COURSE OUTLINE
Abnormal Psychology

Course Description
BS 212. Abnormal Psychology. 3 hours credit. Prerequisite: BS 160 with a C or better. This course will enable the student to explore the characteristics, causes, theories, and treatments of the major categories of psychological disorders based upon the classifications of the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM). The student will examine the legal and ethical issues in psychological treatment including clients’ rights, diagnosis, competence, and the provision of services.

Required Materials
For complete material(s) information, refer to https://bookstore.butlercc.edu

Butler-Assessed Outcomes
The intention is for the student to be able to
1. Differentiate between normal, unusual, and abnormal behaviors.
2. Identify characteristics and causes of psychological disorders.
3. Recognize theories and treatments of psychological disorders.
4. Summarize legal and ethical issues in psychological treatment including clients’ rights, diagnosis, competence, and the provision of services.

Learning PACT Skills that will be developed and documented in this course
Through involvement in this course, the student will develop ability in the following PACT skill area(s):

Personal Development Skills
• Interpersonal interaction – Through interactions with cohorts, peers, family, and community, the student will develop an understanding of and respect for psychological disorders.

Analytical Thinking Skills
• Critical thinking – By reading and discussing course material, the student will evaluate diagnostic criteria of psychological disorders.

Technological Skills
• General computer use – By utilizing electronic-facilitated research, the student will identify resources that will enhance understanding of psychological disorders.

Major Summative Assessment Task(s)
These Butler-assessed Outcomes and Learning PACT skills will be demonstrated by
1. Completing a research assignment (T skill) in which the student will evaluate the diagnostic criteria (A skill) and describe the dynamics of psychological disorders (P skill).

Skills or Competencies
These actions are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
1. Enhance computer and internet research skills.
2. Think analytically about the causes and treatments of psychological disorders.
3. Compare and contrasting criteria for different classifications of psychological disorders.
4. Discern the continuum of normal to abnormal behavior.

**Learning Units**
I. Foundations of abnormal psychology
   A. Characteristics of abnormal behavior
   B. Abnormal psychology: past and present
   C. Research methods in abnormal psychology
   D. Theoretical perspectives of abnormality
   E. Clinical assessment, diagnosis, and treatment
   F. Ethical and legal issues

II. Psychological disorders
   A. Neurodevelopmental disorders
   B. Schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders
   C. Bipolar and related disorders
   D. Depressive disorders
   E. Anxiety disorders
   F. Obsessive-compulsive and related disorders
   G. Trauma- and stressor-related disorders
   H. Dissociative disorders
   I. Somatic symptom and related disorders
   J. Eating disorders
   K. Sleep–wake disorders
   L. Sexual dysfunctions
   M. Gender dysphoria
   N. Disruptive, impulse-control, and conduct disorders
   O. Substance-related and addictive disorders
   P. Neurocognitive disorders
   Q. Paraphilic disorders
   R. Personality disorders

**Learning Activities**
Learning activities will be assigned to assist the student to achieve the intended learning outcome(s) through lecture, instructor-led class discussion, guest speakers, group activities, drills/skill practice, discussion forums, case studies, and other activities at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be required to examine professional journals in this course. These activities may be either face-to-face or online.

**Grade Determination**
The student will be graded on learning activities and assessment tasks. Grade determinants may include the following: daily work, quizzes, chapter or unit tests,
comprehensive examinations, projects, presentations, class participation, discussion forums, case studies, and other methods of evaluation at the discretion of the instructor.