I. Locator Information
Instructor: Laura D. Coyle, Ph.D.
Office Location: Nursing Education and Research Center, Room 227
Course # and Name: PSYC 422; Abnormal Psychology
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00-2:00
Semester Credit Hours: 3
Day and Time Class Meets: Online
Total Contact Hours: Variable
E-mail Address: lcoyle@uncfsu.edu; Email to set-up phone consultation

FSU Policy on Electronic Mail
Fayetteville State University provides to each student, free of charge, an electronic mail account (username@uncfsu.edu) that is easily accessible via the Internet. The university has established FSU email as the primary mode of correspondence between university officials and enrolled students. Inquiries and requests from students pertaining to academic records, grades, bills, financial aid, and other matters of a confidential nature must be submitted via FSU email. Inquiries and requests from personal email accounts are not assured a response. The university maintains open-use computer laboratories throughout the campus that can be used to access electronic mail. Rules and regulations governing the use of email may be found at: http://www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf

II. Course Description
A survey of disturbances of personality and behavior and of the major viewpoints regarding causes, prevention, and treatment. Prerequisite: PSYC 210 or consent of the instructor.

III. Disabled Student Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability please contact the Center for Personal Development in the Spaulding Building, Room 155 (1st Floor); 910-672-1203.

IV. Title IX – Sexual Misconduct
Fayetteville State University (University) is committed to fostering a safe campus environment where sexual misconduct — including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking - is unacceptable and is not tolerated. The University encourages students who may have experienced sexual misconduct to speak
with someone at the University so that the University can provide the support that is needed and respond appropriately. The Sexual Misconduct policy can be found at the following link:  
http://www.uncfsu.edu/Documents/Policy/students/SexualMisconduct.pdf

**Consulting with a Health Care Professional** - A student who wishes to confidentially speak about an incident of sexual misconduct should contact either of the following individuals who are required to maintain confidentiality:

Ms. Pamela C. Fisher  
Licensed Professional Counselor  
Spaulding Building, Room 165  
(910) 672-1387  
psmith@uncfsu.edu

Ms. Linda Melvin  
Director, Student Health Services  
Spaulding Building, Room 121  
(910) 672-1454  
lmelvi10@uncfsu.edu

**Reporting an Incident of Sexual Misconduct** - The University encourages students to report incidents of sexual misconduct. A student who wishes to report sexual misconduct or has questions about University policies and procedures regarding sexual misconduct should contact the following individual:

Ms. Victoria Ratliff  
Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Students  
Spaulding Building, Room 155  
(910) 672-1222  
vratliff@uncfsu.edu

V. Required Textbook

VI. Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and describe core content knowledge relevant to the etiology, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of psychological disorders.
2. Relate theory, research, methodology, and assessment findings to the examination of psychopathology.
3. Collaboratively discuss and personally reflect upon cultural, cross-cultural, historical, diversity, gender, socio-economic, age, health status, familial, interpersonal and intrapersonal aspects of psychopathology.
4. Compare, contrast, and reflect upon basic and underlying assumptions and values that shape and influence clinical decision making and behavior of mental health professionals.

VIII. Course Requirements and Evaluation Criteria
a. **Grading Scale**
   - A = 90%-100%
   - B = 80%-89%
   - C = 70%-79%
   - D = 64%-69%
   - F = Below 63%

b. **Attendance Requirements** - It is expected that students will log in and participate weekly in activities, discussions, and/or quizzes. Late discussion boards WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Consider timely discussion board participation as synonymous with class attendance. In an on campus class, an absence cannot be made up; neither can discussion board participation in an online course, as the discussion is no longer active after its due date.

c. **Graded Assignments**
   a. **Discussion Boards**: Students will participate in discussion boards through Blackboard. Participation cannot be made up once the Discussion Board has closed. Please note: All responses (including your response to others’ posts) should be well thought out with breadth and depth (at least one full paragraph). For each post, you are expected to first post your own thoughts and then to provide an in-depth response to at least one classmate.

