I. Course Description

CNEP 5381, Psychodiagnosis and Treatment Strategies, covers types of human distress, as described in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, including the development of tools for the understanding and critical appraisal of abnormal human behavior across the lifespan. Strategies and techniques for working with clients in a variety of settings are considered.

II. Rationale

Helping professionals (counselors, teachers, ministers, mental-health workers, and social workers) must be aware of a variety of counseling strategies and must be able to effectively apply these strategies to different populations of clients in a variety of different settings. Knowledge, awareness, and skills are all necessary to be able to be effective in ‘helping’ roles.

III. State Adopted Proficiencies for Teachers and/or Administrators/Counselors

Standard I: Learner-Centered Knowledge: The certified school counselor has a broad knowledge base.

Standard II: Learner-Centered Skills: The certified school counselor applies the knowledge base to promote the educational, personal, social, and career development of the learner.

Standard III: Learner-Centered Process: The certified school counselor participates in the development, monitoring, and evaluation of a developmental school guidance and counseling program that promotes learners’ knowledge, skills, motivation, and personal growth.

Standard IV: Learner-Centered Equity and Excellence for All Learners: The certified school counselor promotes academic success for all learners by acknowledging, respecting, and responding to diversity while building on similarities that bond all people.

IV. TExES Competencies

Competency 001 (Human Development): The school counselor understands processes of human development and applies this knowledge to provide a developmental guidance program, including counseling services, that meets the needs of all students.

Competency 002 (Student Diversity): The school counselor understands human diversity and applies this knowledge to ensure that the developmental guidance and counseling program is responsive to all students.

Competency 003 (Factors Affecting Students): The school counselor understands factors that may affect students’ development and school achievement and applies this knowledge to promote
students’ ability to achieve their potential.

**Competency 006 (Counseling):** The school counselor understands how to provide effective counseling services to individuals and small groups.

**Competency 009 (Collaboration with Others in the School and Community):** The school counselor understands how to work collaboratively with other professionals and with community members to promote positive change and to facilitate student learning.

V. **Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes**

This course is designed to enable students to study psychological problems in people, including developing an understanding of the general principles and methods of case conceptualization, assessment and/or diagnoses of mental and emotional disorders, utilizing the DSM 5. The following CACREP standards are covered and assessed in this course.

**Core**

1. CACREP Standard II G-3-e: a general framework for understanding exceptional abilities and strategies for differentiated interventions;
2. CACREP Standard II G-3-f: human behavior, including an understanding of developmental crises, disability, psychopathology, and situational and environmental factors that affect both normal and abnormal behavior;
3. **CACREP Standard II-G-3-g:** theories and etiology of addictions and addictive behaviors, including strategies for prevention, intervention, and treatment;
4. CACREP Standard II-G-5-b: counselor characteristics and behaviors that influence helping processes;
5. CACREP Standard II-G-5-d: counseling theories that provide the student with models to conceptualize client presentation and that help the student select appropriate counseling interventions. Students will be exposed to models of counseling that are consistent with current professional research and practice in the field so they begin to develop a personal model of counseling;
9. CACREP Standard II-G-8-e: the use of research to inform evidence-based practice.

In addition to the objectives listed above, the student will satisfy the following objectives based on their area of emphasis:

**School Counseling**

As a result of completing this course, the school counseling student will be able to meet:

3. **CACREP Standard G-1:** understands the influence of multiple factors (e.g., abuse, violence, eating disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, childhood depression) that may affect the personal, social, and academic functioning of students;
4. CACREP Standard G-2: knows the signs and symptoms of substance abuse in children and adolescents, as well as the signs and symptoms of living in a home where substance abuse occurs;

**Marriage and Family Counseling**

As a result of completing this course, the student will be able to meet:

2. CACREP Standard C-2: recognizes specific problems (e.g., addictive behaviors, domestic violence, suicide risk, immigration) and interventions that can enhance family functioning;
3. CACREP Standard D-4: demonstrates the ability to use procedures for assessing and managing
suicide risk;

4. CACREP Standard G-3: understands the impact of addiction, trauma, psychopharmacology, physical and mental health, wellness, and illness on marriage, couple, and family functioning.

