

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ON

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Observation Skills

CODE NO.: HSC100 SEMESTER: ONE

PROGRAM: CHILD AND YOUTH WORKER PROGRAM

INSTRUCTOR: Mary E. Ritza, B.A., C.C.W.

DATE: September 1993

New:  X  Revised:      

APPROVED:  Kitty DeRosario, Dean   
School of Human Sciences and  
Teacher Education

DATE  June 29/93



## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Observation of human behaviour is a skill fundamental to human service work in any of its various modes of delivery. Observation is both an art and a science and will be examined from both these constructs in this course. The principles that will be learned, will be applied to both the behaviour of others and to one's own behaviour as a helping professional.

## II. STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. define behaviour;
2. describe and demonstrate the difference between perception and behaviour;
3. define and account for the errors in observation;
4. apply the methodologies of observation pertinent to a practical setting;
5. define various methods of recording - listing advantages and disadvantages of each method'
6. write observational reports using the various, most relevant, methods of recording;
7. recognize and be able to discuss the ethics of observation;
8. recognize and be able to demonstrate the concept of self-observation as a professional skill.

## III. REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES

Developing Observation Skills, Cartwright, McGraw-Hill, 1984

## IV. ADDITIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES

The Learning Resource Centre has books, journals, and periodicals that may assist you with your learning in this area.

## V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. There will be three tests during the semester - dates to be announced in class.

2. Students will be required to submit two formal observation reports using two different methods or recording and two different subject areas. Dates for completion to be announced in class.
3. Using ONE of the above reports, students will be required to present this report to the class. Oral presentations will be graded on style as well as content. An outline will be presented to assist students in this assignment.

Schedules will be drawn up in class. If you do NOT present on scheduled day, an opportunity to do so may not occur unless previous arrangements have been made with instructor.

4. A self-observation report is also required - using one of the methodologies learned in class, preferably applied to a clinical setting.
5. Brief in class assignments may also be graded as part of a participation grade.
6. Late assignments may not be accepted other than for medical and or serious emergencies. For each day an assignment is late up to 3 days, 5% will be deducted. After 3 days a 0 will be assigned. If you are experiencing difficulty with an assignment, it is your responsibility to talk to the instructor about such matters.

#### VI. SPECIAL NOTES

Students with special needs (eg. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, learning disabilities) are encouraged to discuss required accommodations confidentially with the instructor.

Your instructor reserves the right to modify the course as he/she deems necessary to meet the needs of students.

#### VII. GRADE BREAKDOWN

Test #1		10%
Test #2		20%
Text #3		25%
Observational Reports (written)	2x10 =	20%
Observational Reports (self)	1x15 =	15%
Oral Presentation		10%
Participation/Attendance		10%
	TOTAL	<u>100%</u>

#### VIII. COLLEGE GRADING POLICY

90 - 100%	=	A+
80 - 89%	=	A
70 - 79%	=	B
60 - 69%	=	C
BELOW 60%	=	R (Repeat Course)