

Class CPSY 561 Fall 2006

Instructor:
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Course Description

This course focuses on the issues in research and the clinical assessment of couples and families. Examination of the assumptions and values underlying assessment approaches. Specific assessment techniques are discussed, evaluated, and practiced. Special attention is given to approaches in multicultural assessment. There will be exploration of ethical, legal and practical issues. Attention is given to theoretical underpinnings of measures as well as their psychometric properties.

Course Objectives

1. Students will understand the role and methods of clinical family/systems assessment in clinical settings.
2. Students will understand the connection between our values and assumptions with our ways of observing and assessing families.
3. Students will learn the different levels of assessment within a family. This will include individual, couple, parent/child, whole family functioning and family/community functioning. Students will learn to integrate assessments of different subsystems and provide those results in a written form.
4. Students will understand the legal, ethical and practical issues of assessment in real clinical settings.
5. Students will understand the impact of culture and diversity issues on the assessment process and tools.

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Grading

PROJECT DUE DATE	/06
Mid Term Exam	/06
Final Exam	/06

Grading Scale

Total Points	500
A	450-500
B	400-450
C	350-400
D	300-350

Presentation	100
Mid Term	100
Final	100
Analysis Paper	100
Class Participation/Preparation	100

All exams are open book and essay.

Tentative Weekly Outline

I. September 5

Introductions

Review Course Expectations and Syllabus

Discuss Class Presentation, Exam schedule, Analysis Paper

No Reading Required

II. September 12

General Overview of Assessment

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods

Chapter 2: Evolution of Family Therapy

Chapter 3: Early Models and Basic Techniques

Ethnicity and Family Therapy

Chapter 1: Overview

III. September 19

General Overview of Assessment

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods

Chapter 4: Fundamental Concepts of Family Therapy

Ethnicity and Family Therapy

Chapter 2: American Indian Families

Chapter 3: Back to the Future

IV. September 26

Structural and Strategic Therapy Concepts

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods

Chapter 6: Strategic Family Therapy

Chapter 7: Structural Family Therapy

Ethnicity and Family Therapy

Chapter 4: Native Hawaiian Families

Chapter 6: African American Origin: An Overview

V. October 3

Bowen Family Systems Therapy

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods

Chapter : Bowen Family Systems Therapy

Ethnicity and Family Therapy

African American Families

A one paragraph description of presentation topic due on this date.

- VI. October 10
Solution-Focused Therapy
Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 12: Solution-Focused Therapy

Ethnicity and Family Therapy
Chapter 11: Latino Families: An Overview
Chapter 17: Mexican Families
- VII. October 17
Cognitive-Behavioral Family Therapy
Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 10: Cognitive-Behavioral Family Therapy

Ethnicity and Family Therapy
Chapter 11: Central American Families
Chapter 19: Salvadoran Families
- VIII. October 24
Mid Term Exam
- IX. October 31
Feminism, Social Constructionism and Multiculturalism
Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 11: Family Therapy in the Twenty-First Century

Ethnicity and Family Therapy
Chapter 20: Asian Families: An Overview
Chapter 22: Chinese Families
- X. November 7
Standardized Tests and Special Assessments
Suicide Assessment
Required Reading: Prepare/Enrich Material
Suicide Assessment Handouts
- XI. November 14
Analysis Paper of “The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down” Due
Cultural Differences: How do we manage?
Ethnicity and Family Therapy
Chapter 48: Jewish Families: An Overview
Chapter 49: Israeli Families
- XII. November 21
Integration, Ethical Issues, Legal Issues and Licensure
Required Reading OARS/Licensure Statues

XIII. November 28
Domestic Violence
Class Presentations

XIV. December 5
Final Exam Review
Class Presentations

XV. December 12
Final Exam

Presentation Requirement

Each Student will do a 30 minute class presentation on some aspect of family assessment. The focus and methods used in the presentation are at the discretion of the student. Students are encouraged to be creative in their presentation with the only requirement being that it must relate to “assessment”. Please feel free to utilize different media and formats for your presentation.

Submission of Topic Due October 3

Presentations on November 28 and December 5

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down.
A Hmong Child, her American Doctors and the Collision of Two Cultures

Book Analysis

While this book deals with primary health care as mental health providers you will be part of the “American” healthcare system. Many of you over the course of your professional careers will be directly involved in the healthcare systems and have a direct impact on how it delivers services to different cultures.

Each Student is expected to write a 10 page reflection on this book. No additional references are required or expected. My desire is that you will put some energy into thought about the very real and human forces involved in this story. In particular I am interested in any and all reactions it stirs in you. I am not asking nor do I expect you to provide “solutions” but rather some highlights of your thoughts and reactions. In particular I am interested in the questions the book raises for you.

Due November 14

Books for CPSY 561

Family Therapy/Concepts and Methods/6th Edition
Michael Nichols with Richard Schwartz
ISBN 0205359051

Ethnicity and Family Therapy/3rd edition/Pub September 2005
Monica McGoldrick
Joe Giordano
Joseph Giordano
Nydia Garcia-Preto
ISBN 1593850204

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down
A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures
Anne Fadiman
ISBN 0374525641