**Clinical Mental Health Counseling**

As a result of completing this course, the student will be able to meet:

1. CACREP Standard A-6: recognizes the potential for substance abuse disorders to mimic and coexist with a variety of medical and psychological disorders;
2. CACREP Standard A-7: identifies professional issues that affect clinical mental health counselors (e.g., core provider status, expert witness status, access to and practice privileges within managed care systems);
3. **CACREP Standard C-2: knows the etiology, the diagnostic process and nomenclature, treatment, referral, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders;**
4. CACREP Standard C-4: knows the disease concept and etiology of addiction and co-occurring disorders;
5. CACREP Standard C-5: understands the range of mental health service delivery – such as inpatient, outpatient, partial treatment and aftercare – and the clinical mental health counseling services network;
6. CACREP Standard C-7: knows the principles, models, and documentation formats of biopsychosocial case conceptualization and treatment planning;
7. CACREP Standard C-8: recognizes the importance of family, social networks, and community systems in the treatment of mental and emotional disorders;
8. CACREP Standard D-2: applies multicultural competencies to clinical mental health counseling involving case conceptualization, diagnosis, treatment, referral, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders.
9. CACREP Standard D-6: demonstrates the ability to use procedures for assessing and managing suicide risk;
10. CACREP Standard D-8: provides appropriate counseling strategies when working with clients with addiction and co-occurring disorders;
11. CACREP Standard E-3: understands current literature that outlines theories, approaches, strategies, and techniques shown to be effective when working with specific populations of clients with mental and emotional disorders;
12. CACREP Standard F-3: demonstrates the ability to modify counseling systems, theories, techniques, and interventions to make them culturally appropriate for diverse populations.
13. **CACREP Standard G-1: knows the principles and models of assessment, case conceptualization, theories of human development, and concepts of normalcy and psychopathology leading to diagnoses and appropriate counseling treatment plans;**
14. CACREP Standard G-2: understands various models and approaches to clinical evaluation and their appropriate uses, including diagnostic interviews, mental status examinations, symptom inventories, and psychoeducational and personality assessments;
15. **CACREP Standard G-3: understands basic classifications, indications, and contraindications of commonly prescribed psychopharmacological medications so that appropriate referrals can be made for medication evaluations and so that the side effects of such medications can be identified;**
16. CACREP Standard H-1: selects appropriate comprehensive assessment interventions to assist in diagnosis and treatment planning, with an awareness of cultural bias in the implementation and interpretation of assessment protocols.
17. **CACREP Standard K-1: knows the principles of the diagnostic process, including differential diagnosis, and the use of current diagnostic tools, such as the current edition of**
20. CACREP Standard K-2: understands the established diagnostic criteria for mental and emotional disorders, and describes treatment modalities and placement criteria within the continuum of care;
21. CACREP Standard K-3: knows the impact of co-occurring substance abuse disorders on medical and psychological disorders;
22. CACREP Standard K-5: understands appropriate use of diagnosing during a crisis, disaster, or other trauma-causing event;
23. CACREP Standard L-1: demonstrates appropriate use of diagnostic tools, including the current edition of the DSM, to describe the symptoms and clinical presentation of clients with mental and emotional impairments;
24. CACREP Standard L-2: able to conceptualize an accurate diagnosis of disorders presented by a client and discuss the differential diagnosis with collaborating professionals;
25. CACREP Standard L-3: differentiates between diagnosis and developmentally appropriate reactions during crises, disasters, and other trauma-causing events.

Addictions Counseling

As a result of completing this course, the student will be able to meet:

1. CACREP Standard K-1: knows the principles of the diagnostic process, including differential diagnosis, and the use of current diagnostic tools, such as the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).
2. CACREP Standard K-2: knows the impact of co-occurring addictive disorders on medical and psychological disorders.

