



North Central State College

MASTER SYLLABUS

2025-2026

- A. Academic Division: Liberal Arts
- B. Discipline: Psychology
- C. Course Number and Title: PSYC2050 Psychopathology
- D. Assistant Dean: Laura Irmer
- E. Credit Hours: 3
- F. Prerequisites: PSYC1010
- G. Last Course/Curriculum Revision Date: Spring 2025 Origin date: 11/13/2010
- H. Textbook(s) Title:
Open Education Resources (available for download or view)
Abnormal Psychology
- Authors: Lumen Learning
 - Copyright Year:
 - Edition:
 - ISBN: web version
 - OER Link: https://courses.lumenlearning.com/wm-abnormalpsych/?utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Flumenlearning.com%2Fcourses%2Fabnormal-psychology%2F
- I. Workbook(s) and/or Lab Manual: None
- J. Course Description: PSYC2050: Psychopathology provides an exploration of major categories of psychological disturbance using the current DSM as a basis. The course provides an empirical examination of etiology, prognosis, and treatment modalities.
- K. College-Wide Learning Outcomes:

College-Wide Learning Outcome	Assessments - - How it is met & When it is met
Communication – Written	Psychological Disorder Analysis at the end of the term
Communication – Speech	
Intercultural Knowledge and Competence	
Critical Thinking	
Information Literacy	
Computation	

L. Course Outcomes and Assessment Methods:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall:

Outcomes	Assessments – How it is met & When it is met
1. Describe and evaluate the historical and cultural viewpoints, as well as current theoretical views of psychological disorders.	At the beginning of the term through psychological disorder historical overview video reflection, discussion, and exams.
2. Compare and contrast the symptoms of psychological disorders with non-pathological behaviors.	Through writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts) and through exams at the beginning of the term when introducing and defining psychopathology and then regularly throughout the term to explore specific disorders and symptoms.
3. Describe the clinical picture and discuss clinical assessment of each of the major psychological disorders (e.g., anxiety, somatoform, mood, personality, and psychotic disorders, as well as addictions) using the current DSM for reference.	Weekly through writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts) and/or exams.
4. Evaluate the relevance of current and past research within clinical and counseling psychology.	Clinical research information provided throughout the course as different psychological disorders are explored. Assessed through exams, writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts), and through the Psychological Disorder Analysis due at the end of the term.
5. Distinguish myths and misconceptions from research evidence regarding psychological illness and therapy and apply research evidence to understanding of diagnosis, etiology, prognosis, and treatment of psychological disorders	Regularly throughout the term through exams, writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts), and through the Psychological Disorder Analysis due at the end of the term.
6. Evaluate ethical issues regarding treatment and current status of treatment resources	At the beginning of the term through psychological disorder historical overview video reflection, discussion, and exams. Regularly throughout the term through writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts) and/or exams as different disorders are covered.
7. Assess and critically analyze theories, research methods and findings (outcomes), and applications developed by psychologists and made available through academic and non-academic sources.	Through the Psychological Disorder Analysis due at the end of the term, which includes an APA format reference page.
8. Core Knowledge: Students will be able to explain the primary terminology, concepts, and findings in the field of psychopathology.	Regularly throughout the term through exams, writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts), and through the Psychological Disorder Analysis.
9. Theory: Students will be able to explain the primary theoretical approaches used in psychopathology.	Regularly throughout the term through exams, writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts), and through the Psychological Disorder Analysis due at the end of the term.

Outcomes	Assessments – How it is met & When it is met
10. Methodology: Students will be able to explain the primary quantitative and qualitative research methods used in psychopathology.	Regularly throughout the term through exams, writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts), and through the Psychological Disorder Analysis due at the end of the term.
11. Values: Students will be able to explain the primary ethical issues raised by the practice and findings in psychopathology.	At the beginning of the term through psychological disorder historical overview video reflection, discussion, and exams. Then, regularly throughout the term through exams and/or writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts).
12. Evidence: Students will be able to explain the range of relevant information sources in psychopathology.	Regularly throughout the term through exams, writing assignments (journals, reflections, or discussion prompts), and through the Psychological Disorder Analysis due at the end of the term.

M. Recommended Grading Scale:

NUMERIC	GRADE	POINTS	DEFINITION
93–100	A	4.00	Superior
90–92	A-	3.67	Superior
87–89	B+	3.33	Above Average
83–86	B	3.00	Above Average
80–82	B-	2.67	Above Average
77–79	C+	2.33	Average
73–76	C	2.00	Average
70–72	C-	1.67	Below Average
67–69	D+	1.33	Below Average
63–66	D	1.00	Below Average
60–62	D-	0.67	Poor
00–59	F	0.00	Failure

N. College Procedures/Policies:

North Central State College believes that every student is a valued and equal member of the community.* Every student brings different experiences to the College, and all are important in enriching academic life and developing greater understanding and appreciation of one another. Therefore, NC State College creates an inclusive culture in which students feel comfortable sharing their experiences.

