

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

**SW523 - Clinical Social Work Practice with Families**

Course Outline  
Spring 2008

Credits: 3

Instructor: SHERYL MARGOLIS MSSW LCSW

Work Phone: 579-6000

Email: [MargolisSheryl @ aol.com](mailto:MargolisSheryl@aol.com)

[Cell phone: 579-6000](tel:579-6000) [Home Phone: 371-5855](tel:371-5855)

Please contact me at above phone number or email to schedule appointments.

***Required Textbooks***

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).  
Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. \*\*\*\*\*This is a paperback book\*\*\*\*\*

***Course Requirements and Grade***

**Class Sessions**

Class session will include lectures and discussion to clarify and supplement assigned readings on course topics and the use of role plays, videotapes, written exercises, and so forth to illustrate and emphasize the application of concepts in practice. Students are expected to attend class and to prepare by doing and thinking about the assigned reading. Please let the instructor know if you will not be in class and take responsibility for obtaining any material that was distributed in your absence.

Except in the case of a medical emergency or personal emergency, a student who wants an extension of time to submit a paper should consult with the instructor in advance. Extension is not automatic, and there may be a grade penalty, depending on the reason an extension is agreed upon.

**Assignments and Grade**

The course grade will be based on three assignments and class attendance. The three assignments are a readings journal, a paper, and a simulated family therapy session/presentation. Guidelines for the three assignments will be distributed on separate handouts. The written paper is due on **March 27th**. Students will sign up for their presentation dates during the first two class periods. Absolutely NO late papers accepted. NO exceptions. Part 1 of readings journal due **Feb 21st**. Remainder of readings journal due **April 10th**. On **April 10<sup>th</sup> 2008** you must submit **ENTIRE** journal back to instructor.

The final grade will be based on these three assignments and class attendance, each accounting for one fourth of the final grade. Attendance is heavily waited in this course because you will be in a simulated family and participate in “in class” exercises. This “simulated” family will be the group that you work with on your final project, and your team members will need your active weekly participation.

## ***Course Outline, Calendar and Readings***

### **January 10 2008**

#### INTRODUCTION and ADOPTING A FAMILY SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE

Student and instructor introductions.

Overview of the course, the readings and assignments.

Overview of the different models of family therapy.

Discussion of systems theory as it relates to social work practice.

Divide into simulated families

### **January 17 2008**

#### SOCIO-CULTURAL FACTORS IN FAMILY THERAPY

Definitions of family.

An examination of the influence of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and feminism in assessment and treatment planning in family therapy.

Policies affecting families.

Required Readings: (*Select any 2 of the following articles*)

Laird (2003). Lesbian and gay families. In *Normal Family Processes* (3rd edition).

Ed by Norma Walsh. New York: The Guilford Press, pgs 176-209

Boyd-Frankin (2003). Race, class, poverty. In *Normal Family Processes* (3rd edition). Ed by Norma Walsh. New York: The Guilford Press, pgs 260-279.

Falicov (2003). Immigrant family processes. In *Normal Family Processes* (3rd edition). Ed by Norma Walsh. New York: The Guilford Press, pgs 280-300.

Goldenberg & Goldenberg (2004) *Family Therapy: An overview*. Belmont, CA:

Brooks/Cole: Chapter 3: Gender, Culture, Ethnicity Factors in Family Functioning (pgs. 50-68)

Boyd-Franklin(2003) *Black Families in Therapy*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press:

Chapter 14: Single Parent African American Families (pgs.287-299)

### **January 24 2008**

#### “JOINING” FAMILIES, FIRST SESSIONS

Required Readings:

Taibbi, Robert (1996) *Doing Family Therapy: Craft and Creativity in Clinical Practice*. Chapters 1: Family Therapy: Welcome to Oz; Chapter 2: Family Therapy: The Basics; Chapter 3: In the Beginning: Great Expectations; Chapter 4: Great Beginnings II pp. 1-61

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).

Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 3: Getting Started in Family Therapy: Basic Techniques pp.35-55

Recommended Readings:

Boyd-Franklin(2003) *Black Families in Therapy*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press: Chapter 9: The therapist's use of self and value conflicts pp.177-203

### **January 31 2007**

#### FAMILY THERAPY PIONEERS AND ENDURING CONCEPTS IN FAMILY THERAPY

Lessons from early models

Meta-concepts: power, boundaries, rules, roles, subsystems

#### Required Readings:

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).

Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 4: The fundamental concepts of family therapy: pp56-77

McGoldrick, et al. Chapter1: Genograms: Mapping Family Systems; Chapter 2:

Developing a Genogram to Track Family Patterns; Chapter 3: Interpreting Family Structure from Genograms.

#### Recommended Readings:

Boyd-Franklin(2003) *Black Families in Therapy*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press: Chapter 11: The multisystems model pp. 226-250

### **February 07 2008**

#### A MULTIGENERATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Murray Bowen's model of family therapy

#### Required Readings:.

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).

Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 5: Bowen Family Systems Therapy pp.81-101

Knudson-Martin, C. (1994). "The female voice: Applications to Bowen's family systems theory." *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 20 (1), 35-45.

### **February 14 2008**

#### STRUCTURAL FAMILY THERAPY: Theory

A review of major concepts in Structural Family therapy

A Family Therapy Video-tape

#### Required Readings:

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).

Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 7: Structural Family therapy pp. 126-146

#### Recommended Reading:

Aponte, H. & Van Deusen, J. (1981). In *Handbook of Family Therapy, Vol. I*. Gurman and Kniskern (Eds.) Chapter 9, "Structural Family Therapy," pp. 310-358.

