

Psychology 480
Special Topics in Psychology:
Intro to Applied Clinical Psychology
Winter Semester
Humphrey 223
Wednesdays 2:30 – 5:30

Instructor Contact Information:

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TA: None

Brief Course Description:

This course is designed to orient students to the field and profession of clinical psychology. This course offers a survey of major topics in clinical psychology, including a brief history of clinical psychology; common theoretical approaches in assessment and intervention; ethical, professional and theoretical issues; and emerging trends. Students also will be briefly introduced to subspecialties within clinical psychology, such as clinical child psychology. Professional activities of clinical psychologists (e.g., consultation) will also be discussed.

Overall Course Goals/Learning Objectives:

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and explain the role of different assessment approaches (structured interview, behavioural observation, self-report questionnaire, psychological test, file review)
2. Demonstrate their understanding of the rationale and techniques of the major evidence-based forms of psychotherapy, including cognitive-behavioural and dialectical behaviour therapies.
3. Understand the role of the client and the therapist in negotiating the therapeutic relationship including rapport building, assessment, treatment planning, compliance and closure.
4. Discuss the role of the psychologist in a multidisciplinary team and as well as the roles of other health professionals.
5. Identify and consider how to resolve common ethical issues in clinical practice.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities <http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senateandtrustees/principlespriorities.html>).

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1 <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic-calendars/2011-2012-calendar/academic-regulations/regulation-1>), on the Arts and Science website (see <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academics/undergraduate/academic-integrity>), and from the instructor of this course. Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

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Grading Scheme

| Element of Grade | | Due Date |
|---|-----|---|
| 1. Psychologists as Portrayed in the Media (group presentation/debate) | 10% | January 17 th |
| 2. Psychology in the News (Weekly Group Presentations) | 20% | Jan 24 th -Feb 14 th |
| 3. Mental Status Examinations in Psychological Disorders: | | |
| a) Individual Paper on assigned Diagnosis | 20% | Mar 14 th |
| b) Group Mental Status Examination MSE (assigned date) | 15% | Mar 14 th – Mar 28 th |
| c) Portrayal of Assigned Diagnosis (assigned date) | 15% | Mar 14 th – Mar 28 th |
| 4. Exam | 20% | April 4 th |

Grading Method

All components of this course will receive numerical percentage marks. The final grade you receive for the course will be derived by converting your numerical course average to a letter grade according to Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale:

| <i>Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale Grade</i> | <i>Numerical Course Average (Range)</i> |
|---|--|
| A+ | 90-100 |
| A | 85-89 |
| A- | 80-84 |
| B+ | 77-79 |
| B | 73-76 |
| B- | 70-72 |
| C+ | 67-69 |
| C | 63-66 |
| C- | 60-62 |
| D+ | 57-59 |
| D | 53-56 |
| D- | 50-52 |
| F | 49 and below |

Late Policy

Students who are late with an assignment are deducted 5%/day. "Late" is considered anything that is submitted after the end of the class in which the item was to have been presented / delivered.

Accommodation Policy

Queen's University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Disability Services Office (DSO) and register as early as possible. For more information, including important deadlines, please visit the DSO website at: <http://www.queensu.ca/hcnds/ds/>

Textbooks/Readings

There is no assigned text for this course. Readings will be provided as required.

Course Outline

| Class: | Topics |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. January 10 th | General Introduction to Course; Intro to first assignment: Real and Fictional Psychologists as portrayed in the Media Practitioners: Neuropsychologist as Scientist-Practitioner in Seniors Mental Health |
| 2. January 17 th | Group Presentations: Real and Fictional Psychologists as portrayed in the Media Intro to second assignment: Psychology in the News |
| 3. January 24 th | Psychology in the News: Group Presentations Practitioners: Professor of Nursing and Motivational Speaker |
| 4. January 31 st | Psychology in the News: group presentations Clinical Psychology Practitioners: Clinical Service Coordinator: Brain Injury Program, BST practitioner |
| 5. February 7 th | Psychology in the News: group presentations Clinical Psychology Practitioners: Psychometrist in hospital & private practice |
| 6. February 14 th | Psychology in the News: group presentations Clinical Psychology Practitioners: Corrections / Behavioural Psychology – BST/BA practitioner and SLC Professor Clinical Psychology |
| 7. February 21 st | READING WEEK |
| 8. February 28 th | Introduction to Mental Status Examinations Clinical Psychology Practitioners: Psychologist in Private Practice |
| 9. March 7 th | Lecture: How to Conduct a Mental Status Exam Clinical Psychology Practitioners: Practice Psychologist on a Family Health Team |
| 10. March 14 th | Individual Papers on Mental Disorders DUE MSE of a Mental Disorder: group assessment simulation exercise (2 simulations in each class) |
| 11. March 21 st | MSE of a Mental Disorder: group assessment simulation exercise (2 simulations in each class) |
| 12. March 28 th | MSE of a Mental Disorder: group assessment simulation exercise (2 simulations in each class) |
| 13. April 4 th | <u>Exam</u> |