### **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

Academic School/Department: Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

**Programme:** Psychology

FHEQ Level: 5

Course Title: Psychopathology

Course Code: PSY 5405

Course Leader: Dr Ira Konstantinou

**Student Engagement Hours:** 120 Lectures: 45

Seminar / Tutorials:

Independent / Guided Learning: 75

Semester: Spring

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits

6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

## **Course Description:**

Combines lectures, case studies, and audiovisual sessions to introduce students to the field of clinical psychology, psychiatry, and mental health work. An examination of the symptoms and treatment options for a range of mental and emotional disorders, including anxiety, depression, mania, and the schizophrenias, raising a number of important issues for discussion. These include: cultural variations in the definition and diagnosis of disordered states; the social psychological problems of the move from asylums to community care; and criticisms of the medical model of abnormality.

Prerequisites: PSY 4210

## **Aims and Objectives:**

This course is designed to introduce students to the various pathologies outlined in the widely used Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders- Fourth Edition Test Revision (DSM-IV-TR). Students will gain knowledge of the symptoms associated with a variety of mental illnesses, and gain insight into how the diverse theories of personality explain the causes of these illnesses.

#### **Programme Outcomes**

5A.i, 5C.i, 5D.i

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at: https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Develop an understanding of the various aspects of abnormal behavior
- Evaluate the strengths and limitations of the various treatments for psychological disorders
- Develop an understanding of the evolution of psychological perspectives on mental illness and the changes in treatment approaches
- Establish an awareness of the cultural and societal influences on mental health and in diagnosis
- Recognize the interplay of biology, psychiatry, psychology, and other fields on the understanding of abnormal behaviors
- Conduct an accurate, informed, and influential literature review

#### **Indicative Content:**

- Abnormal Behavior Defined
- Models of Abnormal Behavior
- Assessment & Classification of Abnormal Behavior
- Case Studies
- Anxiety Disorders
- Dissociative Disorders & Somatoform Disorders
- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
- Personality Disorders
- Sexual & Identity Disorders
- Mood Disorders
- Suicide
- Schizophrenia
- Eating Disorders
- Legal & Ethical Issues in Mental Health

### Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

#### **Teaching Methodology:**

The course material will be covered in the following ways:

- I. Lecture presentations with the key concepts
- II. Videos or films with supplemental information
- III. Web activities
- IV. Open class discussions

## **Bibliography:**

See syllabus for complete reading list

١	Ind	icativ	e Text	(5)	١:
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Sue, S., Sue, D., & Sue, S. (9th Edition, 2009). Understanding Abnormal Behavior. (International Student Edition). Wadsworth.

#### Journals:

American Psychological Association Journals:

Journal of Abnormal Psychology

Journal of Consulting and Clinical

Psychology Journal of Counseling

Psychology

Psychotherapy: Theory, Research, Practice, Training

British Psychological Society Journals:

British Journal of Clinical

Psychology British Journal of Health

Psychology

Psychology and Psychotherapy: Theory, Research and Practice

#### Web Sites:

American Psychiatric Association (2000). Diagnostic and Statistical Manual IV-(TR), Arlington.

http://www.behavenet.com/capsules/disorders/dsm4TRclassification.htm

http://allpsych.com/disorders/disorders alpha.html

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disord

ers http://psyweb.com/Mdisord/DSM IV/jsp/dsm iv.jsp

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed	l at the time of	designing th	ıe
semester syllabus			

# Change Log for this CSD:

Major	Nature of Change	Date Approved &	Change
or		Approval Body	Actioned
Minor		(School or LTPC)	by
Change			Academic
?			Registry