SEMINAR: PSYCHOSOCIAL THEORY AND RESEARCH IN REHABILITATION PSYCHOLOGY
194-903
FALL 2016

INSTRUCTOR: Fong Chan
401 Education Building, 1000 Bascom Mall
Individual conferences by appointment:
Telephone (608)262-2137
E-mail: chan@education.wisc.edu

REQUIRED TEXT:

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:


COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To become familiar with the concepts of evidence-based practice, culturally-sensitive psychosocial interventions, and psychosocial research methodologies.
2. To examine societal attitudes toward people with disabilities and the intersectionality of race/ethnicity, gender, class, and disability, with special emphasis on how attitudinal and environmental barriers restrict community integration and participation of people with disabilities especially those facing multiple intersecting oppression;

3. To explore how societal attitudes affect the lives of people with disabilities especially individuals facing multiple intersecting oppression and to delineate strategies through which these attitudes can be modified/become more positive;

4. To examine and understand the contributions of theories of personality to the study of psychosocial reactions to loss and disability;

5. To describe the role of developmental concepts (e.g., body image, self-concept) in adjusting to disability;

6. To review models of disability and how the different social construction of disability affect services delivery and full inclusion of people with disabilities;

7. To review models of depression related to chronic illness and disability;

8. To review models of psychosocial adaptation to physical and traumatic disability (e.g., traumatic brain injuries) with special emphasis on the process (e.g., experiences, reactions, behaviors, phases) of adaptation;

9. To gain knowledge of the commonalities (transpersonal) and individualities (personal) of the experiences and reactions that follow the onset of disability;

10. To gain knowledge related to mediators and moderators (e.g., coping and social support) between life stressors and psychosocial adjustment to chronic illness and disability;

11. To increase understanding of the process of familial psychosocial adaptation to the onset of disability of one of its members;

12. To become familiar with the application of counseling/therapeutic intervention strategies to working with people with disabilities (i.e., strategies for coping with adjusting to disability; mental health intervention, and substance abuse rehabilitation) especially individuals facing multiple intersecting oppression;

13. To become familiar with the application of pharmacotherapy in psychosocial interventions;

14. To recognize the role of human intimacy and sexuality in the adaptations process to disability;

15. To become knowledgeable about multiculturalism and adjustment to disability;

16. To become familiar with outcome measurements related to psychosocial adjustment research and treatment;

17. To become familiar with the research and other scholarly literature in each of the above content areas.

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

I try to ensure that students with disabilities are fully included in this course. Please let me know if you need any special accommodations in the curriculum, instruction, or assessments of this course to enable you to participate fully. I will maintain the confidentiality of the information you share with me.

**PROBABLE SEQUENCE OF TOPICS** (Some relevant readings from the required texts appear in parentheses following the topics.)
9/12 (a) Organization: Explanation of course objectives and requirements; Assignment of topics (b) History of Rehabilitation Counseling/Psychology
9/19 Rehabilitation Counseling: From Science to Practice
9/26 Models of Disability
10/3 Psychosocial Adaptation to Disability
10/10 Models of Depression and PTSD
10/17 Coping
10/24 Family and Adjustment to Chronic Illness and Disability
10/31 Social Cognitive Theory, Self-Determination Theory, and Stages of Change Theory
11/7 Positive Psychology and Psychosocial Adjustment
11/21 Health Promotion for People with Chronic Illness and Disability
11/28 Psychiatric Rehabilitation
12/5 Multicultural Issues, Health Disparities and Adjustment to Chronic Illness and Disability
12/12 Attitudes toward Disability
12/19 Psychosocial Outcome Measurements

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Each student will be responsible for the following:

1. Two classroom presentations on assigned topics (one as the primary presenter and one as the secondary presenter). It is anticipated that students will work in teams of two each on the topics assigned. Presentations will include a synopsis of relevant textbook material plus any pertinent data the students are able to identify in the rehabilitation literature generally. Discussion will focus on the major implications of the material for rehabilitation psychology research and practice.

2. A publishable quality 20-page, double-spaced term paper on the topic you are the primary presenter.
EVALUATION:

Final grades in the course will be computed on the following basis:

- Classroom presentations (50%)
- Classroom participation (15%)
- Term Paper (25%)
- Attendance (10%)