**1 PSY504 Psychodiagnostics**

**Reformed Theological Seminary**

Winter 2019

2 Credit Hours

**Instructor: William Richardson, Ph.D.**

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**Course logistics:**

Office Hours – Wednesdays 5-8:00 p.m.

Meeting time – Thursdays 10-11:50 a.m

Class Location – SC 1

**Course Description**

This course is designed to provide students with theoretical categories, concepts, and methods for organizing client diagnostic material that will be useful in case conceptualization, treatment planning, the development of measurable treatment outcomes and lethality assessment. Students will gain experience in psychodiagnosis of common client behaviors such as mood disorders, trauma, and relationship dysfunction.

**Course Objectives (Knowledge and Skill Outcomes)**

Students will demonstrate comprehension of the following:

CO1. **Case Conceptualization Skills.**Essential Case Conceptualization Skills (2.F.5.g)

CO2. **Assessment for Treatment Planning**. Intake Interview, biopsychosocial history, mental health history and psychological assessment for treatment planning (5.C.3.a)

CO3. **Case Conceptualization Models**. Principles, models, and documentation formats of biopsychosocial case conceptualization for treatment planning (5.C.1.c)

CO4. **Differential Diagnosing.**Diagnostic process, i.e., differential diagnosis and the use of current diagnostic classification systems, including the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) and the International Classification of Diseases (5.C.2.d)

CO5. **Treatment Plan Development.**The process of developing treatment plans for common counseling issues. (5.C.1.c)

CO6. **Development of Client Goals.**The process of developing measurable outcomes for client goals. (2.F.5.i)

CO7.  **Risk Assessment.**Procedures for assessing risk of aggression or danger to others, self-inflicted harm, or suicide (2.F.7.c)

CO8. **Reporting Abuse.**Developing procedures for reporting abuse (2.F.7.d)

CO9. **Lethality Prevention.**Strategies for lethality prevention (2.F.5.l)

**Methods of Instruction**

* This course is taught in a traditional classroom format.
* Student presentations will be included.

**Assignments (Student Performance Evaluation Criteria)**

A1. **Case Study Treatment Plan (20%)**Students will watch five sessions of a single case of the show In Treatment**.** Students will write and submit a treatment plan and biopsychosocial assessment after the first session using the models discussed in class. After completing the five sessions, students will submit an updated treatment plan. (Submitted assignment format will be based upon the Jongsma, et.al., text and class lecture.)

A2. **Presentation** (40%).  Complete a case presentation of one of your clients from the Clinic. This will involve an extensive write-up (treatment plan, biopsychosocial assessment, progress notes, and case summary, all with identifying data altered for confidentiality concerns) as well as a review of a recorded segment of a client session. Students will participate in the discussion of their peers’ presentations. (Submitted assignment format will be based upon the Jongsma, et.al., text and class lecture.)

A3. **Exam (40%).** Students will complete a series of quizzes and or a final exam (according to professor preference) covering the Okun & Suyemoto text.

**Required Course Materials (Texts, Readings, Videos, etc.)**:

1. Okun, B. F., & Suyemoto, K. (2012). Conceptualization and treatment planning for effective   helping. Independence, KY: Brooks Cole. ISBN: 978-1133314059
2. Jongsma, A.E., Peterson, L.M., & Bruce, T.J. (2014). *The complete adult psychotherapy treatment planner.*Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons

**Course Process and Schedule**

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| Lecture | Date | Topic | Assignments | CACREP Standards |
| L1 |  | Counseling Case Conceptualization introduction | Okun & Suyemoto, ch | 2.F.5.g, |
| L2 |  | Counseling theory and Case Conceptualization , distinctions | 1 | 2.F.5.g, |
| L3 |  | Operational definitions, behavioral descriptions and treatment plan format | Treatment Plan 1 | 2.F.5.g, |
| L4 |  | Risk Assessment | 2 | 2.F.7.c, |
| L5 |  | Reporting Abuse. | 3 | 2.F.7.d |
| L6 |  | Lethality Prevention. | 4 | 2.F.5.l |
| L7 |  | Assessment for Treatment Planning | 5 | 5.C.3.a, |
| L8 |  | Differential Diagnosing | 6 | 5.C.2.d |
| L9 |  | Case Conceptualization Models, | Treatment Plan 2 | 5.C.1.c, |
| L10 |  | Treatment Plan Development | 7 | 5.C.1.c, |
| L11 |  | Treatment Plan Development (contd.) | 8 | 5.C.1.c, |
| L12 |  | Development of Client Goals | Student Presentations | 2.F.5.i, |
| L13 |  | Development of Treatment Objectives | Student Presentations | 2.F.5.i, |

**Policies and Important Information**

All written work must conform to American Psychological Association (APA) style (as applicable). If a student does not have a copy of the APA manual, one should be purchased, or students may use one of the many APA style websites available online (e.g. https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/).  Assessment will include how well students represent their thoughts on paper, craftsmanship in writing, and organization of all written work.

**Disability Accommodation Policy.** If you require a special adaptation or accommodation to participate fully in this course, please contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss your request.  You must provide a letter from the Dean of Students that verifies your disabled status. Last minute special requests will be subject to the same late assignment policy as other students.

**Access to Research Database.**RTS provides MAC students with access to the Ebscohost Psychology & Behavioral Science Collection of full text journal articles.  You can access this collection from computers in the library, or from your home computer by following the link below and logging in with a username and password to be provided in class.

<http://search.ebscohost.com/>

**Submission of work**.  (Site specific instructions)

**Late work.**  All assignments are due as scheduled regardless of attendance, unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor. Assignments turned in late will be deducted 1/3 letter grade for each late day.

**Anonymity**. All written assignments and exams should be identified by the last six digits of your Self-Service id number and NOT by your name.  Anonymity permits more objectivity in grading.

**Return of work**. All work returned to students will be available in the MAC Office.  Any work not collected by the first full week of the next semester or term will be shredded.

**Grading Scale:**

RTS published scale.

**Attendance Policy:**

Regular attendance is expected and required. Excessive absences (more than 3 class meetings) will result in the loss of points equal to one letter grade per absence. If serious illness or an emergency prevents a student from attending any class, please notify the instructor before the class begins. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain any materials handed out or presented during the missed class from a classmate.

**Class Participation:**

Students are expected to participate in all components of the class and will be evaluated on the quality and quantity of discussion. Each student is expected to read all of the assigned materials in advance for each class and have prepared written comments and questions for class discussion. Contributions should reflect knowledge of the reading assignments or other sources.