

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE  
MENTAL DISORDERS FOUND IN CRISIS SITUATIONS**

**Course: Mental Disorders Found in Crisis Situations**

**Hours: 4**

**Objective: This course will provide peace officers and dispatchers with the skills and knowledge to recognize individuals with mental illness, identify potential disorders, minimize escalations in contacts with the mentally ill thereby reducing death and injury to peace officers and mentally ill individuals.**

**Law Enforcement Officers will be able to recognize the characteristics and symptoms of mentally ill persons by identifying and examining the signs, symptoms, and contributing factors associated with personality and substance-related disorders, schizophrenia, mood disorder, and most frequently occurring disorders of childhood or adolescence. Officers will also be able to identify the most commonly used psychotropic medications and associated side effects of these medications.**

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**I. Course Overview**

***A. Course Introduction***

- 1. Instructors/Students**
- 2. Course Objectives**

***B. Mental Illness Overview***

- 1. Mental illness defined**
- 2. DSM (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders)**

**II. Affective Disorders**

***A. Major Depressive Disorder***

- 1. Signs and Symptoms of depression**
- 2. Causes of depression**
- 3. Treatment options**

***B. Bipolar Disorders***

- 1. Signs and Symptoms of Bipolar Disorder**
- 2. Causes of Bipolar Disorder**
- 3. Treatment options**

***C. Medications and side effects***

- 1. Commonly used medications and side effects**
- 2. Newer medications and side effects**

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**III. Psychotic Disorders**

***A. Schizophrenia***

***B. Other psychotic Disorders***

- 1. Brief psychotic episodes**
- 2. Excited delirium**
- 3. Drug-induced psychotic disorders**

***C. Medications and side effects***

- 1. Commonly used medications and side effects**
- 2. Newer medications and side effects**

**IV. Other Disorders**

***A. Personality Disorders***

- 1. Antisocial Personality Disorder**
- 2. Borderline Personality Disorder**

***B. Medications and side effects***

- 1. Commonly used medications and side effects**
- 2. Newer medications and side effects**

***C. Children/Adolescence***

- 1. Suicide and psychosis**
- 2. Personality Traits**

***D. Medications and side effects***

- 1. Commonly used medications and side effects**
- 2. Newer medications and side effects**

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**Hourly Distribution**

<b>Common Mental Disorders Found in Crisis Situations</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Content</b>
0800-0900	Course Overview
0900-1000	Affective Disorders
1000-1100	Psychotic Disorders
1100-1200	Other Disorders