SWK 505: Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This advanced practice course provides students with theories and skills for working with individuals from an advanced generalist perspective. By the end of the course, students will be expected to demonstrate critical thinking, integration of theory with practice, and knowledge, values and skills appropriate for autonomous practice. Prerequisites: Students must have been admitted to the MSW program; completed all MSW foundation curriculum requirements; and be in good standing in the MSW program.

GOAL & COMPETENCIES:

1. Prepare MSW graduates for professional advanced generalist practice that reflects application and integration of critical thinking, theoretical frameworks, and differential interventions. Graduates will be able to demonstrate the following competencies:

   C 1.1 Apply critical and independent analysis of practice situations and effectively communicate their judgments, reasoning and decision-making processes (2.1.3)

   C 1.2 Apply and contribute to evidence-based and best practice approaches to continuously assess and improve the efficacy and effectiveness of practice (2.1.6)

   C 1.3 Differentially apply theories and frameworks of HBSE and critique interactions between and among biological, psychological, social, spiritual and cultural systems and their reciprocal relationships with HBSE. (2.1.7)

   C 1.4 Demonstrate autonomy in dynamic practice activities that involve (2.1.10):
C. 1.4 (a) Effective relationship-building interactions at all levels of systems focused on enhancing client choice, motivation, and hopefulness in the change process

C. 1.4 (b) Use of a variety of multi-dimensional evidence-based assessment tools and intervention approaches

C. 1.4 (c) Effective intervention with complex problems and multi-level systems that provides amelioration as well as prevention strategies

C. 1.4 (d) Response to the evaluative feedback process for interventions implemented with client systems

2. Enable MSW graduates to apply ethical reasoning to advance equality, justice, and social change. Graduates will be able to reflect the following competencies:

C. 2.2 Apply social work ethical principles to resolve dilemmas and create positive change among individuals, families, groups, organizations & communities (2.1.2)

C. 2.3 Demonstrate the ability to build strengths based on mutual engagement with diverse populations (2.1.4)

3. Promote leadership and service that is relevant to individual contexts of practice and enhances well-being and quality of life. Graduates will be able to reflect the following competencies:

C. 3.1 Exemplify and model professional social work standards and strive to enhance their professional growth and development (2.1.1)

C. 3.2 Use leadership skills indicative of an advanced generalist practitioner to proactively respond amidst changing contexts (2.1.9)

C. 3.4 Effectively intervene with individuals, families and groups, and provide administrative leadership and direction in organizations and communities as advanced generalist practitioners. (** New AGP Objective)

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. The ability to use selected theories and models of intervention in generalist practice with individuals.
2. The ability to critique and apply the theoretical and empirical literature relevant to intervention situations.
3. The ability to select, evaluate, and use explanations of human behavior for specific practice situations, i.e., the interventions appropriate for specific conditions and clients.
4. The understanding of intercultural counseling techniques, as relevant to minority groups, and the relevance of generalist practice activities to the social work profession and to social justice.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COURSES:

This course builds upon foundation content that provides knowledge of human behavior and social systems. It builds upon foundation exposure to professional values and ethics, particularly the NASW Code of Ethics.

This course draws upon SWK 501, 555, and 595 to engage research methods and skills in evaluation; critical thinking skills utilize research and empirical evidence.

TEXTS:


GRADING:

225 - 250 points = A  
200 - 224 points = B  
175 - 219 points = C  
> 174 – Don’t go here!

OVERVIEW OF ASSIGNMENTS:

ANALYTIC PAPERS (10 @ 10 points = 100 Points):

A one page double-spaced typewritten paper is due at the beginning of each class meeting for Weeks 5 -15; summarizes the reading assigned for the day (see course calendar). The paper should identify and discuss at least four key points from the reading. Be prepared to discuss these points in class. Each paper is worth ten (10) points.

GROUP PRESENTATION (35 Points):

Students will pair with another student to form a group of two (2). Each group will be responsible for leading the class discussion for classes meeting in Weeks 5 – 15. Discussion leaders will review the assigned material and develop a presentation, including: 1) a summary of the theory, 2) assessment of the theory for practice, 3) a case example utilizing the theory. Be sure to develop possible questions and/ or issues for discussion. Leaders should also rely on their own experiences and knowledge to help facilitate class discussion.

Full participation and cooperation by both members of the group is expected. Theoretically, one grade will be assigned for each group presentation. It is possible, however, that individual grades may be reduced by a lack of effort or participation in the final product.

