

Unit of Study Title: Psychological Disorders
Topic Area: Communications/Language Arts
Grade Level: 9-12
Time Frame: December 1-11
Key Words: Psych

Content Standard Goals:

Communications/Language Arts

Students will use critical listening and viewing skills in various situations and for a variety of purposes.

Content Standard Indicators:

Students will interpret and evaluate ideas/information from various oral and visual sources.

Content Standard Benchmarks:

apply effective listening techniques for creative problem-solving and collaborative decision-making.

Brief Summary of Unit:

The students will study the nature of mental disorders.

Students will Understand:

Students will understand what abnormal behavior is and the perspectives of psychological disorders.

Essential Questions to Guide this Unit and Focus Teaching and Learning:

How is bipolar different from major depression?
How are phobias different from generalized anxiety disorders?
What are some common explanations for phobias?
What is considered to be the most serious psychological problem of them all?
How are brain abnormalities thought to play a role in schizophrenia?
Is the insanity defense ever valid?

Key Knowledge and Skills Students will Acquire:

Students will distinguish among the standards for defining psychological disorders from the view of society, the individual, and the mental - health professional.
Students will describe four types of schizophrenic disorders.
Students will define personality disorders.
Students will characterize different types of dissociative disorders.
Students will recognize the characteristics of the psychophysiological disorders and the somatoform disorders.
Students will list characteristics of children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder.
Students will identify gender identity characteristics

Assessment Plan:

research paper, oral review and written test.

Notes over Powerpoint about Personality Disorders

Learning Activities:

- * Students will take the obsessive-compulsive test
- * Students will work in pairs to define abnormal behavior
- * Students will think of famous people who suffer from psychological disorders
- * Students will draw images or pictures that represent mental disorders
- * Students will survey other students on phobias

- * Students will suggest movies that may include psychological disorders
- * Students will practice diagnosing cases from the DSM-IV casebook
- * Students will find the criteria for commitment to a state mental hospital