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CNSK 1504: Introduction to Family Systems

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 2019

DEPARTMENT

Counselling Skills

DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to systems theory as a framework to understand and support complex and diverse families.

CREDITS

2.0

YEAR OF STUDY

1st Year Post-secondary

PREREQUISITES

None

COREQUISITES

None

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize various pathways of human development in the context of families
- Identify core features of developmental and intergenerational trauma
- Reflect on own developmental path and family dynamics in the context of their practice
- Apply a Family Systems approach to understand diverse families
- Observe and identify and non-verbal communication patterns in interpersonal and family context

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT & RECOGNITION (PLAR)

PLAR will be assessed by the Department according to standardized practice and using one or more of the following components: Challenge Exam, Demonstration, Interview, or External Evaluation.

HOURS

Lecture: 36

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Lecture, videos, group discussion/work, reflective writing and assignments, readings, peer and instructor feedback

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter Grade (A-F)

PASSING GRADE

C

EVALUATION PLAN

Type	Percentage	Assessment activity
Assignments	30	Genogram
Assignments	20	Case studies, observations, written report(s)
Exam	25	In-class or take-home
Quizzes/Tests	15	In-class or take-home
Participation	10	Professionalism and participation

COURSE TOPICS

- Introduction to Family Systems
- Affect Theory as an approach to Family Systems
- Attachment and Family Systems
- Multigenerational transmission of trauma
- Power, privilege and marginalization
- Introduction to contemporary Family Systems frameworks and practices
- Applied ethics in Family Systems

LEARNING RESOURCES

None

Notes:

- Course contents and descriptions, offerings and schedules are subject to change without notice.
- Students are required to follow all College policies including ones that govern their educational experience at VCC. Policies are available on the VCC website at:
<https://www.vcc.ca/about/governance--policies/policies/>.
- To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at <https://www.bctransferguide.ca>.

Broadway campus

1155 East Broadway
Vancouver, B.C. Canada
V5T 4V5

Downtown campus

250 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C. Canada
V6B 1S9

Annacis Island campus

1608 Cliveden Avenue
Delta, B.C. Canada
V3M 6P1

604.871.7000

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