CO 602 Theoretical Approaches to Assessment and Treatment Planning

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Introduction

In order to function as competent clinicians, practitioners must develop competence in diagnosing and effectively treating a variety of problems with which they are confronted; consequently, they must be thoroughly familiar with a variety of treatment modalities. This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to assessment, clinical diagnosis, and treatment planning. Students will have an opportunity to become acquainted with material that is relevant to treatment issues, both from a Christian historical perspective and current knowledge.

As a result of completing this course, students shall:

1. Become familiar with principles for applying Christian thought to the field of counseling.
2. Learn how to conceptualize cases from various theoretical perspectives.
3. Develop the ability to think like a clinician, using relevant diagnostic information.
4. Value a collegial process in the development of treatment plans.
5. Learn how to develop and implement treatment plans, including cultivating the ability to assess progress and formulate timelines.
6. Learn to keep and value effective treatment records.
7. Understand how to utilize supervision to facilitate quality treatment.
8. Understand the role of psychotropic medications and mood altering chemicals in the treatment of mental and emotional disorders.
9. Understand how to make appropriate treatment referrals.

Text:
Requirements

1. Punctual attendance and active participation in class. Students should limit their absences to emergency cases such as illness, family emergencies, etc. If you should have to be absent, please notify the professor either through e-mail (Carol_Saenger@asburyseminary.edu or cbsaenger@aol.com) or call (502)875-8853. Make-up assignments will be assigned for missed classes. **Attendance and participation will count as 10 percent (10%) of the final grade.**

2. Participation in peer group discussions about treatment issues confronted in practicum settings. Peer groups will meet once a month to discuss their individual practicum treatment planning issues. These meetings will produce a specific issue to be shared with the entire class for discussion on November 21, 2002. **Peer group interaction will contribute five percent (5%) to the student’s grade.**

3. Group presentation. Students shall be assigned to groups for a presentation on case conceptualization and treatment from one theoretical orientation. The class presentation shall include the pivotal concepts of the theory and shall apply the concepts to a case, which will be provided by the instructor. Students should use the example from the text as a means of proceeding with the assigned case. **Twenty percent (20%) of the student’s grade will come from the group presentation.**

4. Individual Case Conceptualization. Students shall be assigned a case, for which each will write a complete treatment plan using a theoretical perspective of his or her choice. The theoretical perspective chosen ideally should reflect the student’s present theoretical bent. **This will account for sixty percent (60%) of the student’s grade.**

5. Additional reading of 400 pages, which includes the text. **A reading report should be submitted on the final day of class and will count as five percent (5%) of the final grade.**

Evaluation

Course assignments shall be graded using the following grade ranges:

A  93  C  73  
A-  90  C-  70  
B+  87  D+  67  
B  83  D  63  
B-  80  D-  60  
C+  77  F  Below 60
Schedule and Topics

**September 5, 2002**
- Orientation
- Group Assignments
- Developing Case Conceptualizations and Treatment Plans -- Berman Chapter 1

**September 12, 2002**
- Video and Discussion on Person-Centered Therapy

**September 19, 2002**
- The Complexity of Human Experience -- Berman Chapter 2

**September 26, 2002**
- Video and Discussion on Reality Therapy

**October 3, 2002**
- *Group One Presentation* on
  Behavioral Case Conceptualization and Treatment Plan -- Berman Chapter 3

**October 10, 2002**
- Video and Discussion on Play Therapy

**October 17, 2002**
- *Group Two Presentation* on
  Cognitive Case Conceptualization -- Berman Chapter 4

**October 24, 2002**
- Video and Discussion on Cognitive Theory of Depression

**October 31, 2002**
- *Group Three Presentation* on
  Process-experiential Case Conceptualization -- Berman Chapter 5
November 7, 2002

Video and Discussion on Family Systems Therapy
Read Berman Chapter 6

November 14, 2002

*Group Four Presentation* on
Dynamic Case Conceptualization -- Berman Chapter 7

November 21, 2002--Discussion on Practicum Treatment Issues

November 28, 2002-- Reading Week

Video and Discussion on Short-term Dynamic Therapy

December 5, 2002
Last Class -- Final paper and reading report due!

*NOTE:* The grade will be reduced one grade increment for each day the paper is late.

Video and discussion on Irreconcilable Differences

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**Note:**
This syllabus is subject to change if course-enhancing opportunities arise for guest lecturers, special presentations, etc.