

Argosy University San Francisco Bay Area
Department of Counseling Psychology
MA Counseling Psychology
Syllabus
Course Title:
Professionalization Group
Course Number: PC6010
Summer Semester 2011

Instructor: Dr. Russell A. Chapman, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: By appointment only

Class Meetings: Fridays 6:15 to 9:45pm on the following dates only; 5/21, 6/25, 7/16, 8/13 and room TBD

Argosy Communication:

If you choose to use an email address other than the assigned Argosy email, please be advised that you do so at your own risk. Any difficulty receiving Argosy emails will be your responsibility.

Course description:

These groups, required of all entering students, are led by a faculty member and meet regularly, depending on the program, throughout the first academic year. Students discuss topics important to professional counseling/marriage and family therapy and to the development of a professional identity. In the process, discussion topics may include ethical and legal issues; diversity in culture, ethnicity, and gender; careers in counseling; preparation for clinical training; professional education trends and issues; and special interests of students and the group leader. In addition, the faculty member leading the group assists students with academic and field training planning, general consultation on problems or difficulties in the program, and questions emerging during the student's academic experience. At some campuses, the Portfolio Process is introduced to the students in Professionalization Groups.

Course Pre-requisites: None

Final Date to Drop the Class:

- In order to receive a refund of 100%, students must officially drop a course through Student Services by noon on **5/21/2011**, the final day of the add/drop period.
- After the add/drop period, to receive a grade of "W" (Withdrawal) you must officially drop this class by **7/16/2011**. You may not withdraw from the course after this date. If you choose to discontinue coursework after the final drop date, you may receive grade of "F" for the course.

Required Texts:

Yalom, I. (2009). *The gift of therapy: An open letter to a new generation of therapists and their patients*. New York: Harper Perennial. ISBN-13: 978-0061719615

Yalom, I. (2000). *Love's executioner: And other tales of psychotherapy*. New York: Harper Perennial. ISBN-13: 978-0060958343

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN-13: 978-1433805615

Recommend Texts:

Strunk, W., Jr. & White, E. B. (2000). *The elements of style* (4th ed.). Needham Heights, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Turabian, K. L. (2007). *A manual for writers of research papers, theses, and dissertations: Chicago style for students and researchers* (7th ed.). Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press.

Course length: 15 Weeks **Contact Hours:** 15 Hours **Credit Value:** 1.0

Program Outcomes: Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology:

Program Outcome One: Professional Practice

Competency 1: Assessment and Skills

Formulate assessments of psychological functioning and apply therapeutic intervention strategies when working with individuals, couples, families, and groups, toward the development of optimal mental health.

Competency 2: Theory

Interpret and apply psychological and developmental theories to therapeutic intervention strategies.

Competency 3: Writing

Employ media and technology when presenting counseling information orally and in writing, so that the presentation is concise, organized, well supported, professional, and appropriate to the audience.

Program Outcome Two: Research

Competency 1: Analyze research, and translate research findings for improvement of counseling services using statistics and program evaluation methods.

Program Outcome Three: Interpersonal Effectiveness and Professional Development

Competency 1: Students will develop positive relationship skills that promote personal and professional development via effective communication, encouragement, empathy, respect for others, self-awareness, and other-awareness.

- a. Apply active listening communication skills in interpersonal scenarios to establish empathetic relationships.
- b. Analyze the importance of effective nonverbal communication skills in interpersonal relationships.
- c. Solicit and utilize feedback to build and maintain interpersonal relationships.

Program Outcome Four: Ethics

Competency 1: Using the American Counseling Association's Standards of Practice /or the American Psychological Association's Ethical Code, as well as, and local state law as it applies to the behavior of mental health professionals, identify ethical dilemmas and apply ethical decision-making strategies while engaging in professional activities.

Program Outcome Five: Diversity

Competency 1: Multicultural Skills

Provide assessment, counseling, and consultation services in work with clients by applying psychological and multicultural theories and research to diverse populations, and modifying interventions as needed to work effectively with diverse clients.

Competency 2: Multicultural Awareness

Examine personal values and biases, reflect on beliefs, and understand how they impact work with clients and interpersonal relationships with other students and faculty.

Competency 3: Multicultural Knowledge

Identify and assess the complexity and multidimensionality of cultural/diversity theories and issues in the field of counseling psychology while working with clients and interpersonal relationships with other students and faculty.

