



Syllabus

Course Title: Studying Psychology in London: Does “Crazy” Have an International Definition?

Program and Date: London Signature May 27 to June 15, 2026

Academic Department: Psychology

Instructor Name: Dr. Savannah Campbell

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Get to Know Your Professor

Hello! It's great to 'meet' you. Psychology is one of my passions that I've spent two decades studying and almost a decade teaching. I also adore traveling to find and explore new places, and thanks to CCSA, I've been lucky to combine the two. In Summer 2024, I took my first class to London to learn about psychopathology (mental illnesses) through the international lenses that the city and activities there offered. I'm excited to go back in Summer 2026 to take more students to these sites while also seeing more. I found that students appreciated and truly gained one-of-a-kind experiences through the places we went and the people we met. London has such a rich history and modern lessons to learn and gain from toward psychology, and I look forward to taking students like you with me as we explore them.

Course Description

This class explores how psychological abnormality and mental illness are defined using international criteria. Is there one way to define “the norm” or does that depend on values unique to a particular culture? By taking field trips in London to relevant sites, such as the Bethlem Museum of the Mind, Freud House Museum, and the Glenside Hospital Museum, and by discussing mental health issues and treatment with British mental health practitioners, students will gain valuable historical and contemporary perspectives on diagnostic psychology. Pre-med students and psychology majors, or those with an interest in social welfare issues, will find the experiential learning in this class uniquely valuable.

Course Level and Credit Hours

This course offers three hours of upper-division undergraduate credit as well as three hours of graduate credit.

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Prerequisite(s)

Prerequisites: Introductory Psychology (or equivalent), and one of the following: Social Psychology, Theories of Personality (or equivalent), or a Lifespan Development course (i.e., child, adolescent, or adult development). Students' admission to class can also be granted by permission of the instructor. If students believe they would be an appropriate addition to the class but have not met all the prerequisites, they are encouraged to email the instructor to discuss their admission to the course.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of all coursework with a passing grade and full participation in course activities, students shall be able to:

- A. Understand the roots of conceptualizations of psychopathology and how said background laid the foundation for modern clinical diagnoses.
- B. Discuss critically the current domains of abnormal behavior identified to be mental illnesses in various cultures.
- C. Integrate understanding of psychopathology into analysis of an individual who is displaying characteristics and/or traits indicative of abnormal behavior.
- D. Demonstrate informed knowledge of psychopathology and its history to understand the historical perspective of mental illness in the context of current attitudes and behaviors used in regard to these conditions.

Required Readings and Materials

This class will have assigned readings that are to be completed prior to arrival in London. These will include two (2) PowerPoint presentations along with articles describing a brief history of asylums in the US, along with resources related to modern UK and US-based mental health treatment. The latter of those will be the basis of the first assigned journal entry in the class. In addition, there are also two resources that students are recommended to have access to and to utilize on a regular basis. These are a link to the ICD 11 codes that is provided in this syllabus and an e-copy of the DSM-5 TR that students will be sent prior to class departure.

Psychiatric Hospitals history: <https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/nhhc/nurses-institutions-caring/history-of-psychiatric-hospitals/>

History of US Asylums through 1900: <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/diseases/early.html#1824>

US Mental Health Resource: <https://www.nami.org/findsupport/>

*Students, once enrolled in class, will be also sent information on finding additional resources specific to the state in which their home campus is located.

UK Mental Health resources:

- www.thecalmzone.net
- www.papyrus-uk.org
- www.themix.org.uk
- www.otrbristol.org.uk

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<https://icd.who.int/browse/2025-01/mms/en> (read section 06, the one that covers mental, behavioral, or neurodevelopmental disorders)

Assignments and Grades

- 1. Attendance/participation:** (50 points total)
- 2. Quizzes:** Students will complete six (6) quizzes (60 points possible)
- 3. Journal:** (50 points possible with 10-point bonus opportunity)
- 4. Term Paper:** Students' final assignment in the course will be to write a term paper of at least four (4) pages in which they select a fictional character from entertainment and identify traits the character displays that indicate psychopathology. This assignment will be due no later than ten (10) days following return to the US after the course in London. For graduate students enrolled in the course, the paper must be seven (7) pages in length. (100 points possible)
- 5. Post-program Reflection:** This assignment will consist of at least two pages written and submitted to the course instructor no more than ten (10) days following return to the home campus after the course abroad ends. For graduate students, this paper must be at least four (4) pages in length. (50 points possible)
- 6. Student-led presentation:** [Graduate students only]

Grading Scale

The following scale will be used to compute your grade.

Cutoffs for letter grades:

90%--**A**

80%--**B**

70%--**C**

60%--**D**

Below 60%--**F**

Onsite Learning Experiences and Activities

Onsite learning experiences in this class will likely include the following site visits. This is a tentative list, which will be replaced with a detailed daily itinerary of class meetings and field trips prior to the departure date.

- Tower of London
- National Portrait Gallery
- Glenside Hospital Museum
- Hunterian Museum & Operating Theatre Museum
- Bethlem Museum of the Mind
- Jack the Ripper walking tour
- Freud House Museum
- Mental Health Museum

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory at all scheduled activities and class meetings, as well as field trip excursions. This includes any virtual meetings before and after the onsite experience. Repeated absences, including for ill health, will require documentation to be excused.

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity refers to students taking responsibility for their actions, such that they engage in ethical behavior in their educational career. This means that students present their own work, rather than that of others, when asked to produce work for a course. It also means that, while studying abroad, students act as the best exemplars of American students. Students found guilty of an academic honesty violation (e.g., cheating or plagiarism) will receive a 0 on the assignment in question. More serious violations could also result in failing the course, a referral to the appropriate campus office of the member institution of CCSA participants, or both.

Physical Expectations

The program requires walking 3-5 miles per day on uneven pavement in all kinds of weather and long periods of standing. Students must be able to carry their own bags and belongings.

Disability Accommodation

CCSA is committed to providing access to education abroad to the extent possible in a study abroad setting. The earlier CCSA and the faculty know the needs, the more likely we can accommodate them. At a minimum, students seeking accommodations are to contact both the CCSA office and the faculty one month in advance of the program's beginning. Students seeking such accommodation must provide CCSA with a copy of the letter on file with their own Office of Disability Services outlining what services they receive on their home campus.



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Title IX Policy

Sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature) and sexual discrimination violate CCSA policies. Students experiencing such behavior may obtain support from the Onsite Program Director or the CCSA Executive Director. To report sexual misconduct or sex discrimination, contact either of these two officers. Disclosure to faculty instructors or CCSA officers of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex discrimination occurring on the program or involving a visitor, student, or employee is not confidential under Title IX. Faculty and other CCSA employees are required to forward such reports, including names and circumstances, to the CCSA Executive Director.

Statement about Final Syllabus

Please note that all CCSA syllabi are subject to change, but every effort will be made to ensure participants receive notice of such changes in a timely manner.