

## **EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

### **Topic 6: Explanations and Treatments**

#### **Key Terms You Should Be Able to Define and Apply:**

(in order they appear in the text)

#### **Unit 17**

Etiology  
Reductionism  
Multiple viewpoints/Biopsychosocial viewpoint  
Diathesis-stress  
Predisposing factor  
Precipitating factor  
Equifinality  
Reciprocal causation  
Correlated/Correlation  
Risk factor  
Protective factor  
Resilience  
Medical model  
General paresis

#### **Unit 18**

Free association  
Transference  
Treatment-etiology fallacy

#### **Unit 19**

Correlation coefficient  
Differences-between groups design  
Independent variable  
Dependent variable  
Directionality problem  
Third variable problem  
Cross-sectional study  
Prospective/Longitudinal study  
Double-blind  
Random assignment  
Convergence principle  
Spontaneous remission  
Placebo effect

#### **Unit 20**

Competence to stand trial  
Insanity  
McNaghten rule  
Civil commitment  
Duty to warn

## Key Concepts You Should Be Able to Understand:

(in order they appear in the text)

### Unit 17

- Explain the various reasons why understanding the causation (etiology) of psychopathology is so complex
- Explain the connection between predisposing and precipitating factors in causation
- Distinguish between correlation and causation,
- Distinguish between risk and protective factors
- List and contrast the major perspectives on psychopathology

### Unit 18

- Compare and contrast how the major perspectives differ with respect to their methods of treatment
- Describe the major stages of change

### Unit 19

- Explain why case studies are of limited value in psychopathology research
- Explain the difference between a positive and a negative correlation between two variables
- Describe how differences-between-groups designs are both similar to yet different from correlational designs
- Explain the two primary reasons why correlations are not sufficient to confirm causation
- Explain how longitudinal designs represent an improvement over cross-sectional designs
- Identify the major components of true experimental research
- List limitations of experimental designs and strategies for overcoming such limitations
- Explain why case studies are of limited value in investigating treatment effectiveness
- Define the type of experimental design critical to demonstrating the effectiveness of a treatment
- Summarize some of the many factors that can influence treatment outcome

### Unit 20

- Summarize the key arguments on both sides of the debate over psychologists prescribing medication
- List the various professions involved in the delivery of mental health services
- Explain the difference between competence to stand trial and not guilty by reason of insanity
- Identify the various rules that have been adopted to operationalize the legal concept of insanity
- Summarize what is currently known about the ability of mental health professionals to assess dangerousness
- Explain the concept of “duty to warn”