COURSE SYLLABUS

DIVISION: Theoretical and Behavioral Foundations
PROGRAM AREA: Educational Psychology
COURSE: EDP 7200—Systemic Theories & Family Therapy
CRN-SECTION: 17127-901
COURSE CREDIT: 3 Semester Hours
TERM/YEAR: Winter 2015
COURSE LOCATION: 620 Oakland Center Wayne State University
DAY/TIME: Thursday 4:30 PM - 7:15 PM
INSTRUCTOR: Bernie Les, Ph.D.
TELEPHONE: Dr. Les: 248-310-2346
E-MAIL: bles@wayne.edu
OFFICE HOURS: 4:00-4:30 at the Oakland Center; by appointment

Bulletin Description: Prereq: Admission into the Counseling Psychology program, consent of instructor. Advanced development of skills and knowledge of therapy with couples and families.

Objectives:
1) To understand key system theory concepts, interventions, and approaches.
2) To develop skills in key theories effective with couples and families.
3) Review research in effective system interventions.

REQUIRED TEXTS:


ONLINE COURSE REQUIREMENT
This course will also utilize Blackboard Academic Suite™ to communicate course information, post lecture materials, monitor grades, and complete assignments, and participate in discussions. Please be sure you have access to utilize online resources for this course.

ASSESSMENT
2 Exams and 1 project will be given throughout the semester. Exam questions will be drawn from the text, lecture, and required reading materials that demonstrate your understanding of core family therapy terms, concepts, theory, and approaches. Each exam will be worth 100 points, and the project will be worth 20 points, totaling 220 cumulative points for the semester.

Major Theories: An emphasis will be placed on Bowen Family Systems Theory and Structural Family Therapy, There will also be a review of other therapies, such as Strategic Therapy, Experiential Family Therapy, Psychoanalytic (Object Relations) Family Therapy, Cognitive-Behavioral Family Therapy, Narrative Therapy, Solution Focused, and Integrative.
Grading Scale
The following grading scale will be applied based on the total number of points accumulated by the semester end:

- A  96% +
- A-  90-95%
- B+  87-89%
- B   83-86%
- B-  80-82%
- C   79% and lower

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism

The College of Education has a “zero tolerance” approach to plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. (See Student Code of Conduct [http://doso.wayne.edu/assets/student-code-of-conduct-brochure.pdf].) Plagiarism includes copying material (any more than 5 consecutive words) from outside texts or presenting outside information as if it were your own by not crediting authors through citations. It can be deliberate or unintended. Specific examples of academic dishonesty, including what constitutes plagiarism, can be found in the University’s Undergraduate Bulletin (http://bulletins.wayne.edu/ubk-output/index.html) and Graduate Catalog (http://www.bulletins.wayne.edu/gbk-output/index.html) under the heading “Student Ethics.” These university policies are also included as a link on Blackboard within each course in which students are enrolled. It is every student’s responsibility to read these documents to be aware which actions are defined as plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Sanctions could include failure in the course involved, probation and expulsion, so students are advised to think carefully and thoroughly, ask for help from instructors if it is needed, and make smart decisions about their academic work.

Enrollment/Withdrawal Policy

Students must add classes no later than the end of the first week of classes. This includes online classes. Students may continue to drop classes (with full tuition cancellation) through the first two weeks of the term.

Students who withdraw from a course after the end of the 5th week of class will receive a grade of WP, WF, or WN.
- WP will be awarded if the student is passing the course (based on work due to date) at the time the withdrawal is requested
- WF will be awarded if the student is failing the course (based on work due to date) at the time the withdrawal is requested
- WN will be awarded if no materials have been submitted, and so there is no basis for a grade

Students must submit their withdrawal request on-line through Pipeline. The faculty member must approve the withdrawal request before it becomes final, and students should continue to attend class until they receive notification via email that the withdrawal has been approved.
Beginning the fifth week of class students are no longer allowed to drop but must withdraw from classes. The last day to withdraw will be at the end of the 10th full week of classes. The withdrawal date for courses longer or shorter than the full 15-week terms will be adjusted proportionately.

