



## Psychopathology PSY4600

### I. Instructor and Course

**Instructor:** Drew Mikita, M. Ed., L.P.C.

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**Phone:** 970.453.6757 ext. 2616 Cell Phone: 970.333.9622 (Include name and class in texts)

**Office Hours:** Before and after class meetings and by appointment

**Course Title:** Psychopathology

**Course Code:** PSY4600

**Credits:** 3

**Semester:** Spring 2024

**Location:** Breckenridge Campus

**Meeting Days & Times:** 3:10-5:50pm Tuesday

**Format:** Remote Real Time (Via zoom)

**Start Date:** 1/16/2024

**End Date:** 4/30/2024

**Refund Date:** 1/31/2024

**Withdraw Date:** 4/8/2024

**No Show Attendance Reporting Date:** 1/31/2024

No Show Attendance Reporting is based on your attendance and engagement. If you never show up to class, you may be dropped from the course, and this may impact your financial aid. Go to the [No Show Attendance Reporting webpage](#) for more information.

### Required Course Materials

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition,  
Text Revision (DSM-5-TR)

By American Psychiatric Association

ISBN:

9780890425763

For all courses that are included in the [Learning Materials Program](#), all required physical and digital course materials are automatically provided to you by the all-inclusive [Learning Materials Program \(LMP\)](#) at a per credit fee. In order to receive these materials, students must verify their physical shipping address prior to the start of the semester. [Address can be verified by accessing the LMP website](#), failure to verify address will result in delayed delivery of materials. If you have any questions contact

the LMP customer service team at 1-844-523-9056 or [submit a request](#) for expedited service.

What to do if you drop a course? If you have already received the book(s), or they have been shipped, you are responsible for retrieving/returning the books within 7 days of dropping the course. Holding onto provided materials for the entire term will result in extra LMP fees. Refer to our [instructions](#) on how to return your books. Digital books are automatically returned. **Please note:** All books, even workbooks, must be returned if you drop a class. At the conclusion of the semester, students are responsible for returning materials provided by the LMP on or before the posted deadline either to their local campus or by [generating a free shipping label through the LMP](#). Failure to return materials will result in late fees being assessed to your account.

## II. Course Description

Explores relevant theory and research on the etiology and treatment of psychological disorders. Students are encouraged to critically evaluate the role of neurobiology, culture, social context, nature, causes, treatment and prevention of patterns of psychopathology (clinical disorders) primarily in adults.

## III. Evaluation Methods

Attendance and participation are expected and necessary to pass this course. It is understood that any number of planned or unplanned factors may arise which make it impossible for you to attend class. For this reason, you have two total absences (school sanctioned or other) for which you will be allowed to make up any missed work with no penalties. However, make up work must be fully submitted prior to the next class you attend or no points will be awarded for the missed assignment/s. It is the student's responsibility to schedule any make-up work with the instructor. No Attendance or Participation points will be given for a class from which you are absent.

- a. Other than extreme extenuating circumstances outside of your control, for which you must provide requested verifiable documentation to the instructor or a College Counselor, no additional absences or late work will be allowed.
- b. With any more absences, you will have missed too much class content and will automatically fail the course; no matter your overall grade.
- c. Coming to class late or leaving early will be counted as a full absence.

### Assessments and Assignments

- **Participation in all discussions/classes (100 Points total)** You are expected to attend every class meeting in-person and engage in discussions. Your participation in this class is mandatory, not communicating, being disrespectful, or inappropriate behavior will result in a reduction of points. Your opinion

matters, please share in class! Your grade can go above 100 points or below 0.