   b. **Diagnostic Evaluation Paper**: You will write a diagnostic evaluation of a fictional character from a well-known movie, book, or television program that has a diagnosis covered in the class. Please write the paper in narrative format, using complete sentences, NOT bullet points. An outline will be provided on Blackboard; **please label each section of the paper as the outlines suggests and address all of the information in the outline**. The paper must conform to APA standards in terms of citations, references, and formatting (though no abstract is needed). Papers should be 5-7 pages. It is up to you to choose a case with enough complexity to fulfill the length requirement. All citations must be fully referenced. Do not reference what you did not cite. Please refer to the current edition of the American Psychological Association Publication Manual for further information on APA citations.
   
   i. There is a lot of information on the internet to help you choose a case, for example:
      

   ii. **Paper Submission Guidelines**: Papers must be submitted in Microsoft Word format through Turnitin on Blackboard. Turnitin will assign a *similarity score* to your paper if the content is too similar to published documents or other student papers. You will lose 1 percentage point from your grade on the paper for every 1 percentage point beyond 10%. Papers with similarity scores that exceed 30% will not be awarded any points and a phone meeting
with the instructor will be required. If your paper’s similarity score is beyond 20% you are advised to contact the instructor to discuss strategies to reduce this score in the future. Plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in at least an automatic “F” for the assignment (also see FSU regulations). Papers must be turned in on or before the due date unless negotiated otherwise with the professor BEFORE THE DUE DATE. If an unforeseen circumstance arises, please inform the instructor as soon as possible. Otherwise, NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

c. **Exams:** There will be four multiple-choice timed tests to be administered on Blackboard. Students will have several days to complete each test, but once the test is started it must be completed in one sitting. No make-up exams will be given except in case of an extreme emergency as determined by the instructor. In the event of such a circumstance, please contact the instructor AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. You are advised to have a back-up plan in the event that your internet connectivity becomes interrupted, as being unable to connect to the internet is not a valid reason for missing a test. Cheating on an exam or quiz may lead to failure in the course. You are not permitted to work with other students on the tests. Please see the “tests” section on Blackboard for the exact dates of each exam.

d. **Integrity:** The 2014-2015 FSU Undergraduate Catalog states, “Acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct. Such acts include cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation, fabrication of information, and abetting any of the above. Plagiarism in particular presents pitfalls to be avoided: failure to document any words, ideas, or other contributions that do not originate with the author constitutes plagiarism. Widespread use of the World Wide Web (Internet) requires particular attention to proper documentation practices.”

e. **Grading System:** Please note that you cannot calculate your grade in this course by totaling the number of points you earned over the total points, as assignments are weighted based on what percentage of the total grade they are worth. The instructor uses this system so that all assignments are out of 100 points which allows students to understand their performance on each assignment more readily.
   i. Discussion Boards = 30% (3% each)
   ii. Final Paper (diagnostic evaluation) = 10%
   iii. Exam I = 15%
   iv. Exam II = 15%
   v. Exam III = 15%
   vi. Exam IV = 15%
Please note: If these evaluation criteria must be revised because of extraordinary circumstances, the instructor will distribute a written amendment to the syllabus.

IX. Academic Support Resources
   a. **SMARTHINKING**: provides live academic help from real people when you need it, how you need it, from people you can trust. SMARTHINKING can be accessed through Blackboard by clicking on “tools”.
   b. **University College Learning Center**: Visit their website to learn more about the vast array of resources available to you! [http://www.uncfsu.edu/learningcenter/](http://www.uncfsu.edu/learningcenter/)

X. Course Outline and Assignment Schedule: Please see separate Word document posted to Blackboard.

XI. Teaching Strategies
Instructional strategies expected to be utilized in this online learning environment include, but are not limited to, discussion forums, self-directed Learning, and written feedback from instructor.

XII. Bibliography: (additional resources and readings)

Additional Suggested Readings for Specific Disorders:
- An Unquiet Mind by Kay Redfield Jamison – Bipolar Disorder
- Darkness Visible by William Styron – Major Depression
- First Person Plural by Cameron West – Dissociative Identity Disorder
- The Eden Express by Mark Vonnegut – Schizophrenia
- The Quiet Room by Lori Schiller – Schizoaffective Disorder
- The Day the Voices Stopped by Ken Steele – Schizophrenia
- Permanent Midnight by Jerry Stahl – Substance Abuse
- Rewind, Replay, Repeat by Jeff Bell – OCD

**Note: Instructor reserves the right to amend the syllabus and schedule if needed during the semester. Notice will be given to students. **