Syllabus Psychology 537  
Fall 2015  
Wednesday 7:20

**Instructor:** Gail Johnson, PhD LP

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If you wish to reach me between classes please use email.

**Course Description:** This course is an overview of therapeutic techniques and skills.

**Learning Goals:**

1. Students will practice and be able to apply therapeutic techniques.
2. Students will develop their own theoretical philosophy and integrate techniques to that theory.

**Textbook:** No text book

**Tentative Schedule**

- September 2, Introductions
- September 9 - 30 Motivational Interviewing
- October 7 Building a working alliance,
- October 14 Relating and the Empty Chair
- October 21 Projections, Dreams and early memories
- October 28 - November 4 Cognitive Behavioral tool book
- November 11 Relaxation, Imagination and Mindfullness
- November 18 Life’s Work
- November 25 Happy Thanksgiving
- December 2 Life’s Work part 2 (Card Sort due this date)
- Dec 9 Using Art and theater in therapy
Dec 16  Final Exam

Your grade will be based on the following:

1 Final Exam (20% of grade)

Development of an Occupational Card Sort (10% of grade)

4 Reaction papers to different classroom experiences. You may select four of the topics covered. Your reaction paper would be due the week following the close of that topic. (20% of your grade)

Participation is essential to learning in this class. 50% of this grade will be based on class participation. For this and many other reasons class attendance is key to your success. You must attend all classes unless a formal excuse is granted.

**Student Conduct and Absences:** “All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” Students are expected to follow the code of conduct in class described in the Student Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Code of Student Conduct). Violation of the code will lead to an initiation of the disciplinary processes described in the Handbook. Proper student conduct also includes maintaining a standard of academic honesty. This means that neither cheating nor plagiarism will be tolerated and students who engage in either will be subject to the disciplinary processes described in the Code of Student Conduct. Plagiarism essentially means that you cannot use the words and ideas of another person without giving them credit. Therefore, “quotation marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author you will need to credit the source in the text” (APA, 2001, p. 249). If you have any questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism please see me.

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained. Students are expected to attend all symposia unless they have excused absences as described in the Student’s Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Academics). When students are absent from the symposia they are responsible for making up the work covered in class and speaking with me about these arrangements.

**Students with Disabilities:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable
accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library
Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
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