I. Locator Information:
   Instructor:
   Course # and Name: SWRK 615 SWRK Practice in Mental Health
   Office Location:
   Office Hours: Semester Credit Hours: 3
   Day and Time Class Meets:
   Office Phone:
   Total Contact Hours for Class:
   Email address:

FSU Policy on Electronic Mail: Fayetteville State University provides to each student, free of charge, an electronic mail account (username@uncfsu.edu) that is easily accessible via the Internet. The university has established FSU email as the primary mode of correspondence between university officials and enrolled students. Inquiries and requests from students pertaining to academic records, grades, bills, financial aid, and other matters of a confidential nature must be submitted via FSU email. Inquiries or requests from personal email accounts are not assured a response. The university maintains open-use computer laboratories throughout the campus that can be used to access electronic mail. Rules and regulations governing the use of FSU email may be found at http://www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION: This advanced course focuses on social work practice with persons who have mental illness, and the impact mental illness has on families and society. Primary focus is on the therapeutic relationships, assessments, treatment planning, interventions, psychotropic medication, and case management. Students develop an understanding of the classification and diagnosis of DSM-IV. Pre-requisite: SWRK 540.

III. Disabled Student Services: In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability to please contact the Center for Personal Development in the Spaulding Building, Room 155 (1st Floor); 910-672-1203.


V. Student Learning Outcomes—Upon completion of this course, students will be:
1. Prepared for work in the field of mental health.

2. Able to explain philosophical and historical foundations of mental health practice.

3. Able to critically evaluate federal, state and local mental health policies impacting the delivery of community mental health services and programs.

4. Able to explain the causes of behavioral disorders and mental illness and their impact on individuals, families, and the society.

5. Knowledgeable about the medical model (theories) and how they are linked to mental health related laws and practice applications.


7. Familiar with social work roles and intervention strategies in the various domains of the mental healthcare delivery system.

8. Able to examine the issues of differential treatment in mental healthcare; including reference to access and utilization rate by the population-at-risk, culturally and socially diverse families.

9. Be able to examine the impact of problems such as alcoholism, racism, sexism, ageism, poverty, rural economic depression, divorce, and child abuse on mental health.

10. Be able to apply the dimensions of critical thinking in the assessment, intervention, and diagnostic process of behavioral and mental disorders.

11. Able to think critically, recognizing implications, identifying assumptions, analyzing, and evaluating questions fundamental to the mental healthcare.


**Attendance and Participation Policy**

Class attendance and participation mean students will come to class having read the assigned materials, which will include electronic reserves, as well as other reading assignments. Students are to come to class prepared to discuss them. Regular and punctual class attendance is essential to the enhancement of student performance. Students are expected to notify the instructor of absences from class immediately before or after the absence. Absences beyond three may result in a reduction in students’ attendance and classroom participation grade. A class attendance and participation grade of zero may be given for five or more absences.

**Exam Policy**
Final Exam Policy  Make up final exams will normally not be given. A final exam may be given early under very extraordinary circumstances. Students who miss a final exam without giving the instructor prior notification will be assigned a final grade including a zero for the final. If a student has a legitimate, documented reason for missing the final exam, he or she should contact the instructor as soon as possible after the examination. During the next semester the instructor will arrange with the student a time to take the final exam, and submit a change of final grade form. THE INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT GIVE AN “I” (INCOMPLETE) GRADE FOR STUDENTS WHO MISS THE FINAL EXAMINATION UNLESS THE STUDENT HAS MADE A PRIOR AGREEMENT TO DO SO.

Course Expectations  Students are responsible for all material assigned and discussed in the course. Students are expected to submit their assignments in a timely manner. Late submission of assignments will receive a letter grade reduction per day, (day count includes weekends). Students are expected to complete assigned readings and review web sites prior to class to promote participation in classroom discussions. Students are expected to participate in classroom discussions, and group exercises. All students are required to have an e-mail address. Cellular phones and beepers are not allowed during class time. ACCORDING TO UNIVERSITY POLICY VISITORS AND CHILDREN ARE NOT ALLOWED IN CLASS.

Academic Support Resources Students will have access to syllabus, handouts, study guides, related websites, lecture notes, and chat rooms.

GRADING

90 – 100 A
80 – 89 B
70 – 79 C
60 – 69 D
59 and below F

PAPERS ARE DUE ON.........AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED
Course Requirements and Evaluation Criteria.

Mid Term Exam (25% of grade) (Online)

Final Exam (25% of grade) 6-8pm in Classroom

Clinical Disorders Paper:
Total Number of Pages: 10
25% of grade
Due Date

Major categories regarding mental health disorders defined, described, and delineated by the DSM-IV-TR: Select one of these disorders and, upon my approval, craft a ten-page paper that seeks to define:
Diagnostic Criteria and Clinical Judgment
Exclusion Criteria
Multi-Axial and Cultural Considerations
Correlates of Treatment Planning
PLUS Any implications related to military, urban or rural populations.

