

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK**

SW530 - Seminar in Clinical Social Work: Play Therapy
Course Outline
Fall 2006

Instructor
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TEXTS:

Suggested references:

Oaklander, Violet. Windows to Our Children. Highland, NY: The Center for Gestalt Development, Inc., 1988.

James, O'Dessie Oliver. Play Therapy: A Comprehensive Guide. North Bergen, NJ: Jason Aronson, Inc., 1997.

Price, Max and Price, Geri. A Guide to Child Therapy: Let's Play. Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson, Inc., 2001.

Required reference:

Carmichael, Karla D. Play Therapy: An Introduction. Columbus, Ohio: Merrill Prentice Hall.

Axline, Virginia. Dibs In Search of Self. New York: Ballantine Books, 1964.

EVALUATIONS:

Students will be evaluated in the following manner:

- Attendance/Participation: 25%
- Written assignment: 25%
- Class Presentation: 25%
- Final Examination: 25%

The grading scale for this course will be:

- 90-100 = A
- 80-89 = B
- 75-79 = C
- 64-69 = D
- 64 and below = F

SESSIONS:

August 29, 2006,

Introduction and Overview

- Course outline-review of texts
- Discussion of play as it relates to therapy
- Class structure

Axline's 8 principles
Audio tape, *Emotional Healing*, Garry Landreth
Discussion

September 5, and 12,
READ: Carmichael Chapters 1 and 2
Film: *Essentials of Play Therapy*, Eliana Gil
Discussion

September 19, 26 and October 3
READ: Carmichael Chapters 3 through 12
History, Theories, Approaches
Directive vs. Non-directive continuum
Discussion

October 10
Review of Child Development
DIBS ASSIGNMENT DUE
Erickson, Piaget, Freud, Kohlberg--What they would say about PI TX
Importance of Knowledge of age-appropriate behavioral expectations
Discussion

October 17, and 24,
Varieties of Children, Varieties of Techniques
Reference Chapters 1-7 in *Windows to Our Children*, Violet Oaklander
Case assignments for group presentations

October 31, November 7, and 14
Read Carmichael, Chapters 13, 14, 15, and 16
Assessment, Diagnosis, Treatment
Legal and ethical issues

November 21 and 28
Group Presentations

December 5
Completion and Review
Exam schedule

ASSIGNMENTS:

- I. Assemble a minimal portable play therapy bag. Contents will be discussed in class.
- II. Based on your reading and discussion of *DIBS in Search of Self*, identify the passages in which Virginia Axline demonstrates her 8 principles of non-directive play therapy in her work with Dibs. Cite specific examples with page numbers.
- III. Group projects will be presented to class on 11-21-06, and 11-28-06. Each group will be given the case of a child with a particular difficulty/presenting problem. The group will be asked to develop and present a plan for treating the child and/or family using play therapy. The presentation should include

rationale for choosing particular techniques as well as a live demonstration of the techniques used. The group members can be designated as clients or a child participant can be used.

IV. Report to the class on a journal article and/or theory summary to class.

Note: Items and dates are subject to change at the discretion of your instructor if the need arises.