

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO



Sault College

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: Psychological Disorders & Behaviour Management
(Case Management in Mental Health and with High Risk
Populations)

CODE NO. : SSW2160

SEMESTER: 4

PROGRAM: Social Service Worker

AUTHOR: Leanne Murray, Jeff Arbus

DATE: Jan/03

PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED: Jan. /02

APPROVED:

TOTAL CREDITS: 3

DEAN

DATE

PREREQUISITE(S): None

HOURS/WEEK: 3

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For additional information, please contact Judi Maundrell, Dean
School of Health and Human Services
(705) 759-2554, Ext. 603/689

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to the subject of psychological disorders and their management. The course includes a focus on immediate behaviour/symptom recognition in various situations. Students will be introduced to the unique difficulties, challenges and considerations that confront vulnerable and at-risk populations. Students will develop skills to address the needs of specific populations (particular emphasis on mental health) adhering to a strengths-based philosophy and the SSW value base.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Assess the needs and resources of individuals and assist them to achieve their goals.
 - a. explain the nature of mental health disorders as represented by the DSM-IV and other sources
 - b. explain the assists and barriers imposed by the diagnosis process (incl. social stigma, labelling, etc.)
 - c. describe how to ensure that basic rights of service consumers are protected in service delivery
 - d. collect, analyze and synthesize information through observation, research and consultation
 - e. produce accurate written materials that clearly describe facts
 - f. identify a solution focus in work with consumers in mental health situations
 - g. describe casework models in mental health
2. Recognize symptoms and behaviours of psychological disorders.
3. Describe how diagnosis is done in a medical model of service delivery, and how this can be done in a solution- focused/strengths-based model.
4. Provide access to resources in order to assist individuals, families, groups and communities
 - a. describe action plans that include use of community services
 - b. describe methods of determining client-based resources and supports
 - c. describe the process of referral and follow
 - d. identify service delivery gaps and their impact on consumers
 - e. identify strategies for collaboration with community leaders to advocate for services where there are currently service gaps
5. Describe helpful attitudes and skills for working with people with psychological disorders and 'at risk' populations
 - a. describe personal and professional development strategies
 - b. describe stress origins and management strategies
 - c. demonstrate collegial and team support and collaboration
 - d. describe system of care/case management principles
 - e. demonstrate beginning competence in taking a social history

III. TOPICS:

The course may cover the following topic areas:

1. Historical perspective and the current issues
2. Review and recognition of various disorders
3. Process of Assessment and diagnosis
4. SSW case management skills and principles with high risk populations
5. Community mental health approaches and the role of SSW
6. Discussion of relevant social policies, legislation and services available

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Summers, N. (2003). *Fundamentals for practice with high risk populations*. Toronto: Thomson/Brooks-Cole.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

The course grading will be described in class.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in postsecondary courses:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 - 100%	4.00
A	80 - 89%	3.75
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
R (Repeat)	59% or below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	
X	A temporary grade. This is used in limited situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course (see <i>Policies & Procedures Manual – Deferred Grades and Make-up</i>).	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office. This	

is used to facilitate transcript preparation when, for extenuating circumstances, it has not been possible for the faculty member to report grades.

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Special Needs:

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your instructor and/or the Special Needs office. Visit Room E1204 or call Extension 493, 717, or 491 so that support services can be arranged for you.

Retention of course outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Rights and Responsibilities*. Students who engage in “academic dishonesty” will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Course outline amendments:

The Professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

Other Notes:

1. All submissions must be in word processing format and follow APA guidelines.
2. Students are expected to be familiar with and abide by the College's "Student Rights and Responsibilities" policies.
3. Late assignments and missed tests will be handled at the professor's discretion and only for substantial and substantiated reasons only. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements directly with the professor.
4. Students are expected to come prepared to class to facilitate discussion and review of course material. Grades assigned for participation/attendance will reflect the student's knowledge of the content discussed, willingness to share thoughts about the material, and ability to respect viewpoints different from their own.

VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the professor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

VIII. DIRECT CREDIT TRANSFERS:

Students who wish to apply for direct credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain a direct credit transfer form from the Dean's secretary. Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related to the course in question.