Course Description:
This course presents an introduction to the study, diagnosis, and treatment of pathological and maladaptive behaviors. It begins by asking the question, what is “normal” psychology? From here, students will explore the advantages and disadvantages of classification as they become familiar with the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-V). Both categorical and dimensional conceptualizations of mental health will be reviewed, and diverse theoretical perspectives, scientific research, and socio-cultural considerations will be included when possible. Students will gain basic understanding of several current diagnostic domains, including: anxiety and mood disorders, psychosis and schizophrenia, personality disorders, addiction and eating disorders, and neurodevelopmental disorders. Because this is an accelerated course, students will be expected to do a fair amount of work outside of class, and will be accountable for completed work at every class meeting.

Course Learning Objectives:
1) Students will be able to demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts and empirical findings in the field of the abnormal psychology through written assignments, class participation, and weekly exams. [PLO 1]*
2) Students will demonstrate and apply critical thinking regarding the nature of classification of human experience, and will consider the benefits and limitations of the application of the scientific approach in mental health and illness. [PLO 3]
3) Students will demonstrate empathy, tolerance of ambiguity, and ethical behavior in discussion of mental health and illness and in consideration of self and other experiences. [PLO 5]

* “PLOs” refers to the 'Psychology Program Learning Outcomes' which can be found in the catalog.

Required Course Texts:
*prior editions (within the last few years) are acceptable

Additional readings will be handed out or posted to the NDNU student portal
Evaluation Guidelines

**Attendance** Students are expected to arrive on time. Because this is an accelerated course, more than one absence or repeated lateness to class will result in the student being dropped from and/or receiving an “F” in the course. If you need to miss a class, email the instructor and notify her ahead of time. It is your responsibility to get copies of notes, handouts, or assignments that were given during your absence.

**Participation:** Your participation is essential for your comprehension of the material and demonstration of student learning. We learn best from playing with ideas, and student participation also contributes to individual and group learning. Verbal and non-verbal forms of participation are valued. Successful participation includes engaging in professional behavior, coming prepared to class, completing required reading, and bringing course material (e.g. syllabus, reading, handouts, etc.) to class. If you feel uncomfortable verbally participating in class, please arrange to meet with the instructor and she will arrange alternative assignments by which you may demonstrate your learning.

**Class Assignments:**
1. **Weekly Quizzes**
   There will be a short multiple choice/short answer quiz every week based on assigned reading.

2. **Take-Home Exam**
   Take home final exam due last day of class.

3. **Class Participation**
   As part of the class participation grade, students will be asked to work in small groups to think through, discuss, and present (to the larger class) assigned vignettes.

**Average Student Workload Expectations:** Students are expected to engage in 45 hours of learning for every semester unit earned. In a three-unit intensive course, this means a total of 135 hours. Class time consists of approximately 30 hours, which means students will be expected to engage in 105 hours of out-of-class homework over the term. Course assignments are made in accordance with this expectation. **Including weeks we don't meet as a class, you should be averaging about 15 hours of out-of-class work a week.**

Workload Distribution:
- Hours in Class: 30
- Readings: 40
- Exam Preparation: 35
  (final and weekly exams)
**Grading:** Your course grade will be based on the total number of points you earn out of a possible 150 points. Course activities include weekly exams, class attendance/participation, and a final exam.

- **Weekly Exams:** 50 points (10 points each)
- **Final Exam:** 50 points
- **Class attendance and “informed” participation:** 50 points

**Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:** Academic honesty is a cornerstone of NDNU values. Unless you are directly quoting an author and referencing his or her work, you must use your own words to express your ideas. If any of the ideas used in an assignment do not represent your original ideas, you must cite all relevant sources and make clear the extent to which such sources were used. Words or ideas that require citation include, but are not limited to, all hard copy or electronic publications, whether copyrighted or not, and all verbal or visual communication when the content of such communication clearly originates from an identifiable source. Consult the NDNU Student Handbook regarding the consequences of misrepresenting your work.

**Disability Resources:** If you have a learning disability or other condition or circumstance that may affect your work in this class, please bring it to the instructor's attention as soon as possible so that appropriate adjustments can be made. The Tutorial Center and the Writing Center (CC) are important resources for giving and receiving help. Please contact Dr. Peggy Koshland Crane at (650) 508-3670 or mcrane@ndnu.edu for further information. Instructors do not give accommodations to students. Students who require an accommodation must make an appointment with the Academic Success Center.

**Student Athletes:** If you are a student athlete, you are required to keep your instructor informed of any conflicts between your games (home and away) and class attendance and assignments. Please speak with your instructor at the beginning of the semester if this applies to you and make sure that you give her the completed forms in a timely manner.
COURSE OUTLINE

10/30/2014
Week 1: Introduction to Abnormal Psychology: What is “normal” and “abnormal” psychology?

Reading (to be completed by class meeting):
Abnormal Psych Text (A.P.) chapters 1, 2, & 3

11/06/2014
Week 2: Stress & Trauma; Panic, Anxiety, and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

Reading:
A.P. chapter 6

11/13/2014
Week 3: Mood Disorders and Suicide

Reading:
A.P. chapter 7

11/20/2014
Week 4: Schizophrenia and other Psychotic Disorders

Reading:
A.P. chapter 13

11/27/2014
Week 5: Thanksgiving Holiday
TAKE HOME EXAM POSTED

Reading: Catch up/get ahead on reading

12/04/2013
Week 6: Personality Disorders, Addiction, and Eating Disorders

Reading:
A.P. chapter 9, 10, 11

12/11/2014
Week 7: Neurocognitive and Neurodevelopmental Disorders
A.P. chapter 14 and 15