Guidelines for Service Learning Paper
Abnormal Psychology 2043
Instructor: Lyndall Dean-Weir

Papers must be typed and approximately one to two pages in length (longer length is acceptable); the minimum length is one full page, double-spacing the lines. Papers shorter than a full page in the body of the paper would lose some credit for being too short.

You should pick information from a reference source related to abnormal psychology which you believe will be related to the on-site work you plan to do at the agency where you will be working. You may wish to speak with the instructor about how to go about planning this. Your focus on what you observe may change once you are actually engaged in the on-site activity; if this is the case you may alter your original plan to fit the new observations. Any personal and/or identifying information about clients of the agency should be kept confidential, for example, real names of persons served by the agency should not be used in service learning reports.

Two reference sources are required for the paper: Use the textbook for one of the reference sources if possible. If one reference source is the textbook, one additional source needs to be added to the perspective from the textbook. If the needed information is not available in the textbook, then two reference sources other than the textbook should be used. In writing the paper, reference information should be looked at as you reflect upon in writing how abnormal psychology was related to your experience working at the agency. The reference sources should be listed at the conclusion of the paper in the manner employed in the Reference (APA) or Works Cited (MLA) page of a research paper, one of these writing styles may be consulted for the proper reference listing formats. (The body of the paper should not be so short that the reference listings and the report will all fit onto one page.) Also, a rough draft or some type of documentation of your reference information used other than the textbook should be turned in with the research paper. As with homework assignments, a printout of online material should be turned in with the paper.

The service learning experience is to consist of a minimum of 10 hours to be considered as fulfilling the course requirement for the on-site experience. The on-site experience should be accomplished in a minimum of 4 different days/nights – a single 10 hour experience or two five hour experiences would be less desirable.

Keep a daily log of your on-site observations related to your paper topic. Your observation notes should be attached to your paper when you turn it in. The notes should be dated; the notes may be handwritten.

The service learning paper is due on Thurs., Apr. 14, 2005.