

Dr. Jessica Waesche

As explained in the syllabus, these Group Discussions should be thought of as Role Play Activities. While you will remain in the same small group throughout the semester, your role within the group will change from module to module. The purpose of this assignment is to give you the opportunity to think about Abnormal Psychology from various perspectives.

For this discussion, you will be able to develop your own character. Some of you have been assigned to portray individuals with mental illness. I have sent you an email (via Webcourses) giving you information about which disorder you should portray and a case example that you may use if you wish, or you may create your own character. The rest of the group has been assigned to portray different clinicians. In the first post below I have told you what type of clinician you are. These clinicians are based on some of the roles that existed in the first two modules, so you can draw information from the textbook as well as online and through the UCF library. It is up to you to create your persona within the context of that type of clinician. For example, the Psychoanalytic Therapist may choose to take on the role of a famous Psychoanalytic Therapist (such as Sigmund Freud) or you may choose to create a new character of a person who has trained in Psychoanalytic Theory.

In this module's discussion, you will discuss treatment options for Mood and Anxiety Disorders. In the first post, the individuals with mental illness (clients) should discuss their symptoms, and the clinicians should discuss their ideas about how to treat these disorders. You must also make at least 2 additional posts in response to other people's posts. In those responses the clients might want to ask the clinicians questions about the treatment options, the clinicians might want to ask the clients questions about their symptoms, or the clinicians might want to debate with each other about which treatment would be best.

Some guidelines for this assignment:

- In each of your posts, remind people who you are portraying.
- All of your posts, including your responses to your peers, should be written from the perspective of the person you have been assigned to portray.
- Write your posts in the first person (for example: "I, Sigmund Freud, believe ...")
- Feel free to seek out additional information about your character beyond what is in the textbook.
- Remember, you are not giving your personal thoughts about these topics, you are speaking as though you were the person you are portraying.
- Have fun! Take the opportunity to pretend that you are someone else.

Remember that you should make your first post by 11:59pm on Sunday 2/19 and you should make at least two additional posts replying to your group-mates by 11:59pm on Sunday 2/26. Your posts will be graded using the provided rubric.