- **Research, Reflect and Share (30 points, 5 for submitting link and 25 for sharing with the class)** Find a resource (podcast, article, video, book, interview, etc.) regarding a specific topic, you will submit the link in Canvas and then share what you learned with the class. When sharing with the class, give an overview of the resource, any significant information, relevant details, what you learned, how to apply this to life, etc. Check each research and share assigned in the modules for specific requirements as they may vary.
  - **Research, Reflect, and Share (History of Mental Health, Illness, and Wellness)**
  - **Research, Reflect, and Share (Thriving with a mental illness)**
  - **More to come!**
- **Reflections (25 Points Each, can vary though).** These reflections are on the subject matter for the week. These are generally either 1-2 paragraphs or a list. Please follow the specific directions for each reflection (points are between 10-20 points per reflection). Video or written reflections are accepted. These reflections are listed in the weekly modules with their respective due dates. If you are going to submit something with google docs, please download it and submit via PDF, do not share it.
- **Diagnosing a Deviant (75 points)**  
In this project you will be diagnosing a person who has negatively deviated from socially normal and acceptable. You will find a person who has an extreme criminal background and has been diagnosed with a significant mental illness (including personality disorders). Select a person who has violated many laws and likely had victims as a result of their negative behaviors.

Some suggestions for people to look for:

- Cult leaders
  - Serial Killers
  - Criminal Masterminds (heists, schemes, etc.)
  - Swindlers/Con Artists
  - Basically anyone who is committing significant crimes
- **Diagnosis Deep Dive**
    - Select any disorder in the DSM5tr that interests you. You will take a deep into understanding this diagnosis, causes, symptoms/criteria, treatments, prognosis, etc. Please put a brief visual aid together to share with the class.

- There will be an additional assignment(s) posted throughout the semester.

Student grades for the semester will be determined by the total number of points accumulated by the student divided by the total number of points possible. The Final Grade will be assigned on the HMS Program grading schedule below:

93-100%	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+
73-76%	C
70-72%	C-
67-69%	D+
63-66%	D
60-62%	D-
>59%	Failed

#### IV. CMC Libraries & Learning Commons

The CMC Libraries team invites you to connect with us so we can help support you - we all live in this continually changing information world and are here to help navigate it! Whether your classes are in person or online, or whether you live near one of CMC's great libraries/learning commons, take advantage of your friendly professional librarians to match you with the resources you need to succeed in academics and beyond.

If you are near Dillon, Edwards, Leadville, Spring Valley, or Steamboat, come check us out. Your librarians and learning commons have study spaces, technology-enabled and family-friendly study rooms so you can do online classes, laptops, calculators, wifi hotspots, and so much more for you! And research help is available 24/7 so please pick what works best for you whether that's our 24/7 chat librarians or by working with one of us online or in-person. We look forward to meeting you!

#### V. Student Information and Support Services

- Right to Know:** The College is required by law to share certain types of information with students. The [Right to Know webpage](#) includes information including disability services, complaint processes, policies and procedures, textbook information, registration, attendance and grading, graduation rates, and more. In addition, [Student Services](#) offers resources to promote your well-being and success. Take advantage of these programs and services, which include academic support and advising, access and disability services, career services, veterans' benefits, housing, orientations, food and nutrition support, and financial

aid. Reach out and find support at [CMC Counseling Services](#), [You@CMC](#), and [Colorado Crisis Services](#).

- B. **Students Rights and Responsibilities:** The [CMC Student Handbook](#) outlines the expectations for student conduct as well as the college's academic policies and expectations. This includes expectations for appropriate use of technology, students' rights and responsibilities within and outside of the classroom, and academic policies and requirements. Classroom behavior that disrupts the teaching and learning environment is unacceptable.
- C. **Notice of Nondiscrimination: Equal Opportunity** Colorado Mountain College is an equal opportunity educational institution and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its educational programs or activities. Inquiries concerning Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 and ADA may be referred to Chief Student Services Officer, 802 Grand Avenue, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601, 970-945-8691, or to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Region VIII, Federal Office Building, 1244 North Speer Blvd., Suite 310, Denver, CO 80204 303-844-2991.
- D. **Right to Privacy:** Colorado Mountain College continues to encourage and foster a vibrant academic community, whether remote or in person. We are committed to respecting the privacy rights of all participants in the classroom environment and promoting the highest standards of academic integrity. Sharing course content outside of the course may have a chilling effect on classroom discussion and interfere with the educational process. Students may not record, photograph, screenshot, share, reproduce or re-distribute any class activity without written permission from the instructor, except as necessary as part of approved accommodation discussed below. Additionally, CMC discourages non-students from listening to courses in the event student personal identifying information is revealed during the course. Students in all modalities are equally held to the academic standards set forth in the Colorado Mountain College Student Handbook. Some students may require reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Amendments Act that would allow them to record, photograph, screenshot or reproduce some course content, including video, audio, or other content. Students with disabilities should contact CMC's Access, Inclusion & Disability Coordinator about receiving these reasonable accommodations. More information can be found at [Access, Inclusion & Disability Services](#).

