

ISN202 Abnormal Psychology

Unit Description

The **Abnormal Psychology unit** will introduce students to concepts of normality, abnormality and mental illness alongside the methodologies used to study, describe and treat the major forms of psychopathology within legal, ethical and professional frameworks. Students will learn to demonstrate an understanding of the therapeutic processes presented in a variety of psychotherapy models by working through case studies associated with the major forms of psychopathologies and explore treatment options in terms of clinical efficacy. Students will be able to demonstrate an awareness of the advantages and limitations of the diagnostic and classification systems and develop the ability to discuss critical issues associated with professional and societal approaches to people experiencing mental illness.

Required Textbooks and Readings

Barlow & Durand (2016). *Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative Approach* (7th Ed.). Melbourne, Australia: Cengage

*Textbooks may be subject to change prior to the start of semester

Administrative Details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Core or Elective	Level	Unit Coordinator	Other Teaching Staff
Bachelor of Psychology	One semester	Core	Second year, Semester 1	TBA	TBA

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning outcomes for Unit	Assessment tasks		
	Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Demonstrate an awareness of the concepts of normality, abnormality and mental illness, and the methodologies used to study, describe and treat the major forms of psychopathology within legal, ethical and professional frameworks	Exam [60 item multiple choice items and 5 short answer test items]	Year 2, semester 1, week 14	40%
Demonstrate an understanding of the therapeutic processes presented in a variety of psychotherapy models applied to the major forms of psychopathology	Exam – see above		
Work through case studies associated with the major forms of psychopathologies in terms of etiology, assessment, and explore treatment options in terms of clinical efficacy	Written assignments [total = 1500 words]	Year 2, semester 1, weeks 5, 7, 9, 11	40%
Demonstrate an awareness of the advantages and limitations of diagnostic and classification systems	Written assignments – see above		

Learning outcomes for Unit	Assessment tasks		
	Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Develop the ability to discuss critical issues associated with professional and societal approaches to people experiencing mental illness	Tutorial activities (case material, debates, poster presentations)	Year 2, throughout semester 1	20%

Delivery mode

Face to face on site with E-learning (online) components;

Full-time or Part-time study

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

Pass or higher in all Year 1 units

Other Resource and Requirements

None

Unit weighting as a percentage of the year

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
12.5	400

Student workload

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4 (1x2 hour lecture; 1x1 hour face-face tutorial and 1x1 hour online activities)	6	10

**Unit outlines may be subject to change. The most up-to-date outlines will be provided to students once the semester commences.*