Specific student learning outcomes (SLOs) for this course include the following:

1. Students will demonstrate understanding of the diagnostic process and treatment planning by providing accurate diagnosis; appropriate treatment objectives, planning, and intervention strategies; appropriate use of medical and adjunctive services; placement criteria and referral services within the continuum of care; and preferred clinician characteristics for multiple case studies designed to reflect a variety mental and emotional disorders as described in the DSM. Assessment will be based on responses to multiple case studies and the mid-term and final examinations. Achievement of this SLO will be evaluated based on a grade of 70 or above average on case studies and a grade of 158 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. CACREP Standard II-G-5-b; CACREP CMH Standards C-2, G-1, H-1, K-2, K-3, L-1, L-2; CACREP Addictions Standard K-1; CACREP SC Standard G-1
2. Students will differentially describe counselor characteristics and behaviors that influence helping processes across multiple case studies and the final project, which are designed to reflect a variety of DSM diagnostic categories. Achievement of this SLO will be evaluated based on a grade of 70 or above average on case studies and a grade of 158 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. CACREP Standard II-G-5-b
3. Students will demonstrate principles of biopsychosocial case conceptualization and treatment planning as assessed by evaluation of responses to multiple case studies and the final project. Achievement of this SLO will be evaluated based on a grade of 70 or above average on case studies and a grade of 158 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. CACREP CMH Standard C-7
4. Students will identify appropriate approaches to clinical evaluation, including diagnostic
interviews, mental status examinations, symptom inventories, and other assessments, across a variety of DSM categories and diagnoses. Assessment will be based on selection of appropriate evaluation strategies and measures on multiple quiz case studies and the final project. Achievement of this SLO will be evaluated based on a grade of 70 or above average on case studies and a grade of 158 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. CACREP CMH Standard G-2

5. Students will identify appropriate uses of a variety of psychotropic medications, including indications and contraindications, as well as demonstrate understanding of appropriate medical referral, as related to a variety of DSM categories and diagnoses. Assessment will be based on multiple case studies and the final project. Achievement of this SLO will be evaluated based on a grade of 70 or above average on case studies and a grade of 158 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. CACREP CMH Standard G-3

6. Students will demonstrate understanding of co-occurring substance abuse disorders and their impact on psychological and medical disorders through responses to multiple case studies reflecting a wide range of DSM categories and diagnoses. Achievement of this SLO will be evaluated based on a grade of 70 or above average on case studies and a grade of 158 or above on the mid-term and final examinations. CACREP CMH Standard K-3; CACREP Addictions Standard K-2; CACREP SC Standard G-1.

VI. Course Topics

The major topics to be considered are:
Knowledge, awareness, and skills in diagnosis and treatment planning, to be gained by studying the psychological problems that many people experience as categorized in the DSM, and effective counseling strategies for dealing with these concerns. In addition, psychopharmacological treatment for various disorders will be addressed. A detailed list is included under the Tentative Course Schedule section.

VII. Instructional Methods and Activities

Methods and activities for instruction include:
A. Traditional Experiences: discussion and application.
B. On-line Experiences: lecture, discussion, videos, and readings.
C. Clinical Experiences: case study homework and examinations

VIII. Evaluation and Grade Assignment

The methods of evaluation and the criteria for grade assignment are:

A. Evaluation Methods and Scoring

Please note: For all assignments, it can and will impact grades if there is plagiarism in your work. Appropriate citation and references are required for all material, whether paraphrased, summarized, or quoted. If you use direct quotations, quotation marks and page numbers must be provided using appropriate APA styling. There is one exception, which applies to this course only: When you are justifying your diagnoses and using specific criteria outlined in the DSM, you do not have to cite the material. In this course only, it will be understood that you are taking the information directly from specific pages in the DSM 5. This exception is NOT consistent with APA style, but is absolutely reasonable in this course.

The majority of assignments for this course are submitted via www.turnitin.com. You will need to
register on this site and enter the class ID: 12946759 and the password: diagnosis.

Specific rubrics for point values for individual questions on each assignment are provided in the homework and mid-term and final evaluation documents. Other information regarding the rubric for grading each assignment will also be found there.

