

NOUVEL HIGH SCHOOL
Abnormal Psychology
COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:	A continuation of Psychology I, this course focuses on mental diseases, disorders, and abnormalities. Students will learn about the symptoms, possible causes, and treatments of anxiety and mood disorders, personality disorders, cognitive disorders, and diseases of the brain.
MAJOR COURSE GOALS:	By the end of this course, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define psychologically abnormal behavior • Describe historical views of abnormality and classifications of psychological disorders • Discuss the challenges associated with diagnosis and treatment • Describe symptoms and causes of major categories of psychological disorders • Apply knowledge of psychology and abnormal behavior in various situations
COURSE ASSESSMENT PLAN:	Tests and/or projects will be given for every unit. A formal research paper will be assigned in place of a final exam.
SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS NEEDED:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Utensil • 3-ring binder (tabs: notes, journal, graded papers)
EXTRA HELP:	Extra help is available before or after school, or through www.edmodo.com .
INSTRUCTIONAL PHILOSOPHY:	I understand that our students are multifaceted and approach their studies from a broad spectrum of emotions, attitudes, backgrounds, experience and needs. However, I believe that sound curriculum coupled with consistent and effective teaching and learning methods will enable every student to: apply critical thinking skills in solving problems of everyday life, participate intelligently in civic affairs, and compete in the high performance future demands. Specifically I believe that each student can be successful in learning.
MAJOR COURSE PROJECTS AND INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journal Entries • Psychological Articles • Tests/Unit Projects • Experiments • Research Paper
CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:	Every Student is expected to arrive on time with the appropriate materials ready to participate. Active participation is required of all students. Plagiarism is unacceptable and will result in a failing grade.

HOMEWORK POLICY AND GRADING SCALE:	Various methods of evaluation will be used. The purpose is to give exposure and experience to a variety of procedures. All work will be assigned point values as determined by their importance. The final paper will be worth 20% of the semester grade. The grading scale used is published in the Nouvel student handbook. Absolutely no late assignments will be accepted except in the case of excused absences.
CONTACT INFORMATION:	