

CPSY 563 – 01
Treatment Issues: Disability and Family Therapy
February/March 2008

Dates and Time: Wednesday 2/20, 2/27, 3/5: 10am – 12:30pm
Instructor: Mary Andrews, M.S., AAMFT Approved Supervisor
Contact Information: marymft@earthlink.net – 503-287-2663
Hours: Before and after class, by appointment.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: TREATMENT ISSUES IN FAMILY THERAPY

Applications of the family systems approach to the treatment of families in crisis and transition. Topics include issues such as substance abuse, domestic violence, sexual abuse, trauma and loss, poverty, and chronic illnesses. A portion of this course emphasizes clinical case conceptualization and treatment planning.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: DISABILITY AND FAMILY THERAPY

This course will provide an overview of couple and family therapy issues associated with disability and how these impact the systemic treatment therapy process. The course will then focus on two specific disabilities: Deafness/hearing loss and autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Solution-focused therapeutic strategies based upon the instructor's work with families experiencing these challenges will be highlighted.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Complete assigned readings prior to each class meeting for which they are assigned. (5 points)
2. Participate in class discussion and role plays based upon the readings. (5 points)
3. Submit three reaction papers due 2/27, 3/5 and 3/12 (last paper via email marymft@earthlink.net). Each paper should be no more than 1-2 typed pages (double spaced) and be free of grammatical and spelling errors. In each paper, you will describe your personal reactions to the concepts and techniques that were taught/discussed *during the preceding class* and to related readings. The standard score for a well-written paper is four. Papers that demonstrate new insights and creative integration into family therapy practice will be considered exceptional and will receive a score of five. (15 points).
4. Submit a final paper, via email, no more that two weeks after the last class (by 3/26). This paper should be no more than 3 pages, double spaced, and will summarize your thinking about issues of disability and how these will interface with your current or future couple and family therapy practice. Your paper should relate to the issues discussed in class but is not limited to the specific disabilities addressed (ASD & Deafness). Your paper must be free of grammatical and spelling errors. (8 points)

GRADING

Your total points (33 possible) will be multiplied by 3 +1 (free point) and the following grades will be given.

A = 94-100

A- = 90-93

B+ = 88 -89

B = 83 -87

B- = 80 -82

C+ = 78-79

C = 73-77

C- = 70-72

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY/SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

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If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability and/or you have emergency medical information to share please make an appointment with the instructor as soon as possible.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND READINGS

2/20/08

Introduction

Discussion of disability and the grieving process in the context of solution-focused family therapy.

Readings:

1. Gough, D. (2004) Disability, Loss and Grieving: Implications and Suggestions. Adapted and "remixed" from *Perspective on Language Learning and Education 11, No.1*. American Speech-Language and Hearing Association, Division 1.

2/27/08

1. Greenspan, S. & Wieder, S., (1998). *The child with special needs*, (pp.19-33 & 132-159). Reading, Mass: Perseus Books.

2. Atwood, T. (1998). Asperger's syndrome: A guide for parents and professionals, (pp. 13-66). London & Philadelphia: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

3. National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (2005-2008). *Autism overview*. Web site:
<http://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/asd.cfm> Click on HTML for 11 pages of information. Pages 8 & 11 have particular significance for family therapists.

3/5/08

1. Harvey, M. (1989). *Psychotherapy with Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons: A systemic model*, (pp. 157-181 & 209-227). Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.