

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

SW523 - Clinical Social Work Practice with Families

Course Outline
Spring 2005

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Course session schedule, activities & required readings

**Required Readings may be accessed at www.lib.utk.edu --online electronic reserves for:
SW 523: Clinical Social Work Practice with Families: Brotherton

Please note, as indicated in the grading policy statements in this outline, students are expected to participate in all class session activities and to evidence preparation by reading assigned selections prior to class sessions.

Sessions 1 & 2 Weeks of January 18th & 25th

Topics:

- Overview of course
 - Review of course outline & requirements
 - History of family centered clinical social work practice
 - Thinking families
- Session #1: Activity: Discussion of course grading options and assignments
Session #2: In class Activity: Submission of Course Grade contracts

Readings:

- **Nichols, M., & Schwartz, R. 2001.
Chapter 2. "The evolution of family therapy" (pp. 7-33).
- **Hartman, A., & Laird, J. 1983.
Chapter 5. "Family theory for family-centered practice" (pp. 75-107).
- ** Taibbi, R.
Chapter One. "Welcome to Oz" (pp. 1-12)

Sessions 3, 4, 5 Weeks of: February 1st, & 8th & 15th

- Topics: ● Concepts, framework & theory in clinical social work with families
~ Who am I? ~who in the world are they? ~and where are we going!
- Engaging the family
 - Assessment: it depends...on the framework
 - ? family systems framework
 - ? structural family framework

Readings:

Sessions 3 & 4:

**Hartman, A., & Laird, J. 1983.

Chapter 7. "Getting started: Contracting and interviewing" (pp. 133-156).

Chapter 10. "Assessment in time: The intergenerational perspective" (pp. 211-230).

**Minuchin, S. 1974.

Chapter 3 " A family model" (pp.46-66).

**Nichols, M., & Schwartz, R. 2001.

Chapter 4. "The fundamental concepts of family therapy". (PP. 54-75)

**Taibbi, R. 1996.

Chapter Two. "The Basics" (pp. 13-26)

Session 5:

**Jones, A. 2003. Reconstructing the stepfamily: Old myths, new stories. *Social Work*, 48(2), 228-237.

**Nichols, M., & Schwartz, R. 2001.

Chapter 12: "Solution focused Therapy (pp. 221-233).

**Taibbi, R. 1996.

Chapter Three. "In the beginning: Great Expectations" (pp. 37-48)

Sessions 6 & 7 & 8

Weeks of: February 22nd & March 1st and 15th

[spring break is 3/8-3/12]

Topics:

- Interventions and techniques
- Family risk factors
- The therapist's own family

Readings:

Session 6 & 7:

**Nichols, M., & Schwartz, R. 2001.

Chapter 3. "Getting started in family therapy: Basic techniques" (pp. 34-53).

**Hartman, A., & Laird, J. 1983.

Chapter 12. "Inside the family: Inner system assessment" (pp. 269-304).

Chapter 14 "Persistence, coherence, and paradox" (pp. 327-355).

**Taibbi, R. 1996. Chapter Four. "Great Beginnings II." (pp. 49-61)

Session 8:

**Kelley, P. 1996. Family-centered practice with stepfamilies. *Families in Society*, 77(9), 535-544.

**Morrow, D. 2000. Coming out to families: Guidelines for intervention with gay and lesbian clients. *Journal of Family Social Work*, 5(2), 53-66.

**Watzlawick, P., Weakland, J., & Fisch, R. 1974. *Change: Principles of problem formation and resolution.* Chapter 8. "The gentle art of reframing" (pp.92-109).

Also of interest:

** Laird, J. 1996. Family-centered practice with lesbian and gay families. *Families in Society*, 77(9), 559-572.

**Thompson, S., Auslander, W., & White, N. 2001. Influence of family structure on health among youth with diabetes. *Health & Social Work*, 26(1), 7-14.

** McFadden, E. (1996). Family-centered practice with foster care families. *Families in Society*, 77(9), 548-558.

Sessions 9 & 10 **Weeks of: March 22nd & 29th**

Topics:

Session 9:

- Cultural background and spiritual orientation in families
? a cultural matrix for understanding

Session 10:

- Ethical conflicts in family-centered practice

Readings:

Session 9:

** Boyd-Franklin. 1989.

Chapter 7. Major family therapy approaches and their relevance in the treatment of Black families.

** Congress, E. 1994. The use of culturagrams to assess and empower culturally diverse families. *Families in Society*, November, 531-540.

**Dossier, D., Smith, A., Markowski, E., & Cain, H. 2001. Including families' spiritual beliefs and their faith communities in systems of care. *Journal of Family Social Work*, 5(3), 63-78.

**Martin, C.N. (1997). The politics of gender in family therapy. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 23 (4), 421-37.

**Tollier, D. 2001. African American female caregivers of family members living with HIV/AIDS. *Families in Society*, 82(2), 144-156.

**Walsh, F. Beliefs, spirituality, and transcendence: Keys to resilience in family therapy (pp. 62-77). In McGoldrick, M. (Ed.) 1998. *Re-visioning family therapy: Race, culture and gender in clinical practice*. New York, NY: Guilford Press.

**Waldrop, D., & Weber, J. 2001. From grandparent to caregiver: The stress and satisfaction of raising grandchildren. *Families in Society*, 82, 461-472.

Session 10:

** Boyd-Franklin. 1989.

Chapter 6. Therapist's use of self and value conflicts with black families.

**Davidson, J. R., & Davidson, T. 1996. Confidentiality and managed care: Ethical and legal concerns. *Health & Social Work*, 21(3), 208-215.

