



LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND COUNSELING

CPSY 563: Treatment Issues in Family Therapy: Domestic Violence

SUMMER 2007

Time & Day: May 23, 2005

Instructor: Marisol Garcia, MA MFT

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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.

Reaction paper

Students will complete one 2-3-page reaction paper on working with domestic violence. The paper may address some of the following topics:

- ♦ *Types of violence that create fear, anxiety, or doubt of competency for you*
- ♦ *Making sense of family violence*
- ♦ *Personal strengths that might contribute to working effectively with family violence*
- ♦ *Personal areas of growth regarding work with family violence*
- ♦ *Family violence in the media—influence on counseling and therapy*
- ♦ *Working with child protective services in cases of suspected or substantiated child physical or emotional abuse*
- ♦ *Role of family therapist in family violence*
- ♦ *Negotiating broader contextual forces (i.e., sexism, racism, classism, heterosexism) when working with family violence*

The paper is worth 20 points. This assignment does not require any personal disclosure, unless you would like to. The paper will not be shared with the rest of the class.

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) by **June 15, 2007**. Late papers will receive lower grades.

Content	30 points
Clarity and organization of ideas	10 points
Use of pertinent literature	20 points
Writing and referencing according to APA style	10 points
Total =	70 points

GRADING

A = 93-100	B = 83-87	C = 73-77
A- = 90-92	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72
B+ = 88-89	C+ = 78-79	

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

Morning Session (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

Topics:

- Introductions and overview
- Prevalence and definitions
- Context—where we live
- Worldview

Readings: Choose three of the following articles. The rest are optional.

Hernandez, P., Almeida, R., & Dolan-Del Vecchio, K. (2005). Critical consciousness, accountability, and empowerment: Key processes for helping families heal. *Family Process*, 44, 105-119.

Speziale, B., & Ring, C. (2006). Intimate violence among lesbian couples: Emerging data and critical needs. *Journal of Feminist Family Therapy*, 18(1/2), 85-96.

Greene, K., & Bogo, M. (2002). The different faces of intimate violence: Implications for assessment and treatment. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 28(4), 455-466.

Bograd, M. (1999). Strengthening domestic violence theories: Intersections of race, class, sexual orientation, and gender. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 25(3), 275-289.

Murray, C. E. (2006). Controversy, constraints, and context: Understanding family violence through family systems theory. *The Family Journal*, 14, 234-239.

Lunch Break (12 p.m. – 1 p.m.)

Afternoon Session (1 p.m. – 5 p.m.)

Topics:

Assessment
Ethical issues
Treatment options

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

Bograd, M., & Mederos, F. (1999). Battering and couples therapy: Universal screening and selection of treatment modality. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 25(3), 291-312.

Gauthier, L. M., & Levendosky, A. A. (1996). Assessment and treatment of couples with abusive male partners: Guidelines for therapists. *Psychotherapy*, 33(3), 403-417.

Almeida, R. V., & Durkin, T. (1999). The cultural context model: Therapy for couples with domestic violence. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 25(3), 313-324.

Rosen, K. H. et al. (2003). Negotiated time-out: A de-escalation tool for couples. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 29(3), 291-298.

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.