THEORY ANALYSIS PAPER (100 Points):
Students will choose a theory that attempts to explain human behavior. It does not need to be one discussed in class. Students will then analyze the theory through some framework, i.e. Chapter 2 in the text or Payne’s framework (see handout). There should also be a section on application to practice, including a case study. The application section should utilize the professional literature and contain at least 5 sources. Finally, a conclusion as to why this theory is the best theory to explain human behavior. The paper should be 12 – 15 pages in length. More information can be found in APPENDIX A. **The paper is due: May 1\(^{st}\), 2013 at the beginning of class.**

**CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:**

Students are expected to attend class, reflecting responsibility which is inherent in the development as a social work professional. Roll will be taken regularly. Students are expected to be on time and prepared to participate when class begins as well as be present throughout the entire class meeting. Classroom exercises, discussions, role plays, guest speakers and other in-class experiential exercises are essential for a student’s professional learning and continued development of self-awareness. Tardiness (or early departure) of more than 15 minutes will count as .5 absence (2 tardies/early departures = 1 absence). A student is considered absent if he/she arrives more than 30 minutes late to class, leaves 30 or more minutes early or does not come to class.

The following penalties for absences (unexcused, or excused, according to university policy) will be administered:

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<th>Weekly</th>
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**ONLINE OR WEB-ENHANCED CLASSES:** Just as students are required to attend face-to-face classes, students are required to log in and participate in online components. To receive credit for attendance online via eCollege, students must log in and complete assignments in a timely manner. Not logging in to eCollege (which can be monitored by the instructor) and completing assignments online during the appropriate time is the equivalent of an absence for each week this occurs.

Final evaluation and grades depend on both presence and participation. Students’ grades will be significantly impacted by inadequate participation or lack of required time commitment each week. Students are expected to spend a comparable amount of time in the online learning environment as they would in class (3 hours a week in the classroom). In addition, just as in traditional F2F classrooms, students are expected to spend time reading and studying class materials.

**NOTE:** PROBLEMS WITH YOUR INTERNET CONNECTION AND/OR COMPUTER ARE NOT CONSIDERED AS REASONS FOR LACK OF PARTICIPATION. You have access to the university’s computer labs (in the social work department AND other campus facilities, including the library) as well as local libraries and other access to computers and ISPs.

If you believe that you are unable to fulfill the requirements for the course you should talk with your instructor about the possibility of dropping or withdrawing.

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Class participation has three components: (1) Appropriate interactions with classmates, (2) Attentiveness, and (3) Active involvement in class activities. Evaluation of class participation is based on instructor observation. Students will be given feedback if problems are evident.

**POLICY ON DUE DATES:**

**POLICY ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Every student is expected to do his/her own work. Law, ethical standards, university policy, and departmental policy demand that students refrain from plagiarism and any form of cheating. Plagiarism is the "Act of appropriating the literacy composition of another, or parts of passages from of his [or her] writings, or the ideas or language of the same, and passing them off as the products of one's own mind." (Black's Law Dictionary, Abridged Fifth Edition, 1983). When using others' words, phrases, or ideas in writing, the original author should be given proper credit.

Cheating may take different forms. These include, but are not limited to, copying others' answers during an exam, using notes or other forms of help during an examination or quiz, except when explicitly permitted by the instructor, giving or receiving help on exams or assignments, or submitting work for one class which has already been submitted for another class for credit. Use of citations from the Internet without paraphrasing content AND proper referencing is regarded as plagiarism. Professors have the right to use electronic review programs (such as Turn It In”) to identify plagiarism.

The department does not tolerate plagiarism or cheating. A student found to be engaging in such illegal and unethical conduct may receive a failing grade in the course and may be subjected to further disciplinary proceedings. Any assignment or exam that lacks honesty will be given a grade of "0".

**ACCEPTABLE CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:**

“Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to obey all federal, state, and local laws, in addition to the regulations of the University. The standards of Student Conduct including disciplinary rules and procedures are designed to provide and conform to the basic tenets of due process, as developed by institutions of higher education. As such, the University distinguishes these procedures and regulations as an educational and growth process which is not intended to conform to adversary proceedings as in a court of law. (Student’s Guide Book, 2011, p. 35).