See the university webpage for full details: http://reg.wayne.edu/students/information.php

**Attention Students with Disabilities:**

If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services (SDS) for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Student Disability Services (SDS) office is located at 1600 David Adamany Undergraduate Library in the Student Academic Success Services department. SDS telephone number is 313-577-1851 or 313-202-4216 (video phone). Once you have your accommodations in place, I will be glad to meet with you privately during my office hours to discuss your special needs. Student Disability Services’ mission is to assist the university in creating an accessible community where students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in their educational experience at Wayne State University.

Please be aware that a delay in getting SDS accommodation letters for the current semester may hinder the availability or facilitation of those accommodations in a timely manner. Therefore, it is in your best interest to get your accommodation letters as early in the semester as possible.

**Religious Observance Policy:**

Because of the extraordinary variety of religious affiliations represented in the University student body and staff, the Wayne State University calendar makes no provision for religious holidays. It is University policy, however, to respect the faith and religious obligations of the individual. Students who find that their classes or examinations involve conflicts with their religious observances are expected to notify their instructors well in advance so that alternative arrangements as suitable as possible may be worked out.
TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, September 3 (1)

Introduction & Class Overview
- Review of Systems Theory
- Self in Context
- Cybernetics
- Circular Causality
Read: Nichols (Chapters 1-3)

Thursday, September 10 (2)

Introduction to Bowen Family Systems Theory
- Theoretical Bases
- Therapeutic Stance
- Assessment of Families
- Thinking systemically
- Differentiation
- Triangles
- Genogram
Read: Titleman (Chapters 1 & 2)

Thursday, September 17 (3)

Bowen’s Family Therapy
- Techniques
- Phases of Therapy
- Theories of Change
Read: Titleman (Chapter 3)

Genogram Project due (20 points)

Thursday, September 24 (4)

Bowen’s Family Therapy: Applications
- Marital Conflict
- Children
Read: Titleman (Chapters 4 - 6)
Thursday, October 1 (5)

Bowen’s Family Therapy: Applications
- Axis I complaints
  - Depression
  - Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- Alcoholism

Read:
Titleman (Chapters 9-11)

Thursday, October 8 (6)

Midterm Exam = 100 points

Thursday, October 15 (7)

Introduction to Structural Family Therapy
- Role of Therapist
  - Spontaneity
- Conceptualization of Family
  - Holons

Read:
Minuchin and Fishman (Chapters 1-2)

Thursday, October 22 (8)
Possible Guest Lecturer
Structural Family Therapy Techniques
- Joining
- Planning
- Change

Read:
Minuchin and Fishman (Chapters 3-5)

Thursday, October 29 (9)

Structural Family Therapy Techniques
- Reframing
- Enactment
- Focus

Read:
Minuchin and Fishman (Chapters 6-8)
**Thursday, November 5 (10)**

Spring Break: No Classes

**Thursday, November 12 (11)**

Structural Family Therapy Techniques
- Intensity
- Restructuring
- Boundaries
- Unbalancing

**Read:**
- Minuchin and Fishman (Chapters 9-12)

**Thursday, November 19 (12)**

Structural Family Therapy Techniques
- Complementarity
- Realities
- Constructions
- Paradoxes
- Strengths
- Beyond Technique

**Read:**
- Minuchin and Fishman (Chapters 13-18)

**Thursday, November 26 (13)**

No Class

**Thursday, December 3 (14)**

Other Family Therapy Techniques
- Strategic Family Therapy
- Psychoanalytic Family Therapy
- Cognitive Behavioral Family Therapy

**Read:**
- Nichols (Chapters 5, 8, 11)

Review for Final Exam

**Thursday, December 10 (15)**

Final Exam = 100 points