

Program: Mental Retardation Counsellor

J.X31 y

Course Title: Research Seminar

Course Number MRC 213

Instructor: Karen Cameron

PART I

Course Philosophy

"A close searching" of v/rittsn materials which involves not only a studious inquiry into the subject, but also a critical examination, assessment, and interpretation of the materials found, is a necessary component in the M.R.C, program. After college, the methods used in writing the research paper v;ill continue to serve in the professions, and in the civic and social activities they v;ill pursue. Fact finding, v;ith its analysis and reporting, is so important an aspect of our present-day civilization that ever* educated person must be prepared to undertake it.

PART II

Course Goals

This course is designed to give students the opportunity t: confront and investigate some of the current issues in the field of mental retardation. This course v;ill be conducted on an Individ-assignment basis for research topics allowing for diversified inter^ to be pursued.

PART III

Terminal/Behavioural Objectives

On successful completion of the Research Seminar course the student must be able to do the following:

- A. Identify and utilize proper and efficient research procedures in completing his/her assignment.
- B. Isolate a problem which relates .to the mentally retarded and research it.
- C. Discover and make use of all the resources of a library in gathering materials on a specific subject as well as his ingenuity in finding other sources yielding additional informal
- D» Select from the material available those facts and ideas that are immediately pertinent to his topic.

- E. Organize and document his/her information properly; and write it clearly, logically, effectively, and correctly with respect to grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- F. Work through a project to completion using the teacher only for guidance and a resource.

PART IV

Syllabus

Unit I - Topic Selection (1st through 2nd week)

- a. Suggestions for topics
- b. How to narrow the topic

Unit II - Collecting Material (3rd through 5th week)

- a. Using the library
- b. Library visitation - the information desk, the reference room, the card catalogue, periodical indexes, professional journals
- c. Evaluating source materials
- d. Additional references

Unit III - Planning the paper (6 through 8th week)

- a. Exploratory reading
- b» Making a preliminary bibliography .
- c. Forms for bibliography cards
- d. Outlining
 - 1. Taking stock
 - 2. Organizing your material
- e. Notetaking
- f. Individual meetings are assigned

Unit IV - Writing the paper (9 through 10th week)

- 2, Audience and attitude
- b.. Purpose and tone
- c« Writing the first draft
 - 1. Paragraph development - unity, coherence, emphasis, variety, diction, transitional expressions
- d,- Footnotes
- e. Diction
 - 1. abbreviations
 - 2. numbers
 - 3. plurals
 - " " _ 4. quotations
 - 5. division of words at ends of lines