

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

**SW521 - Clinical Social Work Practice with Individuals**

Course Outline  
Fall 2007

**Tuesdays: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Instructor: Sarah Hamil, LCSW, RPT, ATR-BC**

**Contacts:** (phone) 731-225-5933, (e-mail) [shamil@charter.net](mailto:shamil@charter.net)

**Academic Calendar for Fall Semester 2007**

Classes Begin - Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>

**SW521 FIRST CLASS: Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>**

Labor Day (No classes) - Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>

Fall Break (No classes) - Thursday-Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>

Thanksgiving Break (No classes) - Thursday-Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>

Classes End, Tuesday - December 4<sup>th</sup>

**Required Text**

Corsini, R. J., & Wedding, D. (2008). *Current psychotherapies* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson Brooks/Cole.

**Supplemental Text**

Cooper, M. & Lesser, J. (2002). Clinical social work practice: An integrated approach. Massachusetts: Allyn & Bacon.

*-Additional readings will be available in the Course Reserves*

**Course Requirements/Grading**

Attendance	note policy*
Clinical Assessment of Individuals	20 points
Clinical Methods (Application of Theory)	20 points
Ethics Group Panel/Project	10 points
Midterm Exam	20 points
Project/Presentation	30 points

**Assignment of Final Grades**

A	92-100 points (indicates superior performance)
B+	87-91 points (indicates better than satisfactory performance)
B	82-86 points (indicates satisfactory performance)
C+	77-81 points (indicates less than satisfactory performance)
C	70-76 points (indicates performance well below grad. school standard)

**\*-Punctual weekly attendance is expected of all graduate students.**

Students must be on time to class, participate in class, and stay for the entire class session. This includes refraining from any type of cell phone use during class. If the student must miss a class, then it is the student's responsibility to obtain all material missed from a classmate. For each class missed over one, the student's final grade is reduced by 5 points (e.g., A student with a final grade of 95/A and 2 absences would earn a 90/B+).

## **Course Requirements**

### **Clinical Assessment of Individuals**

Skills in clinical evaluation and assessment are critical for practitioners working with individuals. The needs and strengths of the individual will be assessed by the student and be submitted to the instructor in the form of a professional evaluation. The instructor will assist the students in selecting an evaluation format and in choosing an individual case for assessment. Protecting confidentiality and ethical considerations will be discussed.

### **Clinical Practice Methods –Interventions**

After assessing an individual the student will establish an appropriate intervention using the theories discussed in class as a basis for practice methods. This will include a problem statement, as well as establishing a long term goal and short term objectives to address the problem. The student must clearly identify the theoretical basis for the method/intervention selected.

### **Ethics Group Panel**

Students will be assigned to a group and participate in panel discussions of an ethical dilemma (to be assigned). The group will submit a written report indicating the ethical dilemma as well as the steps taken to establish an appropriate decision/position on the ethical issue. The group will provide the class with a brief report regarding the dilemma and conclusions. Students will use the ethical principals and standards of the NASW Code of Ethics as guidance for this assignment.

### **Midterm Exam**

The midterm exam will focus on the material covered through Session 7.

### **Project/Presentation**

The project will be done individually and will include researching a current clinical approach in relation to a specific population. This assignment will be designed as a professional presentation. The student will educate the class about the identified problem or population by providing basic information about the identified issue, demonstrating relevant assessment tools, and distributing fact sheets or handouts. ***The student will select a treatment approach and educate the class about the theoretical basis and related methodology. The student will demonstrate an integrated understanding of how methods and theories impact Clinical Social Work Practice with Individuals.***

Students will complete comprehensive literature review and ***fully explore the issue and the selected approach.*** Students will turn in a typed outline and bibliography two weeks prior to the presentation date. Further details and specific directives will be provided.

- **The project grade will be separated into two components:**

Outline/Bibliography 25%  
Presentation 75%

*The course calendar and due dates for all course requirements will be provided in the first session.*

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

**SW 521 Clinical Social Work Practice with Individuals  
Fall 2007  
Course Outline**

- Session 1** Introduction to the Course & Review of Course Requirements  
Critical Thinking Skills  
Introduction to Practice Theories  
Ethics and Clinical Practice  
*-Malpractice Considerations*  
Current Trends: Brief Therapy, Managed Care, HIPPA
- Assignment: Read and be familiar with the NASW Code of Ethics.  
<http://www.soicalworkers.org/pubs/code/default.asp>
- Session 2** The Clinical Interview and Assessment of Individuals  
Culturally Competent Practice  
Suicide Assessment and Violence Assessment  
Crisis Interventions in SW Practice
- Session 3** Psychoanalysis & Historical Perspectives to Clinical Practice  
The Clinical Interview and Assessment of Individuals -continued  
Culturally Competent Practice -continued
- Session 4** Client Centered Therapy  
The Psychodynamic Model  
Object Relations Theory, Self Psychology, Psychology of Women
- Session 5** Behavioral Therapy  
Cognitive Theory  
-Ethics panel reports
- Session 6** Family Therapy  
Cross-Cultural Social Work Practice  
-Ethics panel reports

<b>Session 7</b>	Postmodern Approaches, Narrative Therapy Solution-Focused Therapy -Ethics panel reports
<b>Session 8</b>	Midterm
<b>Session 9</b>	Contemplative Psychotherapies Alternative Psychotherapies (Art Therapy, Play Therapy)
<b>Session 10</b>	Service Delivery for Special Populations Individual Needs and Psychopathology
<b>Session 11</b>	Student Presentations
<b>Session 12</b>	Student Presentations
<b>Session 13</b>	Student Presentations
<b>Session 14</b>	Student Presentations
<b>Session 15</b>	Vicarious Traumatization, Professional Burnout Strategies for Managing Stress & Compassion Fatigue