

Class CPSY 504 Spring 2007

Instructor:
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Course Description

This class is an overview of the fundamental assumptions and ideas of general systems theory and the basic premises of key theoretical orientations within the field of family therapy. This course will provide an understanding of the differences as well as similarities between individual and systemic models of treatment. It will also provide a current perspective on the role of MFT in the field of psychotherapy and mental health treatment.

Course Objectives

1. Students will develop and understanding of the history and development of the field of marriage and family.
2. Students will understand the major theoretical models of marriage and family therapy.
3. Students will learn the current political and social treatment environment and the role of marriage and family therapy in that environment.
4. Students will acquire an understanding of the legal, ethical and practical issues of marriage and family therapy.
5. Students will understand the impact of culture and diversity issues on the process of MFT and mental health treatment.
6. Students will understand the major influences on marriage and family therapy including Modernism, Post Modernism, Feminism, Cybernetics and Cultural diversity issues.

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Office hours: Since I am adjunct faculty I have no set office hours. Please feel free to email me at my Lewis and Clark email or my personal email listed above. Also feel free to contact me at anytime.

Grading

Project	04/09 and 04/16
Mid Term Exam	02/19/06
Final Exam	04/23/06
Analysis Paper	04/02/06
Family of Origin Paper	

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	50
Family of Origin Paper	50
Class Participation/Preparation	100

Tentative Weekly Outline

I. January 8

Introductions

Review Course Expectations and Syllabus

Discuss Class Presentation, Exam schedule, Analysis Paper

Introduction to the MFT: A brief history and overview.

II. January 22

General Overview Continued: Basic concepts.

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 2: Evolution of Family Therapy
Chapter 3: Early Models and Basic Techniques
Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration
Page 31-53

III. January 29

General Overview and History: Critical Differences.

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 4: Fundamental Concepts of Family Therapy
Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration
Chapter 3

The Medical Model and Systems Theory.

IV. February 5

Structural Family Therapy Concepts

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 7: Structural Family Therapy
Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration
Chapter 9

V. February 12

Strategic Family Therapy Concepts

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 6
Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration
Chapter 11

VI. February 19

Bowen Family Systems Therapy

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter : Bowen Family Systems Therapy
Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration
Chapter 7

Review for Midterm

VII. February 26

Mid Term Exam

VIII. March 5

Review of Midterm

Major Influences: Feminism, Post Modernism, Constructivism, Social
Constructivism and Multiculturalism

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 11: Family Therapy in the Twenty-First Century
Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration
Chapter 4

Family of Origin Paper Due

IX. March 12

Communication Principles and Solution-Focused Therapy

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 12: Solution-Focused Therapy
Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration
Chapter 13: Pages 256-267

X. March 19

Communication Principles, MRI, Milton Erickson and Virginia Satir

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Pages 213-215
Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration
Pages 193-205

XI. April 2

Narrative Therapy

Required Reading: Family Therapy Concepts and Methods
Chapter 13: Narrative Therapy
Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration
Chapter 13: Pages 267 - 274

XII. April 9

Class Presentations

XIII. April 16
Class Presentations
Analysis Paper Due

XIV. April 23
Final Exam

Presentation Requirement

Each Student will do a 15 minute class presentation on some aspect or model of family therapy. 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 course family therapy. Please feel free to utilize different media and formats for your presentation.

Presentations on April 9 and April 16. Depending on class size this may be altered.

Please submit your topic by the third week of class.

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 5 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.

Format of the paper is double spaced and in 12 font. It should be in Times New Roman or Arial. No need for any type of footnotes, references or bibliography.

Due April 2

Family of Origin Paper

Students will write a 2 page assessment of their family of origin. An additional page (total of 3 pages) with a genogram will also be provided. The student will identify a theoretical framework for this assessment and then utilize the concepts of that framework to presenting some working hypothesis of their family functioning. Of critical importance is the role and positions of the student in the family process.

Books for CPSY 504

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

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

Family Therapy: A Systemic Integration (6th Edition)
Dorothy S Becvar and Raphael Becvar
ISBN: 0205446949