**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS**

The Department of Social Work expects all social work students to conduct themselves in an ethical, professional manner. Professional ethics are at the core of social work. The profession articulates its basic values, ethical principles, and ethical standards as set forth in the *NASW Code of Ethics* to guide social workers’ conduct. The *Code* is relevant to all social workers and social work students, regardless of their professional functions, the settings in which they work, or the populations they serve. Accordingly, we expect social work students to demonstrate courtesy, respect and support for fellow students, instructors, clients, and all other persons.
All students enrolled in BSW or MSW classes are expected to observe the tenets of the NASW Code of Ethics and the Social Work Student Code of Conduct. Our Code of Conduct is reflective of professional and academic expectations – a student who cannot demonstrate appropriate behaviors will not be appropriate for practice in the social work profession. Students who violate these Codes may be asked to meet with appropriate Social Work faculty (instructors or Program Directors). In addition, the department’s Academic and Professional Issues (API) Committee is responsible for dealing with student issues when requested by faculty.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

It is the policy of Texas A&M University-Commerce and the Social Work Department to do everything we can to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal and state law, and the University’s commitment to providing equal opportunities. Any student with a disability who needs accommodation, for example, in accessibility, seating placement or in arrangements for examinations should not hesitate to inform the instructor. If required, large type, Braille or cassette recordings of syllabus or assignments can be provided.

Students with conditions that require special attention or accommodation should contact the Director of Disability Resources & Services at 903-468-5150 (located in the Library, Room 132).

COURSE SCHEDULE

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Reading(s)</th>
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<td>Introduction to Course; Review Syllabus; Course Expectations</td>
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<td>Chapter 2, Coady &amp; Lehmann, Payne, Handout Theory</td>
<td>Theory: What is it? Is It Important? How to Assess and Analyze Theories</td>
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<td>Generalist – Eclectic Approach Problem – Solving Model Assign Presentation Groups</td>
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<td>Old School - Beginnings of Therapy</td>
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BIBLIOGRAPHY:


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WEBSITES:

Anxiety Disorders Education Program
hHD://www.,nimb.nih.gs)jjianxiety/

Anxiety-Panic Internet Resource
h11P://vvVvv.valg.com/anxietylindex.html

Association for Humanistic Psychology
http://WvV.W.ahpweb.org/index.html

Behavior Online
http://www.behavioLnet

Brooks/Cole online Psychology Study Center
http://psvchstudv.wadsworth.com

Caregiver Survival Resources
http://VYV.N.caregiver91I.COMnl

Center for Eating Disorders
http://www.eatirur-disorders.com/

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Center for the Study of Group Processes
http://vww.vuiowa.edu/~grpRroc/

Cognitive Therapy and Research
http://\\~ v .sci.sds.edu/C AL/CTR/CTR.html

Commission on Domestic Violence
http://www.abaneLorg/dol11viol/home.html

Cyberpsychlink
lllR://cctr.umkc.edu/useridmartin/psych')_ht1111

DSM-IV Classification Headings
http:// 13:.68,135.89/abnoqnal/dsm/dsm-main.htm

Empowerment Now
http://\'w"n'.emo-ment-no\' com/

Great Ideas in Personality
http://z\':ltonpsy-ch.nwu.eduGreatldeas.\ll\ll

History of Psychology
http://\v\Vi:.guam.net/home/bmarmie/history.html

International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology
http:///\v\Vi:\ .fit,edu/Campus Life/ cl u bs-org/iaccp

Internet Mental Health
http://\v\V:\\.mentalhealth.com

Internet Psychology Lab
http://kahuna.cogsci.uiuc.edu/llIL

Interpretation of Dreams by Sigmund Freud
http://\\"1\",\\"..psvch-v'e\b.com/books/interp

Marriage Survival Guide
http://v\v\:\geocities.comJHeartland/Meadows/9082i
http://plaza

I. Megapsych Horne Page \\
lillQi/members.gnn.comJuser/megapsych.htm

Non-Mainstream Psychotherapy and Counseling Resources
Qnr://ourworld.compuserve.com/home,[LClges/selfheal.nonmain.htm

Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
hill-\Uvlww.fairlite.com\lccd/
Personality Theorists
http://www.yvynja.cQm!persoljaligy/theorists.html

Psychgrad Project
http://ai~.1. uotta'::\llicca! ~simp_~Qll/psy~.bgrad .html

Psychinfo
http://www.apa.org/

Psychoanalytic Connection
http://psychoanalysis.net/

Psychological Research on the Internet
http://psych.hanover.edu/APS/exponnet.html

Psychology in Daily Life
http://www.aps

Psycoloquy
http://ai~.Jw. J2linceto n. edu/~barnacjLr?\yc_h\n
Psych Web
http://www.gasou.edu

Racism and Prejudice: Psychological Perspectives

Sigmund Freud and the Freud Archives