



## **Behavioral Health**

**2024-2025**

**Course Description:** This course introduces the field and study of behavioral health to students interested in a career or pathway in the exciting field of health sciences. Students will learn about principles for promoting well-being and prevention strategies, as well as understanding mental health disorders, and treatment options. A special emphasis will be on exploring the role of a Behavioral Health Technician and how students can successfully pursue this career. This is also a prerequisite course for Nursing Assistant and Pharmacy Tech.

**Culture of Learning:** This class reinforces PSSC's school wide agreements: Be Present, Be Respectful, Be Engaged, Be Professional. These agreements will be upheld through a positive, progressive support system including individual check-ins with students, positive reinforcement strategies, contact with families, interventions from Dean/Counselor, etc.

**Student Learning Outcomes: At the end of this course students will:**

- Apply basic communications concepts in real -world applications in the behavioral health context
- Understand the roles of the Behavior Health Technician, Psychiatrist, Psychologist, Social worker, and other licensed clinical mental health specialists.
- Identify drug classes, schedules and administration along with regulations and side effects.
- Incorporate cultural awareness in the dynamics of mental health management.
- Understand military culture and supportive services a Behavioral Technician can offer.
- Explore the qualities, characteristics, and personality to be a supervisor in the behavioral health field.
- Create a set of creative activities to engage individuals and group members that can be used in a behavioral health setting.
- Have a working knowledge of the progression of addiction as a disease and the medical model of substance abuse
- Understand the theory of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.
- Students will create a job ready portfolio.
- Students will learn the benefits of financial literacy.

### **Instructor Contact Information:**

Kelly Petska- [Kelly.petska@highlineschools.org](mailto:Kelly.petska@highlineschools.org) 206-631-7370 School

Yvonne Walker – [Yvonne.walker@highlineschools.org](mailto:Yvonne.walker@highlineschools.org) 206-631-7370 School

Office Hours: 7:25 - 7:55, 1:45-2:30

The best way to contact instructors is through email.

**Credits Offered:**

Credits per Semester: 1.5

Equivalency Credits: 0.5 Careers (CTE), 0.5 Lab Science, 0.5 Health

College Credits: TBD

**Industry-Recognized Certifications:** TBD

**Grading Policies:** We use Standards-Based Grading to assess student learning as per Highline Public Schools.

The grade scale is as follows:

**4** (A; 3.2 - 4.0): EXCEEDING STANDARD

**3** (B; 2.4 - 3.19): MEETING STANDARD

**2** (C; 1.6 - 2.39): APPROACHING STANDARD

**1** (D; 1.2 - 1.59): BEGINNING

**NC** (NC; 0 - 1.19): NO EVIDENCE/NO CREDIT

Reassessment Opportunities:

Reassessments opportunities will be determined by the instructor. Not all assignments and assessments are eligible for reassessment.

**Required Materials:** Google Classroom, ICEV platform, Communication Skills for the Healthcare Professional Enhanced 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Basic Psychopharmacology Principles: A quick Guide for Mental Health Professionals.

**Program Costs:** There will no longer be any classroom fees and uniforms will be provided. If you want your uniform customized, then students may need to pay.

**Professional Attire & Uniform Requirements:** Students must wear a lanyard with their student ID and PSSC provided attire and/or business/casual attire.

**Course Technology:** This course utilizes Google classroom.

**Work-Based Learning (WBL):** WBL is an instructional strategy that provides students with career exploration opportunities and hands-on learning where knowledge gained in CTE courses can be applied to real-life work experiences. The goal of every work-based learning program is to prepare students for the next generation of the workforce. PSSC students will participate in Work Based Learning through their CTE program and may earn elective credits.

Common WBL opportunities

- Job placement in career pathway
- Internships
- Clinicals
- Externships

All PSSC students will participate in Work Based Learning.

## **Leadership:**

Leadership is a key component of Behavioral Health where your student can be a member of HOSA. The purpose of HOSA is to encourage the development of vocational understanding, leadership qualities, social awareness, and a sense of responsibility to school and community. HOSA's mission is to "empower Future Health Professionals to become leaders in the global health community, through education, collaboration, and experience."

List of opportunities:

- HOSA Membership
- HOSA Fall Conference
- HOSA Spring Leadership Conference and Competition
- Community Service
- PSSC Program Leader/Officers

## **Cell Phone Policy:**

Cell phones should be used for educational purposes only as directed by the instructor. Cell phones will be collected at the beginning of class and given out at the end. For emergencies, please contact the school office at 206-631-7300.

## **Attendance Policy:**

The seat time mandate for CTE courses in Washington ensures students receive sufficient instructional hours and hands-on training time to master necessary technical skills. Prescribed minimum seat time safeguards the quality of CTE programs by allowing for in-depth classroom learning, adequate lab practice on equipment, and fulfillment of certification requirements. Upholding seat time standards is crucial for preparing a workforce with job-ready expertise meeting industry needs.

Therefore, it is critical that students are present. Whether excused or unexcused, missed time is missed time.

1. If a student is tardy, they must complete the QR code in their classroom. It is their responsibility as a student to complete the QR code so their absence can be corrected to a tardy. If they do not complete the QR code, the student will be marked absent.
2. As a professional courtesy, please contact the course instructor via email, Google voice text or phone call.
3. Absences may be excused by any of the following methods within 48 hours of the absence:
  - a. Phone call to PSSC Attendance Specialist, Kelsey Gomez (206-631-7353)
  - b. Email to PSSC Attendance Specialist, Kelsey Gomez (kelsey.gomez@highlineschools.org)
  - c. Hand-written note turned into PSSC Attendance Specialist Kelsey Gomez
4. Please include the following information in the note, call or email:
  - a. Student Name
  - b. Parent Name
  - c. Date of the absence
  - d. Reason for the absence
5. Prearranged absence forms are in the office. The form must be completed with all required signatures before departure date. This form will be shared with your home school as well.

6. Reassessments opportunities will be clearly published and determined by the instructor. Not all assignments and assessments are eligible for reassessment.

**Student Handbook:** [CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)

### **Year 2 Eligibility:**

All Year 1 PSSC students will have quarterly check-ins with their PSSC teachers, student success dean, counselor, and families to assess performance in their program, needed supports, and progress towards mastery of content and skills necessary for Year 2 programming. All information will be shared with the home school support staff.

Students will have an opportunity to do a year 2 Apprenticeship Program in Behavioral Health, or use this as a prerequisite for Nursing Assistant or Pharmacy Tech.