*Support your paper with 6 supplemental sources: 4 professional journal articles, one book, and one internet source.

Essentials of Treatment Planning Paper:
Total Number of Pages: 10
25% of grade
Due Date

The provision of direct clinical social work services constitutes the principle career focus of many MSW students with a concentration in mental health and substance abuse. The complex repertoire of clinical skills required to effectively treat others will be one of your most challenging learning experiences. The ability to formulate client-centered treatment plans will be absolutely essential to your success as a clinician. This paper, (minimum length: ten pages) will consist of your ability to craft an assignment that touches on key aspects of the treatment planning process, (i.e., life-span issues, clinician factors that may impact the treatment planning experience, client factors that may impact and/or influence treatment planning, factors that facilitate change, etc.), all within the context of how these issues and dynamics may become manifest in working with persons from different cultural backgrounds. Examples include, African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans, Disabled Persons, Military, Urban, or Rural populations.

*Support your paper with 6 supplemental sources: 4 professional journal articles, one book, and one internet source.
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**Notes:**
- **Date:** Outside class Activity
- **Date:** NO CLASS

**Activities:**
- Overview of the Field of Mental Health (Obj.: 1, 2, 3)
- Historical & Philosophical Context of Mental Health, Institutional and Community Approaches to Mental Health Services. (Obj.: 1, 2, 3, 4)
- Neuro-scientific Research in Mental Health Psycho-education, Self-Help and Advocacy Groups in Mental Health (Obj.: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Social Factors in Mental Illness Bio-psychosocial Conceptual Framework Bio-psychosocial Assessment (Obj.: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)
- Impact of Courts on Mental Health Policy. Legal and Ethical Issues (Obj.: 3, 5, 7, 8)
- Postmodern and Feminist Theory and Practice (Obj.: 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10)
- Mental health services to immigrants Racial, Ethnic, and Cultural Issues Mental Health Services to Special Populations
- Community Care of Persons with Mental Illness Case Management and Community Resources (Obj.: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13)
- Clinical Practice with Clients with Depression/ Anxiety Disorders (Obj.: 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13)
- Intervention with Persons with Severe Mental Illness (Obj.: 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13)
- Clinical Practice with Clients Abuse Substances Managed Care Influence of Technology on Mental Health Services (Obj.: 9, 10, 11, 13)
- Thanksgiving Day NO CLASS
- FINAL REVIEW
- FINAL EXAM (In Classroom)
STUDENTS: Do not expect faculty to withdraw you for non-attendance. Drop or withdraw* from classes according to the deadlines published in the catalog. *See warning below about class withdrawals. NEW TYPE OF GRADE: INTERIM GRADES – (New name for “midterm grade,” with additional purposes). Interim grades will be assigned from the first week of the semester until the deadline for class withdrawals. Interim grades are used for informational and warning purposes only; they are not part of your permanent transcript and have no effect on your GPA. Instructors may assign interim grade of F to warn students of poor academic performance or they may assign “X” or “EA” grades. (See below for explanations) After midterm, faculty will assign all students an interim grade of A – F to inform students of their academic status as of midterm.

INTERIM GRADE X = NO SHOW – Assigned to students who are on a class roster, but never attend class. For warning purposes only; NOT a final grade.

STUDENTS: Check interim grades early in the semester. If you have an X grade, either begin attending the class or withdraw* from it. *See warning below about class withdrawals. If you do not take action in response to an X grade, you will receive a final grade of FN. (See “FN” below)

INTERIM GRADE EA = EXCESSIVE ABSENCES - Assigned to students whose class absences exceed 10% of the total contact hours. For warning purposes only, NOT a final grade.

STUDENTS: Check your interim grades often. If you have an “EA” grade for a class, you are in jeopardy of failure if you do not take immediate actions. Either resume attending the class or withdraw from it. *See warning below about class withdrawals.

NEW FINAL GRADE: ATTENDANCE – Assigned to students who are on class roster, but never attend the class. An FN grades is equivalent to an F grade in the calculation of the GPA.

STUDENTS: You must attend (or withdraw* from) all the classes for which you are enrolled. *See warning below about class withdrawals. WARNING ABOUT CLASS WITHDRAWALS:

When you withdraw from a class, you are wasting your money and time. You receive no refund for withdrawing from individual classes and you slow your progress toward degree completion.

If you withdraw from or fail more than one-third of your classes, you will no longer be eligible for financial aid.

STRIVE TO EARN CREDIT FOR ALL THE CLASSES IN WHICH YOU ENROLL; WITHDRAW FROM CLASSES ONLY WHEN IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY!