

What will I achieve?

By the end of the course I will be able to:

1. identify key characteristics used in the diagnosis of common psychiatric conditions and to be able to evaluate the reliability and validity of some of these.
2. understand and assess the evidence for popular explanations of some psychological disorders and evaluate the effectiveness for some of the treatments offered.
3. discuss the value and limitations of psychiatric labels and reflect on how these influence our own behaviour and that of others.
4. feel more prepared take part in action for positive change regarding your own or others perceptions of psychological abnormality in our society.
5. become more confident accessing and selecting sources of information online and using digital technologies such as Zoom and Canvas.

What teaching methods will be used and will there be work outside of the class?

- The WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas will be used to provide resources or to support lessons, enable assessment, provide learner feedback and for other activities for individuals away from the course. If you want to understand more about our digital learning platform please visit: <http://bit.ly/WEAonline>
- Most of your learning will take place in your class, but one or two sessions will be online using WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas, working by yourself or engaging with other students. If you want to understand more about our digital learning platform please visit: <http://bit.ly/WEAonline>
- The WEA tutor will use a range of different teaching and learning methods and encourage you and the group to be actively involved in your learning
- Live zoom sessions will include a presentation of key ideas with plenty of time for discussion. Between sessions students will be set about 1-2 hours of tasks each week. For example a documentary or short video/podcast/article to comment on plus quizzes with lots of follow up video & web sources.

What kind of feedback can I expect from the tutor?

- A range of informal activities will be used by the tutor to see what you are learning which may include quizzes, question and answer, small projects and discussion
- Your tutor will comment on online discussions and moderate quizzes as well as providing group and individual e-mails.

What else do I need to know? Is there anything I need to bring?

- What you need: You will need an internet connection, speakers, a microphone and a webcam so that you can use our video learning platform, Zoom. If you'd like to understand more Zoom please visit: <http://bit.ly/ZoomSpec>
- You will also need access to the internet outside of your sessions. You could do this using a smart phone, tablet, laptop or a desktop computer (at home or through a library etc.).
- You will need a personal email address to join the WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas so that you can receive resources, record your progress and achievement and to work with others and share ideas. If you want to understand more about our digital learning platform please visit: <http://bit.ly/WEAonline>
- This is an introductory level course. No prior knowledge or experience is assumed.

Pre-course work, reading and information sources

- You will have access to course resources and links to wider learning through the WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas: <http://bit.ly/WEAonline>
- No pre reading or pre course work is required
- Information will be provided on Canvas before the first session with suggested reading and other course information but none of this is essential.

Possible next steps after this course (including career opportunities if appropriate)

- Progress to another WEA course
- Progress to a course with another provider
- Become involved with the WEA in a range of voluntary work and other activities including campaigning as a WEA member
- Become involved as a volunteer for a WEA partner or another organisation
- You could progress to Higher Education courses. Follow link to the PEARL website for information <http://pearl.open.ac.uk/>
- Access the WEA What Next? booklet here <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/what-can-i-do-next>
- A follow up course 'Welcome - Perspectives on Mental Health' will be available next term.

Learning with the WEA

WEA courses increasingly make use of the rich variety of educational tools and material available on the internet and from digital devices. The WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas will play an increasing role in all WEA courses to provide resources or support, or to conduct lessons, enable assessment, provide learner feedback and for other activities for individuals away from the course. It is helpful, although not essential if you have access to a computer or smartphone to support your course.

You can read about your entitlements and responsibilities as a WEA student in our leaflet, Student Handbook here <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/student-support> This includes information on fees, learning support and financial support. As part of your course you accept our Learning Agreement and Privacy Notice. Full details of the Learning Agreement and privacy notice can be found on our website at <http://www.wea.org.uk/policies>. This applies to all courses you take in this academic year.

You can enrol online for most courses <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/course-search> or contact: WEA Support Services, Suite 10B Joseph's Well, Hanover Way, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS3 1AB
Tel: 0300 303 3464 Email: courseenquiries@wea.org.uk



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