**Gelman, S., Pollack, D., & Weiner, A. 1999. Confidentiality of social work records in the computer age. *Social Work*, 44(3), 243-252.

Session 11 & 12 **Week of: April 5th & 12th**

Topic:

Family scenario critiques

Readings:

**Schnitzer, P. 1996. "They don't come in!" Stories told, lessons taught about poor families in therapy. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 66, 572-582.

**Taibbi, R, R.

Chapter Fourteen. "Staying Sane: Survival Tips for Therapists" (pp. 195-206).

Sessions 13 & 14 **Week of April 19th & 26th**

Topics:

Evaluation of family centered clinical practice

Course evaluation

Readings:

** Landsman, M., Groza, V., Tyler, M., & Malone, K. 2001. Outcomes of family-centered residential treatment. *Child Welfare*, 80(3), 351-380.

**Nichols, M., & Schwartz, R.

Chapter 16. “The scientific basis of couples and family research” (pp.278-302).

**Rodgers, A., & Potocky, M. 1997. Evaluating culturally sensitive practice through single-system design: Methodological issues and strategies. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 7(3), 391-401.

Evaluation of course work and grading criteria:

1. Written work must be completed and submitted on time; permission to submit a paper later than its official due date & time must be obtained from the instructor PRIOR to one (1) hour before the assignment is due; papers submitted late without prior permission will not be accepted.
2. Assignments must follow the format given in the assignment description/outline.
3. Assignments must demonstrate the ability to integrate theories, concepts and practice approaches/interventions/programs as requested in the description(s) of assignment(s)
4. Written assignments must be identified by Social Security Numbers ONLY.
5. Spelling errors, syntactical errors or verb tense errors: ONE (1) point will be deducted for each.
6. Attendance and participation evidencing preparedness for class discussion is expected.

Grading --Traditional grading for total points accumulated throughout course:

NOTE: All students are expected to come to each class session prepared and to participate evidencing preparedness in class discussions.

95-100 = A

90-94 = B+

84-89 = B

79-83 = C+

74-78 = C

Below 73 = F

Option A: Traditional Grading--Assignment Point Distribution

Assign. #1	Self-critique paper	40
Assign. #2	Article critique	30
Preparedness & participation		<u>30</u>
		100 points

Option B: Alternative Grading--Contracting for a grade:

NOTE: All students are expected to come to each class session prepared and to participate evidencing preparedness in class discussions.

For an "A" in the course:

- 1) write a 3-5 page paper critiquing in class work in small groups regarding student's own learnings in the group and identifying: 3 strengths in own work with families & 3 learning needs for one's own work with families;
- 2) select 3 articles from the sw literature [1995-2004] on intervening with singular type of family or family issue , critique these and present your synopsis of each article, with reference list handouts, to class;
- 3) participation in all sessions of one's small group;
- 4) positive feedback from small group peers & instructor on group participation;
- 5) attendance & preparedness for each course session;
- 6) all participation & assignments are expected to be of "A" graduate level quality.

For a “B+” in the course:

- 1) write a 3-5 page paper critiquing in class work in small groups regarding student’s own learnings in the group and identifying: 3 strengths in own work with families & 3 learning needs for one’s own work with families;
- 2) participation in all sessions of one’s small group;
- 3) positive feedback from small group peers & instructor on group participation;
- 4) attendance & preparedness for each course session;
- 5) all participation & assignments are expected to be of “B+” graduate level quality.

For a “B” in the course:

- 1) select 3 articles from the sw literature [1995-2004] on intervening with singular type of family or family issue , critique these and present your synopsis of each article, with reference list handouts, to class; participation in all sessions of one’s small group;
- 2) participation in all sessions of one’s small group;
- 3) positive feedback from small group peers & instructor on group participation;
- 3) attendance & preparedness for each course session;
- 4) all participation & assignments are expected to be of “B+” graduate level quality.

Additional Bibliographic Resources

- Berg, I. K. (1994). *Family based services: A solution-focused approach*. New York: W. W. Norton Publishers.
- Boyd-Franklin, N. (1989). *Black families in therapy: A multisystems approach*. New York: Brunner/Mazel.
- Carter, B. & McGoldrick, M. (Eds.). *The changing family life cycle*. (2nd ed.). New York: Guilford Press.
- Goodrich, T.J., Rampage, C., Ellman, B., & Halstead, K. (1988). *Feminist family therapy: A casebook*. New York: W. W. Norton & Co.
- Gurman, A. S., & Kniskern, D. P. (1991). *Handbook of family therapy, Volume II*. New York: Brunner/Mazel.
- Haley, J. (1987) *Problem Solving Therapy*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Hartman, A. (1995). "Ideological themes in family policy." *Families in Society*, 76 (3), 182-92.
- McGoldrick, M., Gerson, R., and Shellenberger, S. (1999). *Genograms: assessment and intervention*. (2nd ed). New York: W.W. Norton & Company
- McGoldrick, M. (Ed.). (1988). *Re-visioning family therapy: Race, culture, and gender in clinical practice*. New York: Guilford Press.
- Meth, R.L., & Pasick, R.S. (1990). *Men in therapy: The challenge of change*. New York: Guilford Press
- Minuchin, S. (1974). *Families & Family Therapy*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Mirkin, M.P. (Ed.). (1990). *The social and political contexts of family therapy*. Boston: Allyn Normal family processes.
- Reid, W.J. (1985). *Family problem-solving*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Walsh, F. (Ed.). (1993). *Normal family processes*. (2nd ed.). New York: The Guilford Press.