

Syllabus  
Individual Psychotherapy  
PSYC 6113 Sec 101  
Fall 2022

Professor: David L. Carlston                      Office: 120 O' Donohoe  
Office Hours: MW 10:00am -12:30pm              Phone: 940-397-4718  
Class Time: MW 2:00-3:20pm                      email: david.carlston@msutexas.edu  
Location: PY101

**Textbooks:**                      Sommers-Flanagan, J. & Sommers-Flanagan, R. (2016). *Clinical interviewing* (6<sup>th</sup> Edition) New Jersey: Wiley. (Required)

Morrison, J. (2016). *The first interview*. (Fourth Edition). New York: The Guilford Press. (Required)

**Goals/Objectives:**

The goal of this course is to provide students with the foundational interview and interpersonal skills necessary for conducting counseling services. Students in this course are expected to learn basic interviewing skills pertinent to the provision of counseling from any theoretical perspective. To this end, it is expected that, upon completion of the core clinical block, students will:

- 1)        Become acquainted with interviewing and counseling microskills;
- 2)        Practice microskills in a safe environment with supportive feedback;
- 3)        Demonstrate competency in counseling interviewing, rapport building, and targeted assessment (e.g., suicide assessment); and,
- 4)        Be prepared to enter into supervised clinical practicum.

**Student Evaluation:**

*Grades:* Grades will be based on a 500-point scale.

A = 500-450  
B = 449-400  
C = 399-350  
D = 349-300  
F = 299 or lower

*Examinations:* Three exams will be given during the course. Each exam will be comprised of short answer and essay questions. Each exam will be worth 100 points.

*Clinical Experiences:* In order to become comfortable with and practice the skills taught in this course, students will participate in a variety of role play situations. Role plays will vary in duration, ranging from 20-45 minutes. For Video 3 and Video 5 students will provide an annotated transcript of the session and self-evaluation of their performance. Students will earn up to 75 points for each of these assignments. For each of the other video assignments, students will complete a self-evaluation. Students will earn up to 50 total points for their completion of Videos 1, 2, and 4.

Psychology is not only academic, but also skills based. If a student should receive a grade below a B on the final clinical evaluation, I will ask another licensed faculty to review the final clinical evolution and confirm the final grade.

**Attendance:**

Class attendance is required. Each student is allowed two absences without penalty. Each additional absence will result in a 10% reduction in the students' final grade. Students will be responsible for the material they miss when absent. **No late assignments will be accepted.** Students with more than four absences will be dropped from the course with a failing grade.

**Make-up Exams:**

Make-up exams will be provided if necessary. Make-up exams will be oral exams conducted via Zoom during a 45-minute block. Exams must be completed within three class days of the missed exam.

**Disability:**

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from the University's Disability Support Services (DSS) during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from the DSS has been provided.

**Cheating Policy:**

DON'T! Any evidence of cheating on exams, quizzes, or on the paper will result in dismissal from this class with a grade of "F."

**Midterm Grade Reports:**

The instructor for this class will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's WebWorld account. Midterm progress reports will only be provided for students with a grade of C or less in the course. Midterm grades will not be reported on the students' transcript; nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at the midpoint of the semester.

Week	Date	Topics	Assignments/ Tests
1	8/22	SF & SF: An Introduction of the Clinical Interview FI: What is Interviewing	
2	8/29	SF & SF: Preparation SF & SF: An Overview of the Process	Video #1 (9/2)
3	9/5	SF & SF: Evidence-Based Relationships	No Class 9/5
4	9/12	FI: Chief Complaint and Free Speech; Developing Rapport; Managing the Early Patient Interview FI: History of the Presenting Illness; Getting Facts about the Present Illness	
5	9/19	SF & SF: Nondirective Listening Skills SF & SF: Mental Status Exam FI: Mental Status Exam I: Behavioral Aspects; Mental Status Exam II: Cognitive Aspects	Video #2 (9/23)
6	9/26		Exam #1 (9/28)
7	10/3	SF & SF: Directive Listening Skills FI: Interviewing about Feelings; Personal and Social History; Signs and Symptoms in Areas of Clinical Interest	
8	10/10	SF & SF: Suicide Assessment Provided Readings: Suicide Assessment	Video #3 (10/14)
9	10/17	SF & SF: Interviewing Young Clients FI: Interviewing Informants	
10	10/24	SF & SF: Interviewing Couples and Families SF & SF: Electronic and Telephone Interviewing	Video #4 (10/28)

Week	Date	Topics	Assignments/ Tests
11	10/31		Exam #2 (11/2)
12	11/7	SF & SF: Diagnosis and Treatment Planning	
13	11/14	SF & SF: Skills for Directing Clients Toward Action	
14	11/21	SF & SF: Intake Interviewing and Report Writing FI: Sharing Your Findings with the Patient; Communicating Your Findings to Others	No Class 11/23
15	11/28	SF & SF: Challenging Clients and Demanding Situations FI: Meeting Resistance; Special or Challenging Patient Behaviors and Issues; Troubleshooting Your Interview	
	12/7	Final Exam: 5:45-7:45pm	Final Exam Video #5 (12/8)