

**SOFIA UNIVERSITY ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL, EXPERIMENTAL, AND
DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY
CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES**

ASSOC. PROF. LUDMILLA ANDREEVA, PH.D.

**ABNORMAL
PSYCHOLOGY**

**A distance-learning
course**

Duration: 15 weeks



The course takes a scientist-practitioner approach and emphasizes the rich blend of both the science and practice of abnormal psychology throughout the text. The developmental trajectory of each condition is discussed where appropriate and scientific findings with respect to race and gender are incorporated into discussions about each condition. Biological findings are integrated with findings from social and behavioral sciences, highlighting the complexity of abnormal behavior and how it is often influenced by a wide range of variables. Learners are encouraged to look at psychological disorders along a continuum and analyze disorders in terms of whether the individual's behavior creates distress or impairs daily functioning. An effort is made to “bring to life” the nature of these conditions by providing vivid clinical descriptions.



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1. ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY: HISTORICAL AND MODERN PERSPECTIVES

Normal vs. Abnormal Behavior. The History of Abnormal Behavior and Its Treatment. Current Views of Abnormal Behavior and Treatment.

2. RESEARCH METHODS IN ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

Ethics and Responsibility in Research. Research in Abnormal Psychology at the Cellular Level. Research in Abnormal Psychology at the Individual Level. Research in Abnormal Psychology at the Group Level. Research in Abnormal Psychology at the Population Level.

3. ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS

Goals of Assessment. Properties of Assessment Instruments. Assessment Instruments. Behavioral and Physiological Assessment. Diagnosis and Classification.

4. ANXIETY, TRAUMA- AND STRESSOR-RELATED DISORDERS

What is Anxiety? What Are the Anxiety Disorders? The Etiology of Anxiety Disorders. What Are the Trauma- and Stressor-Related Disorders? The Etiology of Anxiety and Trauma and Stressor-Related Disorders. The Treatment of Anxiety and Trauma and Stressor-Related Disorders.

5. OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE AND IMPULSE CONTROL DISORDERS

What Is Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder? What Are Obsessive-Compulsive Related Disorders (OCDs)? What Are Impulse Control Disorders? Etiology of Obsessive-Compulsive and Impulse Control Disorders. Treatment of Obsessive-Compulsive and Impulse Control Disorders.

6. SOMATIC SYMPTOM AND DISSOCIATIVE DISORDERS

Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders. Dissociative Disorders. Malingering.

7. BIPOLAR AND DEPRESSIVE DISORDERS

Bipolar and Related Disorders. Depressive Disorders. Suicide. The Etiology of Bipolar and Depressive Disorders. The Treatment of Bipolar and Depressive Disorders.

8. FEEDING AND EATING DISORDERS

Anorexia Nervosa. Bulimia Nervosa. Binge-Eating Disorder. Feeding and Eating Disorders Often Seen in Childhood. Epidemiology, Sex, Race, Ethnicity, and Developmental Factors in Eating Disorders. The Etiology of Eating Disorders. The Treatment of Eating Disorders.

9. GENDER DYSPHORIA, SEXUAL DYSFUNCTIONS, AND PARAPHILIC DISORDERS

Human Sexuality. Gender Dysphoria. Sexual Dysfunctions. Paraphilic Disorders.

10. SUBSTANCE-RELATED AND ADDICTIVE DISORDERS

Substance-Related Disorders. Commonly Used "Licit" Drugs. Illicit Drugs and Non-Substance-Related Disorders. Etiology of Substance-Related Disorders. Treatment of Substance Use Disorders.

11. SCHIZOPHRENIA SPECTRUM AND OTHER PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS

Psychotic Disorders. Etiology of Schizophrenia. Treatment of Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders.



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- presenting data gathered outside of acceptable professorial guidelines; failing to provide an accurate account of how information, data or citations were gathered; altering documents affecting academic records; forging signatures or authorizing false information on an official academic document, grade, letter, form or any other university document.
- **Plagiarism:** Submitting material that in part or whole is not one's own work; submitting one's own work without properly attributing the correct sources of its content.
 - **Multiple Submissions:** Submitting identical papers or course work for credit in more than one course without prior permission of the instructor.
- A breach of ethics or act of dishonesty can result in:
- failure of an entire course (blatant plagiarism, cheating on a test or quiz);
 - academic suspension or expulsion from the university.

12. PERSONALITY DISORDERS

Defining Personality Disorders. Personality Disorder Clusters. Etiology of Personality Disorders. Treatment of Personality Disorders.

13. NEURODEVELOPMENTAL, DISRUPTIVE, CONDUCT, AND ELIMINATION DISORDERS

Intellectual Disability (Intellectual Developmental Disorder). Specific Learning Disorders. Autism Spectrum Disorder. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Conduct Disorder and Oppositional Defiant Disorder. Elimination Disorders.

14. AGING AND NEUROCOGNITIVE DISORDERS

Symptoms and Disorders of Aging. Depression and Bipolar Disorder. Anxiety Disorders. Substance-Related Disorders and Psychosis. Neurocognitive Disorders.

15. ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY: LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES

Law, Ethics, and Issues of Treatment. Privacy, Confidentiality, and Privilege in Abnormal Psychology. Licensing, Malpractice Issues, and Prescription Privileges. Research and Clinical Trials.

References

Beidel, D.C., Bulik, C.M., & Stanley, M.A. (2017). *Abnormal Psychology* (4th ed.). New York, NY: Pearson.

Standards of Academic Integrity

Generally, academic fraud and dishonesty include, but are not limited to the following categories: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, multiple submissions, etc.

- **Cheating:** Using unauthorized notes, aids or information on an examination; altering a graded work prior to its return to a faculty member, allowing another person to do one's own work and submitting it for grading.

- **Fabrication:** Inventing or falsifying information, data or citation; presenting data gathered outside of acceptable professorial guidelines; failing to provide an accurate account of how information, data or citations were gathered; altering documents affecting academic records; forging signatures or authorizing false information on an official academic document, grade, letter, form or any other university document.

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