Course Objectives:

- 1) Orientation to the MACP program at Argosy University.
Advising about school and departmental policies as well as outlining guidelines for onsite and online coursework.
Becoming familiar with available resources.
- 2) Introduction to the field of Marriage and Family Therapy.
- 3) Awareness of role expectations and norms associated with being a mental health professional.
- 4) Learn the foundations of APA style for professional writing.
- 5) Increase self-awareness of professional goals and identity.
Identify current strengths and skills.

Identify areas for personal and professional growth.

Course Requirements:

The student's course requirements will be; a) Participation, b) Self-Reflection Paper and c) APA style format paper. The specific requirements are listed below.

1. Participation:

Participation is 25% or 100 points of your total grade. The definition of participation is be present for the entirety of each class. Actively engage in class discussions, lecture, and exercises. Finally, set goals and work toward achieving stated goals. **If you miss one entire session you will receive no credit for this course (NC).**

Reaction Papers:

Write 2 reaction essays (1 page, double-spaced) commenting on an experience or topic discussed during class. Reaction essays must be received electronically (as an attached Microsoft Word document) on the class meetings of 6/25 & 7/16. **If they are not received on these dates then there will be no credit given for this assignment.**

Curriculum vitae (CV)/Resume and cover letter assignment:

Create a rough draft of your CV or resume and a professional cover letter. These will be reviewed in class by your peers on 6/25. Credit will be given for completing the assignment and bringing the documents to class, not on the quality of either. **If you the student does not have the assignment, there will be no credit given.**

2. Reflection papers

The reflection paper will be 25% or 100 points of your total grade. The reflection paper will be 3 – 4 pages in length and will address the following areas; a) factors in your life that have motivated you to enter the MACP program at Argosy University, b) your goals as a student and therapist-in-training, c) aspirations or dreams for your professional career. This reflection paper will have an APA style cover page and your level heading will appear as stated from the syllabus. This reflection paper will be due electronically (as an attached Microsoft Word document) on the class meetings of 7/16.

3. APA style format paper

The APA style format paper will be 50% or 200 points of your total grade. This paper is be in total APA format including title page, body with correct level headings, and reference page. The paper will include the following; a) a minimum, 2 references and 1 citation per page, b) must reference at least 1 journal article, and c) must reference at least one other source, which could come from your course textbooks. Your grade is primarily based on correct APA style references and citations. We will work on these papers in class several times on 6/25 & 7/16. This assignment is due electronically (as an attached

Microsoft Word document) on the class meetings of 8/13. **No credit will be given for the assignment if it is turned in after 8/18/2011.**

Grading & Point Scale:

| <u>Grading:</u> | <u>(Percent (%) Points)</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| A: 93–100 | 370 – 400 |
| A-: 90–92 | 358 – 369 |
| B+ :87–89 | 346 – 357 |
| B: 83 – 86 | 330 – 345 |
| B-: 80 – 82 | 318 – 329 |
| C+: 77 – 79 | 306 – 317 |
| C: 73 – 76 | 290 – 305 |
| C-: 70 – 72 | 278 – 289 |
| F: < 70 | < 278 |

NOTE: Grades are Credit or No Credit. No credit will result if any of the following occur:
a) missing more than 1 class, b) plagiarism and c) Grade below a B-

Course Schedule:

5/21 Introduction; past experience; goals & dreams; Overview of the field of Professional Psychology/ Library resources overview with librarian, Julie Griffith/ Degree requirements and Advising/ Plagiarism, writing coaches, study skills, writing a research paper and APA style/

6/25 Licensure; MFT v LPCC and upcoming changes/ Law & Ethics introduction: Multiple relationships/Counselor Burnout/ Work on APA Papers

7/16 Practicum/ Student Handbook review/ Professional relationships and networking; Social networking sites and professional conduct Scholarship/ Therapeutic alliance and common factors/ Work on APA Papers

8/13 Overview of Marriage and Family Therapy: Professional organizations
Personal therapy/ Counseling Psychology v Clinical Psychology

Due Dates of Assignments:

6/25 **Reaction paper 1; Curriculum vitae (CV)/Resume and Cover Letter**

7/16 **Reaction paper 2; Reflection Paper**

8/13 **APA Style Format Paper**

Course Policies:

Attendance – Missing one class will result in not passing this course. If you must miss a class, please get the lecture/discussion notes from a classmate. Please discuss any planned absences with me as far in advance as possible. Please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices during class.

