Unit 11 – Study Guide

Due: March 5th

1. What’s the difference between someone with a psychological disorder and someone who only occasionally shows signs symptoms of a disorder?
2. What is the medical model? Why is it an important change in perspectives from the past (think previous centuries)?
3. What is the most common tool for describing psychological disorders? What are its strengths and weaknesses?
4. What did David Rosenhan figure out?
5. Which type of psychological disorders are the most common?
6. What increases the vulnerability to psychological disorders? What times in life do most people develop a psychological disorder?
7. What is the difference between generalized anxiety disorder and panic disorder?
8. How many Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans were diagnosed with PTSD? What biological factors may play a role in someone developing PTSD after a traumatic episode?
9. How do conditioning and cognition play a role in anxiety disorders, OCD, and PTSD?
10. How big of a role do you think conditioning plays in the development of phobias and OCD?
11. Which do you think would impair everyday functioning more, severe generalized anxiety disorder or severe panic disorder? Explain your reasoning.
12. Why do you think that bipolar disorder seems to be correlated with greater levels of creativity?
13. What is a biological basis for major depressive and similar disorders?
14. Explain the social cognitive perspective’s understanding of depression as a “vicious cycle”.
15. What is the difference between acute and chronic schizophrenia? In what ways is recovery different for each form?
16. Describe brain differences in people with schizophrenia.
17. What evidence is there that the womb’s environment can contribute to the development of schizophrenia? What environmental triggers exist for schizophrenia?
18. What is dissociation? Give evidence that supports the fact that dissociative identity disorder is a true disorder, and evidence that supports the fact that it is just created by therapists.
19. What are the relative contributions of nature and nurture to antisocial personality disorder?
20. Briefly discuss the prevalence of psychological disorders in our society.
21. Should patients with schizophrenia be hospitalized and treated even if it is against their will? Why or why not?
22. Reflect back on what you learned in American History last year. Do you think that our society has become more or less psychologically healthy in the last two hundred years? Why or why not?
23. How should people with psychological disorders be treated in the criminal justice system? Has this unit influenced your thoughts on this topic? Why or why not?