

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for PSYC 15

ABNORMAL CHILD PSYCHOLOGY

Effective: Spring 2018

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

PSYC 15 — ABNORMAL CHILD PSYCHOLOGY — 3.00 units

An exploration of the emotional, cognitive, developmental, and behavioral problems of childhood and adolescence. Topics include: common stresses and problems of adjustment; the effects of stress, abuse, and traumas on development; intellectual disability, autistic spectrum disorder, and other developmental disabilities; normal and abnormal problems of attention, conduct, mood, anxiety, sleep, eating, sex, learning and speech. Examination of the causes of mental health problems in children and adolescents and approaches to treatment. Students who have completed or are enrolled in Early Childhood Development 15 may not receive credit.

3.00 Units Lecture

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

- Child Development/Early Childhood Education or
- Psychology

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	54.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. describe contemporary methods used in the evaluation, assessment, and diagnosis of children and adolescents
- B. summarize the differences between normal problems of development and the mental health disorders of childhood and adolescence
- C. explain the major mental health disorders of childhood and adolescence
- D. explain the major cognitive and learning disorders of childhood and adolescence
- E. compare and contrast the major psychological, biological, and sociocultural models of mental health
- F. critically evaluate contemporary methods of treatment of disorders
- G. discuss the influence of cultural contexts as it relates to the perception, diagnosis and treatment of childhood problems

V. CONTENT:

- A. Developmental Perspective
 1. Normal Development
 2. Developmental Psychopathology
- B. Theories and Paradigms
 1. Biological
 2. Psychological
 3. Sociocultural
- C. Classification and Treatment
 1. Classification and Diagnosis using DSM-V
 2. Assessment
 3. Treatment
- D. Anxiety Disorders
- E. Mood Disorders
- F. Conduct Disorders
- G. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- H. Intellectual Disabilities
- I. Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- J. Disorders of Basic Physical Functions
- K. Contemporary Issues in Mental Health Care for Children and Adolescents
 1. Cultural Issues and Cultural Competence
 2. Trends and Controversies
 3. Prevention and Advocacy

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** -
- B. **Classroom Activity** - Group and paired activities
- C. **Individualized Instruction** - Individual problem-solving assignments and activities
- D. **Discussion** -
- E. **Audio-visual Activity** - Videos accompanied with worksheets

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Chapter Quizzes
- B. Writing Assignment:
 - 1. Opinion Papers
 - 2. Critical Analyses
- C. Essay Exams
- D. Semester Project

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Exams/Tests
- 2. Papers
- 3. Projects
- 4. Home Work

B. **Frequency**

- 1. Minimum of one midterm and one final examination
- 2. Minimum of two papers
- 3. Minimum of one research project
- 4. Weekly homework

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Mash, Eric, and David Wolfe. *Abnormal Child Psychology*. 6th ed., Wadsworth Publishing, 2015.
- 2. Kearney, Christopher. *Casebook in Child Behavior Disorders*. 5th ed., Wadsworth Publishing, 2016.
- 3. Wicks-Nelson, Rita, and Allen Israel. *Abnormal Child and Adolescent Psychology*. 8th ed., Pearson, 2012.
- 4. Instructor generated collection of readings

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: