Abnormal behavior is defined as behavior that is irrational or unpredictable, making it difficult or impossible to understand. While abnormal behavior is often abnormal, this branch of psychology generally deals with behavior in a clinical context. Perspectives in different research methods that can be applied to the study of abnormal behavior include case studies, surveys, and controlled experiments. Case studies provide detailed descriptions of individuals or groups, while surveys allow for the collection of data from a larger population. Controlled experiments involve manipulating variables to observe the effects on behavior, allowing for more precise conclusions. Abnormal behavior is often studied in the context of mental health issues, the role of brain function, and the effects of environmental factors. Understanding the criteria for abnormal behavior is essential for diagnosing and treating individuals with mental health disorders.