

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

**Syllabus: SW530 - Seminar in Clinical Social Work: Treatment of Trauma
Spring 2008**

CODE OF CONDUCT:

It is the student's responsibility to have read the College of Social Work Ethical Academic and Professional Conduct code that is in the College of Social Work MSSW Handbook (<http://www.csw.utk.edu/mssw/>).

THE HONOR STATEMENT:

An essential feature of The University of Tennessee is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the University, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity. (*Hilltopics, 2007*).

DISABILITY:

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability or if you have emergency information to share, please contact the University of Tennessee Office of Disability Services at 191 Hokins Library at (865-974-6087). This will ensure that you are properly registered for services.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will present current bio-ecological research findings that inform our understanding of trauma. Emphasis is placed on understanding biopsychosocial influences on the incidence; course and treatment of acute stress and PTSD and the differential effect of these factors on diverse populations at risk. The course focuses on the acquisition of diagnostic skills as they relate to comprehensive social work assessment of adults, adolescents and children. Assessment and interventions skills will be taught for specific types of trauma, e.g. rape, war, natural disasters. Evidence-based interventions to treat victims of trauma will be presented.

The treatment of trauma in this course is family focused and emphasizes the impact of trauma on family and provision of psychoeducation and support for family members. Knowledge of psychopharmacology and the roles social workers play regarding medication with clients as part of an interdisciplinary treatment team will be covered. This three credit elective course examines roles, assessments and intervention strategies for social workers in treating acute stress disorder and PTSD in a variety of service settings.

COURSE RATIONALE:

Domestic violence, child abuse, assault, war and natural disasters create high incidences of Acute Stress and Post Traumatic stress disorders. Approximately 6 million people in the United States are diagnosed with PTSD. Social workers need to be trained to serve those persons experiencing trauma reactions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Diagnose Acute stress and PTSD disorders
2. Understand the impact of trauma on neurobiological function
3. Understand and apply current trauma theory, models and paradigms in practice
4. Cope with compassion fatigue
5. Use of self to enhance self-capacities of persons with trauma
6. Understand the stages of trauma treatment
7. Provide a psychosocial and behavioral analysis trauma
8. Use trauma measures to monitor and evaluate treatment
9. Know the evidence-based treatments and practice guidelines for trauma
10. Apply interventions: cognitive-behavioral, exposure, desensitization, stress inoculation training
11. Familiar with emerging trauma treatments: EMDR, Thought Field Therapy, Emotional Freedom Technique
12. Identify best treatments for specific trauma populations
13. Understand the impact of diversity on the development, identification, and treatment of trauma disorders with emphasis on ethnic minorities of color, racism, gender roles, sexism and sexual orientation