

Counseling LGBTQ Clients

CPSY 590

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Date: March 9th and March 16th 2013 9:00- a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Course Description: **Welcome!** This class will explore affirmative perspectives on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered issues which serve as the foundation for current research and practice in the fields of counseling, education and psychology. All the major professional organizations have formal ethical guidelines requiring non-discrimination and are active in promoting affirmative perspectives. This class will serve as an introduction to LGBT issues while examining heterosexism and homophobia and social constructions of identity. We will explore a range of clinical implications to consider when treating the LGBT community. We will also discuss interventions and treatment strategies.

Objectives:

This course could consist of an entire term. As such, we will do our best to bring to you as much information as possible in this limited time frame. Please keep in mind there is no way to cover all information in such a short time. Our goal is as follows:

- ♦ Think critically and reflexively about the presuppositions of constructions of sexuality and gender
- ♦ Identify and critically understand identity as intersecting/multiple and recognize issues of power and privilege relative to the intersecting identities of gender, race, class, religion, sexual orientation, ability, national origin, age, and language and how these influence social location in and out of therapeutic contexts.
- ♦ Raise one's personal and professional awareness about sexual orientation and gender identity.
- ♦ Develop empathy for a broad range ways people who are LGBT are socially and psychologically impacted.
- ♦ Critically discuss LGBT identity and psychological development.
- ♦ Review current research and theory in LGBT psychotherapy, ethical guidelines and competencies,
- ♦ Narratives and videos of therapeutic issues with multicultural LGBT clients',
- ♦ Develop an awareness of one's own assumptions, values, and worldview of LGBT identities.

Course Template

Activities

3.9.13	Welcome, Introduction, and Syllabus	Introduction Activity
	LGBT 101 • Terminology • Social constructs/Gender transgressing • Risk factors • Cultural Implications/Intersecting Identities	PowerPoint, Small Group Discussion, Video
	Gay Men • Clinical implications • Clinical Interventions • Bisexual Men • MSM vs. Sexual Identity	Video and Discussion Power Point Lecture Small Group Discussion
	Lesbian • Clinical implications • Clinical implications • Bisexual women • Cultural identities and gender expression within the lesbian community	Video, Power Point, Small Group Discussion
3.16.2013	Reflect and Apply information Turn in Homework	Individual Presentations
	GLB Wrap Up Ethics of conversion therapy	Power Point Lecture
	Trans Communities • Terminology • Trans Introduction • Clinical Implications - o Trans-masculine	Video and Discussion Guest Speaker Power Point

	- o Trans-feminine - o Gender queer/non conforming - o Trans Children • Clinical Interventions GLBT Wrap Up • Creating Safe Clinical Spaces • Closing Activity	Whole Group Brainstorm
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Course Requirements:

Grading: This class is offered as pass or fail. Participation and the homework between classes will be considered in this decision.

Participation in a Learning Community: Students are required to attend and *actively* participate in all scheduled class meetings. This includes being on time, reading all of the assigned material and discussing it, and otherwise engaging with colleagues as fellow professionals.

Assignments:

- **Reflection Response:**

In an effort to help you make connections and apply what you have learned you will be asked to choose a movie or television show that depicts the LGBTQ population. Using the information learned from day one, write a two to three page reflection paper. We will be looking for thoughts regarding terminology, examples of intersecting identities, and other cultural implications. Please be prepared to give the class a 2-5 minute presentation about the experience.

- **In Class Readings**

Students are required to read assigned in class material and be prepared to discuss with classmates. These will be distributed in class and you do not need to be prepared in advance for these readings.