ADVANCED PSYCHOPATHOLOGY
CO715
Fall 2013
Course Syllabus

Lauren King, Psy.D.                                                                             Office Hours: After Class
Email: lking@southeastpsych.com                                                               Class Dates: Sept. 13-14;
                                                                                             Oct. 11-12; Nov. 8-9

PURPOSE:

As an advanced approach to psychopathology, students will gain increased familiarity with the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-V) and will develop competency in diagnostic assessment and therapeutic approaches, with an additional emphasis on neurobiology of psychopathology and psychopharmacological treatments. Students will apply this knowledge through role-play, assessment, treatment planning, watching videos, small and large group discussion, lectures and course readings.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Obtain advanced knowledge of the DSM - V including differential diagnosis, describing specific mental conditions using the language of the DSM, and categorizing disorders

2. Understand major differences in DSM-IV-TR and DSM-V

3. Demonstrate competency in accurate diagnosis and developing effective treatment plans

4. Develop awareness of empirically supported treatments for various disorders

5. Understand basic brain anatomy, along with an overview of psychopharmacology
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Reading Recommendations:


2. Written Assignments:

   A. Students will complete 2 case conceptualizations based on vignettes provided by the instructor. Case conceptualizations should be 2 pages long. Students will analyze symptoms and decide on an appropriate diagnosis based on their understanding of the vignette. The case conceptualization will also include other questions the student would want to ask the client.

   B. Students will compose a topical paper in which they examine a specific DSM disorder. The paper should include a discussion of symptomatology, etiology, and prevalence of the disorder and should examine appropriate interventions. The paper should include references from most current journal articles citing how recent research has shaped current understandings of disorder, especially related to etiology and treatment.

   C. Students will turn in 1-page reading responses to a portion of the reading assignments for the 2nd and 3rd classes. These responses should include clinical, personal, and/or theological reflections of the material.

EVALUATION:

Case Conceptualizations: 35%
Topical Paper: 35%
Psychopharmacology quiz: 30%
Reading Responses: 10%
AGENDA:

First weekend:
Overview of DSM and presentation of various disorders. Practice with diagnosing. Differences in DSM-IV-TR and DSM-V.

Second weekend:
Introduction to the brain and brain functions. Neurotransmitters and their various functions. Substances that impact neurotransmitters and resulting impact on mood, behavior. Case Conceptualization 1 and Reading Response 1 are due.

Third weekend:
Discuss empirically supported treatments for various disorders. Case Conceptualization 2, Topical Paper, and Reading Response 2 are due. Take Psychopharmacology quiz.

Syllabus Addendum

Academic Standards
Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious breaches of personal and academic integrity. Cheating involves, but is not necessarily limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination or the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors. Plagiarism involves the use of another person’s distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one’s own instead of giving proper credit to the source. Plagiarism can also involve over dependence on other source material for the scope and substance of one’s writing. Such breaches in academic standards often result in a failing grade as well as other corrective measures. For more information, please consult the Student Handbook.
ADA Policy

The seminary complies with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A student with a qualifying and authenticated disability who is in need of accommodations, should petition the seminary in accordance with the stated guidelines in the Student Handbook.

Cancellation of Class

In the event the seminary has to cancel a class meeting (impending storm, professor illness, etc.), the Registration Office will send out an email (via the GCTS email account) notification to all students registered in the respective course. If the cancelation occurs the day of the scheduled meeting, the Registration Office will also attempt to contact students via their primary phone contact on record. The professor will contact the students (via GCTS account) regarding make-up. If a weekend class is cancelled, the class will be made up during the scheduled Make-Up weekend (see the academic calendar for the designated dates). For more info, consult your Student Handbook.

Extension Policy

Arrangements for submission of late work at a date on or before the “last day to submit written work,” as noted on the seminary’s Academic Calendar, are made between the student and professor. Formal petition to the Registration Office is not required at this time. This includes arrangements for the rescheduling of final exams.

However, course work (reading and written) to be submitted after the publicized calendar due date, must be approved by the Registration Office. An extension form, available online, must be submitted to the Registration Office prior to the “last day to submit written work.” Requests received after this date will either be denied or incur additional penalty. For a full discussion of this policy, please consult the Student Handbook.

Grades

Faculty have six weeks from the course work due date to submit a final grade. Grades are posted on-line within twenty-four hours of receipt from the professor. Students are expected to check their CAMS student portal in order to access posted grades (unless instructed otherwise). Those individuals who need an official grade report issued to a third party should put their request in writing to the Registration Office.

Returned Work

Submitted hard-copy course work will be returned to the students if they provide a self addressed and postage- paid envelope with their final work. Work submitted without the appropriate envelope will be destroyed after the grade has been assessed and issued.