Tardiness – It is extremely important that students arrive on time to class. Tardiness at the start of class, as well as after breaks will result in subtracting points from your participation grade.

Assignments – Any assignment turned in late will automatically be lowered one full grade. Assignments are considered late if they are not turned in during the class time on the date the assignment is due.

Class participation – Please read assignments in advance and be prepared to discuss what you have read. I will note the thoughtfulness, relevance, and accuracy of your discussion contributions. Be aware that class discussions may at times provoke or elicit strong emotions. Therefore, please be mindful of what you choose to share and also be sensitive to the thoughts and feelings of your fellow classmates.

Professional ethics – Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. At all times, students are expected to adhere to the ethical guidelines established by the American Psychological Association.

Library:

All resources in Argosy University's online collection are available through the Internet. The campus librarian will provide students with links, user IDs, and passwords.

Library Resources: Argosy University's core online collection features nearly 21,000 full-text journals and 23,000 electronic books and other content covering all academic subject areas including Business & Economics, Career & General Education, Computers, Engineering & Applied Science, Humanities, Science, Medicine & Allied Health, and Social & Behavior Sciences. Many titles are directly accessible through the Online Public Access Catalog at <http://library.argosy.edu> and also at <http://thecampuscommon.com/library/auo/login.aspx>. Detailed descriptions of online resources are located at <http://library.argosy.edu/misc/onlinedblist.html>

In addition to online resources, Argosy University's onsite collections contain a wealth of subject-specific research materials searchable in the Online Public Access Catalog. Catalog searching is easily limited to individual campus collections. Alternatively, students can search combined collections of all Argosy University Libraries. Students are encouraged to seek research and reference assistance from campus librarians.

Information Literacy: Argosy University's Information Literacy Tutorial was developed to teach students fundamental and transferable research skills. The tutorial consists of five modules where students learn to select sources appropriate for academic-level research, search periodical indexes and search engines, and evaluate and cite information. In the tutorial, students study concepts and practice them through interactions. At the conclusion of each module, they can test their comprehension and receive immediate feedback. Each module takes less than 20 minutes to complete. Please access the tutorial directly at <http://library.argosy.edu/infolit/>

Academic Policies:

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism: In an effort to foster a spirit of honesty and integrity during the learning process, Argosy University requires that the submission of all course assignments represent the original work produced by that student. All sources must be documented through normal scholarly references/citations and all work must be submitted using the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Edition (2009)* Washington DC: American Psychological Association (APA) format. Please refer to Appendix A in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Edition* for thesis and paper format. Students are encouraged to purchase this manual (required in some courses) and become familiar with its content as well as consult the Argosy University catalog for further information regarding academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

Scholarly writing: The faculty at Argosy University is dedicated to providing a learning environment that supports scholarly and ethical writing, free from academic dishonesty and plagiarism. This includes the proper and appropriate referencing of all sources. You may be asked to submit your course assignments through "Turnitin," (www.turnitin.com), an online resource established to help educators develop writing/research skills and detect potential cases of academic dishonesty. Turnitin compares submitted papers to billions of pages of content and provides a comparison report to your instructor. This comparison detects papers that share common information and duplicative language.

Americans with Disabilities Act Policy:

It is the policy of Argosy University to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If a student with disabilities needs accommodations, the student must notify the Director of Student Services. Procedures for documenting student disability and the development of reasonable accommodations will be provided to the student upon request.

Students will be notified by the Director of Student Services when each request for accommodation is approved or denied in writing via a designated form. To receive accommodation in class, it is the student's responsibility to present the form (at his or her discretion) to the instructor. In an effort to protect student privacy, the Department of Student Services will not discuss the accommodation needs of any student with instructors. Faculty may not make accommodations for individuals who have not been approved in this manner.

The Argosy University Statement Regarding Diversity:

The Argosy University provides equitable access through its services and programs to students of any social, geographic and cultural background, regardless of gender, and strives to prepare all candidates to work with and provide services to diverse populations. Argosy demonstrates its commitment to diversity through the development and support of a diverse educational community.