1. Preparation checks: This class is a blended course – meaning that most of the didactics for the course will occur in BlackBoard. Approximately 60-70% of the course will be delivered on-line. PowerPoints, videos, and other material will be posted there. In order for us to make good use of the time in class, it is critical that you prepare by reading assignments and otherwise getting yourself ready to participate in active learning within the class time. You will be able to use in-class time for application of the material, getting feedback from peers and from me, and working on case studies. Because preparation for this kind of class is so important, Preparation Checks will be used for each class. These will consist of either a brief series of objective questions that must be completed via BlackBoard prior to class or a required discussion post to a thread which must be completed prior to class. Preparation checks will generally cover broad material rather than very detailed material, and hints may be provided in the posted material for some subject matter. You will be able to earn up to 10 points for each check. Because the class is blended, you can expect to spend about 60%-70% less time in face-to-face classes; however, those hours will be needed to cover material that would ordinarily be covered in class.

2. Homework: There will be five homework assignments during this course. Each homework assignment is due at the beginning of class on the date assigned. See separate handout for details and due dates. Note that due dates and the venue for submission are also found on the course schedule. The first homework covers general information about the DSM, information from the psychopharmacology text, information from the DSM from the chapters listed in the course syllabus, and general information from BlackBoard for the first class. All subsequent homework assignments are case studies covering material in the DSM, the psychopharmacology text, lecture and other information posted on BlackBoard, and class discussion. All homework case studies may have multiple diagnoses; however, you are only responsible for those diagnoses that have been assigned up to the due date for the homework. The primary diagnosis for homework assignments will always been from the chapters covered in the previous class session. See separate document for details and due dates. All homework will be submitted via Turnitin. Homework assignments must be completed individually. Working together on any assignments outside of class is prohibited.

Point values for each question are noted on the homework. Students are encouraged to note point values of questions. Questions with high point values should reasonably be expected to require excellent coverage of the material for full credit, including attention to all parts of a question. Homework assignments 2-5 (100 points each) are primarily case studies. Specific directions for each case study, along with point values for each element, are provided in the Homework document posted on BlackBoard. Responses should be appropriate for the client presented in the case study rather than for a diagnosis in general. Bullet or outline presentation of material is preferred where appropriate.

3. Midterm Exam and Final Examinations: The midterm and final examinations for this class will be divided into two sections, a take home portion and an in class portion. The take home portion will focus on a full diagnosis and treatment plan for one or two case studies (submitted on Turnitin.com by the beginning of class time on the day of the exam), and the in class portion will focus on diagnosis basics and a short multiple answer portion. Students will be
allowed to use their DSM-5 for the in class portion but WILL NOT be allowed to use any other
texts or notes.

4. Participation: Participation during this class is essential. To receive all of the
participation points, students are expected to attend class on time, refrain from any cell
phone/superfluous technology use in class, act respectfully towards the instructor, teaching
assistant, and classmates, actively participate in class activities and discussion, and respond
professionally and appropriately to feedback.

Students sleeping or acting unprofessionally in class will be asked to leave and will not get credit
for attending that class period. If you miss more than 50% of any class session, this will be counted as an
absence.

Late assignments may be turned in up to one week after the due date for a reduced letter grade. No
assignments will be accepted after one week past the due date. All assignments are due by the
beginning of class time on the due date.

Attendance policy:

- Upon your second absence, you will have a 10% deduction in your grade. This means you may
  only have one unexcused absence without penalty.
- Three absences will result in an administrative drop or failing grade.
- The only excused absences will be illness with a doctor’s note, or death in the family with copy
  of an obituary.

B. Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparation Checks</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A= 900 - 1000; B=800 - 899; C= 700 - 799; D=600 - 699; F=below 600

All written assignments must reflect graduate level presentation, including APA (6th ed.) format,
correct spelling, and appropriate punctuation and grammar. Point deductions will be taken for errors in
writing skills and APA style.

Please talk with me if you are having problems (sooner rather than later).

