Time & Day: October, 2009  9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.
Instructor:  Marisol Garcia, MA MFT
Contact Information:  marisolg1965@yahoo.com

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Applications of family systems approach to 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

Family therapists are continually confronted with violent relational systems.  Family violence is  
widespread and heeds competency, awareness, and action from family therapists on an  
individual, familial, and societal level. This course is designed to provide family therapists with  
introductory knowledge and skills for the assessment and intervention of family violence. The  
curriculum is informed primarily by feminist and critical multicultural theories and practices

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students in this course will develop a working knowledge of assessing and treating domestic  
violence in the treatment of individuals, couples, children, and families from a  
relational/systemic perspective. This includes developing adequate safety and intervention plans.

ASSIGNMENTS

Readings
Students are expected to complete the assigned readings prior to class and to synthesize and  
apply them in class. Classroom discussions are an opportunity to bring up questions about the  
assigned readings, deepen one’s understanding of the issues under study, and integrate course  
material with one’s own personal and professional experience. Demonstration that reading  
assignments have been completed is worth 10 points.

Resources Paper
Please provide an overview of reporting practices (mandated reporting laws) in the state of  
Oregon and Washington in regards to domestic violence as victim’s rights in terms of legal  
persecution of perpetrator(s). In addition, create a list of referrals to hotlines, group therapy,
survivors of domestic violence groups, financial help from state agencies to pay for recovery, and any other resource you can find to provide to your client. These papers will be shared with your peers.

The paper is worth 20 points.

**Final paper**

Students will complete a 4-6 page final paper. A case example will be provided and students will be asked to discuss case conceptualization, treatment options, and relevant self-of-the-therapist issues. Students are expected to use theoretical literature and research in support of their ideas and opinions. At least 5 peer-reviewed articles or book chapters should be cited. Instructions for completing the final paper will be provided in class.

The final paper should be double spaced, 12 pt font, and in APA 5 format. The paper should be submitted via e-mail (marisolg1965@yahoo.com and benkomir@sbcglobal.net) Late papers will receive lower grades.

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<th>Content</th>
<th>30 points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Clarity and organization of ideas</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<td>Use of pertinent literature</td>
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<td>Writing and referencing according to APA style</td>
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**Total = 70 points**

**GRADING**

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<td>B+</td>
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**TEXTS AND MATERIALS**

Students are expected to read all articles and book chapters listed in the course schedule. Students should be prepared to complete and synthesize the readings prior to class.

**NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY/SPECIAL ASSISTANCE**

Lewis & Clark College adheres to a nondiscriminatory policy with respect to employment, enrollment, and program. The College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap or disability, sexual orientation, or marital status and has a firm commitment to promote the letter and spirit of all equal opportunity and civil rights laws.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANCE**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability and/or you have emergency medical information to share please contact the instructors via e-mail as soon as possible.
COURSE SCHEDULE

First Day Readings


2nd Day Readings: Choose three of the following. The rest are optional.


Sharma, A. (2001). Healing the wounds of domestic abuse: Improving the effectiveness of feminist therapeutic interventions with immigrant and racially visible women who have been abused. *Violence Against Women, 7*(12), 1405-1428.