Carson-Newman University  
COUN 586: Study of Abnormal Behavior, DSM and Psychopathology  
Course Syllabus

Course Instructor:  
Email address:  
Office Hours:  
Phone:  

Credit:  
Three (3) semester hours graduate

Required Texts:  


Recommended Text:  


Additional Peer Reviewed Journal Readings:  


Strong recommendations for further readings and professional activities:  
Use materials and resources found in ACA and APA publications.
Consider student membership in area (SMCA), state (TCA), and national (ACA) professional counseling organizations representing your area of emphasis and attend meetings when possible.

Participate in professional development activities for counselors.

**Methods of Instruction:**
This course will include lecture, class discussion, multimedia, film viewing, small group activities, role-playing exercises; supervised counseling practice, and, demonstrations of counseling techniques. Small-group activities will facilitate acquisition of counseling skills.

**C-N Catalog Course Description:**
This course provides students with knowledge of the description, etiology, development, dynamics, and treatment of individuals with a spectrum of mental health disorders from sub-diagnostic criteria to diagnosed pathology. Emphasis will be on classification systems currently used in clinical settings and treatment alternatives from a counseling perspective. The *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM, V)* will be the focus of course content. Ethical and diversity issues related to diagnosis and treatment of individuals with abnormal behavior and psychopathological tendencies will be explored.

**Overall course objectives:**

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<tr>
<th>Course Objectives</th>
<th>CACREP</th>
<th>Eval</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KNOWLEDGE:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop awareness of professional issues that affect clinical mental health counselors (e.g., core provider status, expert witness status, access to and practice privileges within managed care systems).</td>
<td>CMHC-A.7</td>
<td>2, 3, 4, 5</td>
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<td>Develop understanding of the management of mental health services and programs, including areas such as administration, finance, and accountability.</td>
<td>CMHC-A.8</td>
<td>2, 3, 4, 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gain knowledge of the principles of the diagnostic process, including differential diagnosis, and the use of current diagnostic tools, such as the current edition of the <em>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)</em>.</td>
<td>CMHC-K.1</td>
<td>2, 3, 4, 5</td>
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<td>Develop understanding of the established diagnostic criteria for mental and emotional disorders, and describes treatment modalities and placement criteria within the continuum of care.</td>
<td>CMHC-K.2</td>
<td>2, 3, 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gain knowledge of the impact of co-occurring substance use disorders on medical and psychological disorders.</td>
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<td>1, 4, 5</td>
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<td><strong>SKILL and PRACTICE:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate appropriate use of diagnostic tools, including the current edition of the DSM, to describe the symptoms and clinical presentation of clients with mental and emotional impairments.</td>
<td>CMHC-L.1</td>
<td>2, 3, 5</td>
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<td>Demonstrate ability to conceptualize an accurate diagnosis of disorders presented by a client and discuss the differential diagnosis with collaborating professionals.</td>
<td>CMHC-L.2</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Differentiates between diagnosis and developmentally appropriate reactions during crises, disasters, and other trauma-causing events.</td>
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<td>2, 3, 5</td>
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Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:

Evaluation methods:
The Instructor will use the following criteria to evaluate student’s progress in meeting course objectives.

- Examinations
- Class Participation
- Development of Case Studies
- Assessment treatment of Case Studies
- Poster Presentation of Addiction and Psychopathology

Grade Scale:
Grades will be assigned on the basis of the following percentages:

- 90% - 100%  A
- 80% - 89%   B
- 70% - 79%   C
- Below 70%   F

Course Assignments
All work needs to be formatted according to APA style. Assignments are to be turned in at the start of class on the assigned due date. Late assignments will be accepted with the understanding that 5 points will be deducted for each day late, including the weekends.

1. Assignment (Diagnosis & Substance use/abuse) 100 points
   For the first assignment you will identify a diagnosis which interests you from the list provided during class. Each student must research a different pathology. You will research the pathology among different populations, different genetic and environmental factors and specifically how this particular population’s use of substances impacts the prognosis of the disorder. A minimum of a 10 page research paper will be composed with special attention to the impact of substance use and abuse among this population. You will present this paper as a “Poster Presentation” mid-semester.

2. Assignment (Diagnostic vs Sub-Diagnostic Criteria) 100 points
   For this assignment you will develop two comprehensive case studies. Each will include medical, environmental, situational issues. Each of these cases will present characteristics of a particular disorder characterized by the DSM V. The differentiation of the two cases will be that one will demonstrate behaviors/cognitions as a result of a situational (crisis), medical or environmental issue. The other will meet the criteria for diagnosis in the DSM. These case studies will be exchanged and differentiated by classmates.

3. Assignment (Case Study Analysis and Treatment Course) 100 points
   You will receive a case study developed by a peer, and complete the following
   1. Identify which case meets diagnostic criteria & which is sub diagnostic
2. Identify a course of treatment for the individual who meets diagnostic criteria.
3. This will be completed during class.

4. Class Participation, 100 points
   Class participation will include both online and in class discussions. In order to receive full class participation credit, you must demonstrate knowledge (through readings/ppts/videos etc.) as well as synthesis of knowledge of particular diagnoses as they pertain to the DSM V.

5. Final Exam (100 points).
   The final exam will encompass the details of all disorders reviewed throughout the course.

Your score will be based out of 500 points total.

Course Policies

Code of Ethical Behavior
The standards of ethical behavior established in the American Counseling Association (ACA) code of ethics will be adhered to by each student, within the context of the course. All participants in this course will be held accountable for knowing and following the Ethical Guidelines presented in the textbook as well as ASCA and ACA.

Course Format
Class sessions will include presentations by the instructor, informed discussions by class members, small group assignments, and experiential activities as well as peer supervision. This class will utilize a variety of instructional methods, including lecture, individual and group work, audio/visual materials, demonstrations and experiential role plays. These instructional methods will utilize both online and face to face class meetings to meet course objectives.

Attendance
Attendance at all class meetings is expected and is of the utmost importance in a class of this nature. Attendance is measured by full participation throughout the entire week of an online course, as well as student presence in all of the on-site meetings.

Participation
Student participation and interaction will be a major focus of this class. Active participation in all discussions/activities is expected and necessary for successful completion of the course. Preparation for class should include both reflection upon assigned reading and reflecting on the material.

Technology
Use of cell phones/computers/other electronic devices is PROHIBITED during the class residency requirement.

Late/Incomplete Assignments
Expectations of graduate students within the context of a master’s program are that all assignments are completed within the time established in the syllabus. An inability to complete these assignments within the period allotted will result in loss of credit. If you foresee an inability to complete an assignment within the give time, you need to speak with me PRIOR to the due date of the assignment.

**Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Week of</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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