IX. Course Schedule and Policies

A. Tentative Course Schedule
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Instructor material</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07/03</td>
<td>Introduction and Orientation to Course</td>
<td>Instructor material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Healthy Human Functioning</td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 3-60; 235-250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Effective Treatment Planning</td>
<td>DSM 5 Sec. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DSM 5 and How it Should be Utilized</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basics of Psychopharmacology</td>
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<tr>
<td>07/10</td>
<td>Neurodevelopmental Disorders</td>
<td>Preparation check 1 due (Bb)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disruptive Disorders</td>
<td>DSM 31-122; 461-480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders</td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 219-230, 251-272</td>
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<tr>
<td>07/12</td>
<td>Bipolar and Related Disorders; Depressive Disorders</td>
<td>Preparation check 2 due (Bb)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Homework 1 due (Turnitin)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DSM 5 123-188</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 75-104; 169-208</td>
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<tr>
<td>07/17</td>
<td>Anxiety Disorders; Obsessive-Compulsive and Related</td>
<td>Preparation check 3 due (Bb)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Disorders; Trauma and Stressor Related Disorders</td>
<td>Homework 2 due (Turnitin)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bb material</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DSM 5 189-290</td>
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<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 101-122; 133-140; 209-218</td>
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<tr>
<td>07/19</td>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>Take-Home Mid-Term Due (Turnitin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>07/26</td>
<td>Personality Disorders; Dissociative Disorders</td>
<td>Preparation check 5 due (Bb)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Homework 3 due (Turnitin)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DSM 5 645-684; 761-781; 291-307</td>
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<tr>
<td>07/31</td>
<td>Somatic Symptom Disorders; Elimination Disorders; Gender Dysphoria;</td>
<td>Preparation check 6 due (Bb)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual Dysfunctions; Paraphilic Disorders, Other Conditions That</td>
<td>Homework 4 due</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May be a Focus of Clinical Attention; Conditions for Further Study</td>
<td>DSM 5 291-328; 355-422, 451-460, 715-727, 783-806</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>P, O’N, &amp; T 155-168</td>
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<tr>
<td>08/02</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Take-Home Final Due (Turnitin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/27</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**B. Course Policies**

**Academic Integrity Policy**
The TAMUCC (2013) Graduate Catalog and the TAMUCC Student Handbook provide definitions of academic integrity. Specifically, university students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of homework assignments, examinations, or examination materials, plagiarism, complicity, and forgery. **Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with university academic integrity policies, procedures, and penalties. Ignorance of policy is not an acceptable defense in my class or in graduate work.**

Students should make note that using materials from websites also require appropriate documentation from the specific website from which the material is obtained. Copying material from websites without appropriate attribution is a form of plagiarism and will be treated as such. Only scholarly web materials are acceptable for reference materials.

Any student who is found to have violated the academic integrity policy in this course is subject to a grade of 0 on the particular assignment and a grade of F in the course. The faculty member must file a record for each case of academic dishonesty with the Dean, who will forward a copy to the Office of Student Affairs. The student has the right to appeal the judgment or the penalty and should contact the Office of Student Affairs for guidance about how to do this. Academic misconduct may also be referred to the CNEP department for consideration. **Please note: saving of any homework assignments, case studies, or exam material is considered a violation of academic integrity in this class. While I understand that you may need to download homework assignments, mid-term and final exams, and case study documents to use during the course, you must delete it once this course is completed. Sharing the information with students who come after you, even though this material is regularly changed, is a form of cheating and will be dealt with as such. Losing a flash drive from which you have not deleted this information is not an excuse.**

X. **Textbooks**

*The textbooks adopted for this course are:*

**Required:**

**Recommended:**

XII. **Grade Appeals**

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the
process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

XIII. Disabilities Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

XV. Bibliography

The knowledge base that supports course content and procedures includes but is not limited to the following references. You will note that some references are dated—these are classic texts in the field upon which other works have frequently been based.


Cozolino, L. (2010). The neuroscience of psychotherapy: Healing the social brain (2nd ed.) New York,


**Play Therapy**