## **VI. Student Learning Outcomes, Competencies, and Skills**

1. Recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness, and other forms of psychological and behavioral dysfunction.
2. Effectively use the DSM-5 nosological system for the classification and diagnosis of psychological disorders.
3. Define the complex factors that contribute to psychological and behavioral dysfunction, including neurobiological, developmental, psychological, and socio-cultural issues.
4. Evaluate different conceptual approaches to etiology and treatment of psychopathology.
5. Demonstrate competency in writing about current evidence-based therapeutic treatments for major classes of psychiatric disorders.

## **VII. Class Management and Culture**

This course is part of the college wide Human Services degree program and as such shares consistent class management and culture standards with all other HMS, PSY, and CSL courses.

- A. No late assignments will be accepted. Even if an assignment does not auto-close, Canvas will automatically time and date stamp all submitted work and no points will be given for late assignments. It is to your benefit to submit assignments at least 24 hours before they are due to allow for delays caused by possible technical difficulties. Do not trust the internet to be working at the last minute.
- B. Participation is essential. When you are in class, please be fully present and respectful of both your and other's time.
- C. The instructor will work to ensure that grades and feedback are provided within one week of on-time assignment submission. Make up work will be graded at the instructor's convenience.
- D. The instructor will work to respond to student communications within two business days.
  - a. Students are encouraged to thoroughly review the syllabus, course information, and assignment descriptions for answers to common questions before contacting the instructor.
  - b. If you email the instructor and don't hear back within two business days, please send a follow up email. Gentle reminders are always appreciated.
- E. Given the nature of topics covered in this course, it is essential that we have a safe class where everyone feels free to share their values, beliefs, and ideas. Students must show respect for the instructor, each other, speakers/presenters, and the course content both inside and outside of the class. Disagreements and

debates in academic discourse are expected and welcome, but personal attacks are never OK, and will not be tolerated.

- F. A student judged to have engaged in academic misconduct as defined in the “Academic Policies and Requirements” section of the Colorado Mountain College Student Handbook will, at a minimum, receive a “zero” for the work in question with no opportunity for resubmission. The student may also be removed from the class, resulting in a failing grade, or suspended/expelled from CMC. All student course material may be submitted to turnitin.com (or other anti-plagiarism programs) at the instructor’s discretion.
  - a. There are several forms of academic dishonesty of which you should be aware:
    - i. FABRICATION: falsification, manipulation, invention, or misrepresentation of information.
    - ii. PLAGIARISM: the presentation of another’s works, words or ideas as if they were one’s own. This includes the work of Artificial Intelligence programs such as Chat GPT.
    - iii. MULTIPLE SUBMISSIONS: resubmission of a work that has already received credit with identical or similar content in another course without the consent of both instructors.
- G. No cell phones or other distractions are allowed during class. If you are distracted from class, you may lose all attendance and participation points for that class and/or may be asked to leave class entirely (Resulting in one absence with no opportunity to make up missed work).
- H. This course will include subject matter intended for mature audiences only. By remaining enrolled in this class, you acknowledge you may be exposed to graphic and/or disturbing content; even if you are under the age of 18. Please notify the instructor if you do not feel comfortable with the course content being covered to discuss your status in the course.
- I. For classes that include livestream instruction, please keep the following guidelines in mind:
  - a. Participation: Please ensure you are fully present for each livestream class. Driving, shopping, working, exercising... or any other distracted behavior while in a livestream class is disrespectful to the instructor and may be dangerous for you.
    - i. Distracted students will be removed from the livestream class and counted as a full absence.
  - b. Connection: You will need to have access to a reliable and stable internet connection for the entirety of each livestream class.
  - c. Sound/Headphones: You are expected to have working speakers/headphones to actively participate during each livestream class.
  - d. Conversations in this course may include content that requires confidentiality and privacy or may include subject matter intended for mature audiences only.