Discrimination and prejudice have no place on the campus, and the College takes any complaint in this regard seriously. Students encountering aspects of the instruction that result in barriers to their sense of being included and respected should contact the instructor, assistant dean, or dean without fear of reprisal.

* *Inclusive of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin (ancestry), military status (past, present or future), disability, age (40 years or older), status as a parent during pregnancy and immediately after the birth of a child, status as a parent of a young child, status as a foster parent, genetic information, or sexual orientation*

Important information regarding College Procedures and Policies can be found on the syllabus supplement located at

<https://ncstatecollege.edu/documents/President/PoliciesProcedures/PolicyManual/Final%20PDFs/14-081b.pdf>



North Central State College
SYLLABUS ADDENDUM

Academic Division:	Liberal Arts	Discipline:	Psychology
Course Coordinator:	Dan McCool		
Course Number:	PSYC2050-920	Course Title:	Psychopathology
Semester / Session:	Spring 2026	Start / End Date:	1/12/2026 – 3/6/2026

Instructor Information

Name:	Dan McCool	Phone Number:	
		E-Mail Address:	dmccool@ncstatecollege.edu
Office Location:	Online	Student Hours:	3 Credits

I. Topical Timeline (Subject to Change):

Weeks	Topics
1	Course Overview, Understanding Abnormal Behavior
2	Research and Ethics in Abnormal Psychology, Etiology and Treatment of Mental Disorders
3	Anxiety Disorders, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and Stressor Related Disorders
4	Somatic Symptom Disorders and Dissociative Disorders, Mood Disorders
5	Eating and Sleep Disorders, Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders
6	Sexual Deviations and Dysfunctions, Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders
7	Personality Disorders, Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence
8	Neurocognitive Disorders

II. Course Assignments:

1. Assigned Readings
2. Class Activities
3. Written Assignments – A minimum of 3 written assignments will be given throughout the term. Students shall submit a total of at least 10 pages of written work in this course.
4. Exams – There will be a minimum of 4 exams during the semester. These exams will be of varying format which may include multiple choice, matching, short answer, and/or essay questions and will cover material from the text as well as from class lectures and discussions.

III. Grading and Testing Guidelines:

Evaluation Plan: Coursework will be weighted as follows:

Exams and paper:	Points	Date
Chapter Tests	700	
Final Paper	125	
Introduction	1	
Discussion Boards (3)	90	
Journal Discussions (2)	70	
Reflection	<u>30</u>	

IV. Examination Policy:

There will be exams given at the completion of each chapter. These exams will be primarily multiple choice. The due date for the exam is the Saturday which concludes the week the chapter is covered. Some weeks cover multiple chapters and will thus have more than one exam.

V. Class Attendance and Homework Make-Up Policy:

Students are expected to complete all assignments prior to the due date. Different assignments have different deductions for lateness. If not listed, then the assignment will receive a 10% penalty for each day it is late. For time sensitive assignments like discussions, there will be a 50% deduction for up to 24 hours late. After 24 hours late the discussion will not be accepted. Please be sure that you do not wait until the last minute to complete assignments due to the fact that outside elements occasionally act upon online classes.

VI. Classroom Expectations:

Since this is an online classroom, the only interaction between students will be on the discussion board. However, this interaction will be very often and we will be writing about matters which are both intimate and sensitive. Students and instructor are expected to respect the opinion of others and respond to comments with both courtesy and consideration. This does not mean you must always agree with everything people say. It simply means that we must disagree in a professional manner. I generally leave the discussion boards to the students apart from posting a discussion question, however, I do read all of the comments and will direct the discussion as needed and deemed necessary. **Please read the Discussion Board Grading Requirements pinned to the top of the discussion board forum.**

Psych 2050-920
Spring 2026
Assignment Sheet

Week	Topic	Assignment
#1 1/12	Course Overview Understanding Abnormal Behavior	Introductions on Discussion Board Discussion Board Grading Requirements Preparation Assignments
#2 1/19	Research and Ethics in Abnormal Psychology Etiology and Treatment of Mental Disorders	
#3 1/26	Anxiety Disorders Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and Stressor Related Disorders	
#4 2/2	Somatic Symptom Disorders and Dissociative Disorders Mood Disorders	
#5 2/9	Eating and Sleep Disorders Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders	
#6 2/16	Sexual Deviations and Dysfunctions Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders	
#7 2/23	Personality Disorders Final Paper--Mental Health Disorder Analysis	
#8 3/2	Disorders of Childhood and Adolescence Neurocognitive Disorders	

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