION #1: Click on the SYLLABUS COURSE DOCUMENT

PRINT OUT FOR YOUR RECORDS

READ THIS SYLLABUS AND REQUIREMENTS CAREFULLY

Contact me through WebStudy email if you have any questions.

2-- Readings:

FUNDAMENTALS OF ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY (6th Edition) By Ronald J. Comer, Worth Publishers

If you purchase a new copy of the book at the college bookstore, you will receive not only the textbook but also you will be paying for the access to the Video Toolkit. If you purchase a used copy of the textbook or an eBook, then you will have to purchase your access to the Video Tool Kit separately; you can do this through the textbook website link listed below.

3-- Register at the textbook website

Textbook Website: <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/comerfund6e>

When you register, be sure to make note of your passwords and to list my email address as your instructor.

4-- Register at the Video Toolkit site

It is important that you REGISTER at the Video Toolkit site also

When you register, be sure to make note of your passwords and to list my email address as your instructor.

5-- COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance When you sign in to the WebStudy site, your “attendance” is registered. You must sign in weekly to note the readings, Work2Do, Video assignments, and participate in the weekly Forum.

Weekly Deadlines

All WORK2DO “WHAT DID YOU LEARN” must be completed by 11:59pm THURSDAY.

ALL WORK2DO “VIDEO” AND FORUM MUST BE COMPLETE BY 11:59pm FRIDAY.

Yes, you can work ahead, but missing the weekly deadline will give you a “0” or equivalent of an “F” on the Work2Do assignments and Forum. There is no way to go back.

Hence, record of your “attendance” will be made through the online system. Participating in the forum, turning work in on schedule, and taking exams according to the time line are all recorded automatically. It is important to manage your time and stay on target.

EVERY ASSIGNMENT HAS A DUE DATE DEADLINE: IF YOU MISS THE DEADLINE, YOUR WORK CANNOT BE SUBMITTED.

6— PAY CAREFUL ATTENTION TO EXAM DEADLINES.

THE DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF EXAMS IS ON SUNDAY AT 11:59pm.

7-- Course Withdrawal You may drop the course at any time during the first 11 weeks of the semester. It is **your** responsibility to contact the Registrar's office to drop courses prior to the deadline.

The last date to drop courses without penalty of an "F" grade is:

Monday, April 9, 2012.

Support Services & Disability Accommodations If you have an issue regarding accommodations or studying/testing concerns or personal issues, please contact me immediately so that I can direct you to the appropriate college support services.

Studying Commitment Many individuals have the mistaken belief that a distance education course will be easier than an in-class face-to-face class. In actuality a distance course can be more daunting. There is just as much work, often more writing, and participation is a necessity. While you may believe that you can take the course at a leisurely pace, the truth is that you have to self-start and initiate the work on your own to complete the readings, assignments, forums, and examinations in a timely manner each week. It is easy to get behind if you procrastinate. YOU SHOULD set up a weekly schedule to get your work done. When you look over the Timeline Tab you will see the weekly work as well as the schedule of examinations. Plan your schedule and your commitment now.

8-- Go to Forum 1.1 now and follow the directions -- this will provide me with your agreement and demonstrate your understanding of the commitment to the course. If you do not do this, then you will be dropped from the course.

After you sign in and get to the forum you will be asked to do the following:

Introduce yourself to the class

Explain your time management plan for studying

Attest to your understanding of the syllabus, exams, Work2Do, Forum responses, and the grading for the course.