

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PCP 651 Marital and Family Therapy

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Fall 2001

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course we will study the literature and practice of marital and family therapy, emphasizing diagnostic procedures and application of specific techniques to improve functioning within the marital family situation.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course the student should be able to:

1. think critically about the history and development of systems theory as it relates to marriage and family therapy.
2. identify selected contributions of the systems approach to marriage and family therapy and explain the concepts and principles of the system they represent.
3. evaluate the major marriage and family systems theories.
4. identify the relationship between the family life cycle, gender issues, and family development to family systems therapy.
5. understand how families become dysfunctional.
6. think critically about the functional family.
7. critically examine the role of the therapist, including professional and ethical issues in the practice of marriage and family therapy.
8. construct a family genogram and demonstrate a knowledge and awareness of the family of origin issues in his/her own life.
9. explore the historical Judeo-Christian roots of family systems.
10. critically evaluate each case to determine if appropriate referrals should be made to other professionals.

11. develop an understanding of Internal Family Systems Therapy and how to integrate it with the historical Christian faith.
12. know how to begin a practice in marriage and family therapy.
13. understand the basic elements of Bowenian, experiential, psychodynamic, structural, strategic, brief, object relations and feminists models of marital and family therapy.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Note: The following textbooks are intended to be used for all three family therapy classes, PCP645, PCP646, and PCP651.

Carter, B. & McGoldrick, M. (1999). The changing family life cycle. 3rd. Ed.

Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Nichols, M. & Schwartz, R. (1999). Family therapy: Concepts and methods. 4th.

Ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

McGoldrick, M. & Gerson, R. (1999). Genograms in family assessment. 2nd. Ed.

New York: Norton.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

American Psychological Association. (1994). Publication manual 4th ed.

Washington, D. C. American Psychological Association.

METHODOLOGY

The conduct of this course is based on the assumption that each student should become actively involved in the learning process. Therefore, you will be expected to assume a high level of responsibility for your own learning.

Class time will be devoted to informal lectures, use of selected media to illustrate crucial points.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Select two marital and family systems theories and write a paper, comparing and contrasting these two theories. **Due on the first class meeting in October**

This paper should be 10 pages in length. **Late papers will be discounted one full grade.**

2. Construct a genogram of your family of origin and write an autobiographical narrative of 8-10 pages to explain what your genogram reveals. **Due at the beginning of the class meeting on November 8.**
3. Present your family genogram to the class. The schedule for these will be determined numerically by your AGTS student I.D. number.
4. Attendance and participation in class discussion is expected, will be noted and considered in your final course grade.
5. 4 essay examinations will be given throughout the semester on course material.

PROJECT GRADE VALUES

Comparison/contrast paper	14.28%
Genogram and narrative paper	14.28%
Oral presentation of genogram	14.28%
For each of the four examinations	<u>14.28%</u>
	100%

SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by James M. Harris, III, Ph.D. (cand.), May, 2000.

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