Kniskern

## **February 21 2008 – Part one journals due today**

### INTRODUCTION TO SYSTEMIC AND STRATEGIC THERAPIES and APPLYING COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL STRATEGIES IN FAMILY THERAPY

An in class overview of these technique driven theories

#### Required Readings:

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).  
Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 6: Strategic family therapy, pp.102-125

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).  
Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 10 pp191-198

## **February 28 2008**

### POST-MODERN FAMILY THERAPY: Theory

An overview of post-modern theory

The relevance to managed care settings

Solution-focused and Solution- Oriented family therapy

#### Required Readings:

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).  
Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 11: Family Therapy in the twenty-first century  
pp. 213-247

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).  
Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 12: Solution focused therapy pp. 248-262

#### Recommend Readings:

O'Hanlon, W., Weiner-Davis, M. (1989). *In search of solutions*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., Chapter 2:  
Challenging Assumptions: Furnishing Premises for Solution-Oriented Therapy.

Berg, I. K. (1994). *Family based services: A solution-focused approach*. New York: W.W. Notron & Co.,  
Chapter 6: Useful Questions and Other Interviewing Techniques; Chapter 7: Conducting a Family Session.

## **March 06 2008**

### POST-MODERN FAMILY THERAPY: NARRATIVE FAMILY THERAPY

Overview of Narrative Family Therapy

Videotape shown in class

#### Required Readings:

Weingarten, K. (1998). "The small and the ordinary: The daily practice of a postmodern narrative therapy."  
*Family Process*. Pp. 3-15.

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).  
Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 13: Narrative Therapy pp. 263-277

Recommended Reading: - see instructor for articles

### **March 13 2008**

FAMILY THERAPY TECHNIQUES REVIEWED  
EVIDENCE BASED PROTOCOLS  
RESEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

#### Required Readings:

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).  
Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 16: Family Therapy Research pp311-333  
Reid, W. (1993). "Fitting the single-system design to family treatment." *Journal of Social Science Research*. Pp. 88-99.

### **March 20 2008**

**NO CLASS SPRING BREAK**

### **March 27 2008 \*\*\*\*\*PAPER DUE TODAY\*\*\*\*\***

COUPLES THERAPY  
Assessing couples and an overview of couples therapy  
Divorce and its impact on families  
Step-families – critical issues for assessment and treatment

#### Required Readings:

Taibbi, Chapter 11: Getting to the Core: Couple Work in Family Therapy; Chapter12: Couple Repair.

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).  
Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 10: Cognitive-Behavior Family Therapy pp. 198-204

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).  
Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 8: Experiential Family Therapy pp.158-160 (emotionally focused couples therapy)

### **April 03 2008**

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS and VALUES

#### Required Readings:

Denton, Wayne. (1989). "DSM-III-R and the family therapist: Ethical considerations." *Journal of marital and family therapy*. pp. 367-375.

. Goldenberg & Goldenberg (2004) Family Therapy: An overview. Belmont, CA:

Recommended Reading:

Rober, P. (1998). "Reflections on ways to create a safe therapeutic culture for children in family therapy." *Family Process*, 37 (2), pp. 201-13.

**April 10 2008 \*\*\*\*\*JOURNALS DUE TODAY\*\*\*\*\***

Integrative Models

Comparison of models and their differential application to practice.

Becoming a family therapist in the future: training and supervision.

Required Reading:

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).

Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 14: Integrative Models pp.278-293

Nichols, M., Schwartz, R.(2006). *The Essentials of Family Therapy*, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed).

Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. Chapter 15: Comparative Analysis pp.294-310

Taibbi, Robert (1996) *DOING FAMILY THERAPY Craft and Creativity in Clinical Practice*. Chapter 5: The Middle Stages: Are We There Yet?; Chapter 6: Endings; Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow; Chapter 14: Staying Sane: Survival Tips for Therapists

**April 17 2008**

Class Presentations and Discussion

**April 24 2008**

Class Presentation and Discussion

Last class activity

***Sources of Additional Required Readings***

Berg, I. K. (1994). *Family based services: A solution-focused approach*. New York: W. W. Norton & Co.

Boyd-Franklin(2003) *Black Families in Therapy*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press:

Goldenberg, I., & Goldenberg, H. (2004). *Family therapy: An overview*. (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Pacific Grove CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing Co.

Gurman, A. S., & Kniskern, D. P. (1991). *Handbook of family therapy, Volume II*. New York: Brunner/Mazel.

McGoldrick, M., Gerson, R., and Shellenberger, S. (1999). *Genograms: assessment and intervention*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed). New York: W.W. Norton & Company

McGoldrick, M. (Ed.). (1988). *Re-visioning family therapy: Race, culture, and gender in clinical practice*. New York: The Guilford Press.

Nichols, M.P. & Schwartz, R.C. (2005). *The Essentials of Family Therapy* (2<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: Pearson Education Inc.

O'Hanlon, W. H., & Weiner-Davis, M. (1989). *In search of solutions: A new direction in psychotherapy*. New York: W. W. Norton & Co.

Reid, W.J. (1985). *Family problem-solving*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Walsh, F. (Ed.). (1993). *Normal family processes*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York: The Guilford Press.

Walsh, N (Ed) (2003). *Normal family processes*. (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New York: The Guilford Press.

Taibbi, R. (1996). *Doing family therapy: Craft and creativity in clinical practice*. New York: The Guilford Press

All required readings are photocopied and are on reserve under the authors' last names.