- i. Please make sure to use headphones or move to a private room to ensure others cannot hear the content of the class.
  - e. Camera: Due to the face-to-face requirements of this degree, you are expected to have a working camera that needs to be on and sharing during each livestream class.
    - i. When your camera is on, be conscious of what you are allowing everyone to see in your background or use the virtual background option.
    - ii. Ensure your background/virtual background is appropriate for public viewing.
  - f. Microphone: You are expected to have a working microphone to actively participate during each livestream class.
    - i. Out of respect for everyone in the class, please mute your microphone except when you are talking.
  - g. Chat: The chat option is a good way of showing both engagement and participation, and its thoughtful use is encouraged in this class. Please be respectful to all members of the class in the chat.
  - h. Screen Grabbing / Pictures / Recording / Distributing: You may not take screen shots, pictures, recordings, or distribute any part of this course. Screen grabbing, copying, recording, taking pictures, or distributing any class content or information, including your classmates, instructor, guest speakers, assignments, or anything else from this course is strictly prohibited. If discovered, it will result in your dismissal from the course with a failing grade and a possible code of conduct violation which may result in your dismissal from CMC.
- J. The instructor may alter this syllabus during the semester as the learning environment requires. Students will be notified of changes in advance.
- K. "NOTE: Students must have access to the appropriate technology to participate in the course and attend the livestream online synchronous class meetings. If you need assistance with the technology used for this course, please contact the CMC technology help desk at 970-947-8438. If you need assistance with Canvas, please go to <https://coloradomtn.edu/contact-departments/information-technology/help-for-canvas/>." - Copy & Paste into your syllabus.

## **VIII. Tentative Course Schedule**

Please see the modules section for the course schedule. This is a topical outline

### **I. Introduction to Psychopathology**

**A.** Historical perspectives on mental illness

**B.** Shifting influences: social, political, industrial, economic...



- C. Defining psychopathology over the ages
- II. Signs and symptoms**
  - A. Continuum and variability
  - B. Cultural intersections
  - C. Commonalities
  - D. Changes – mood, eating, sleeping
  - E. Distress/stress/ anxiety
  - F. Cognitive processing diminished
  - G. Reduced coping effectiveness
  - H. Social effectiveness – withdrawn/excited
  - I. Level of impact – varies by individual, group, culture, etc.
- III. Diagnosis**
  - A. Culturally responsive methods
  - B. Long term vs one time
  - C. Assessments
  - D. DSM
  - E. ICD – international
  - F. Research Domain Criteria framework – NIMH
- IV. Boundaries of “normal” and crisis**
  - A. Distress cultural or emotional or social
  - B. Deviance from cultural and social
  - C. Dysfunction in home, work, social
  - D. Danger to self or others
  - E. Change over time
- V. Causation**
  - A. Biology
  - B. Medical conditions
  - C. Trauma
  - D. Genetic inheritance
  - E. Environmental exposure
  - F. Social isolation
- VI. Types – concomitant, cross over, variability**
  - A. Anxiety
  - B. Bipolar
  - C. Depressive
  - D. Disruptive
  - E. Dissociative
  - F. Eating
  - G. Neurocognitive
  - H. Neurodevelopmental
  - I. OCD

- J. Personality
- K. Schizophrenia
- L. Sleep
- M. Somatic
- N. Substance
- O. Trauma
- VII. Categorical vs Dimensional definitions**
  - A. To checklist or not to checklist
  - B. Matrixed approach
- VIII. Approaches after diagnosis**
  - A. Fixed or fluid
  - B. Client centered
  - C. Resources and support
- IX. Futures approach**

*This schedule is subject to change at any time, depending on instructor evaluation of student skills/understanding/knowledge. The instructor will communicate changes to the schedule as needed in advance.*