

**PRACTICUM IN INTERVIEWING**  
**AND PERSONALITY APPRAISAL (ADULT INTAKE)**  
**PSYCHOLOGY 77700**

Spring 2010

Professor: Diana Diamond, Ph.D.

Office Hours: Tuesday 4:00-6:00 or by appointment)

**Course Description**

This course is designed to introduce clinical psychology graduate students to the psychodiagnostic and therapeutic skills of the practicing clinical psychologist. The focus will be on mastering the art of interviewing and the initial phases of clinical processes. The course will focus on approaches to interviewing with a focus on psychodiagnostic approaches. The course will also cover the structural interview that assesses for level of organization of the patient. The class will involve a brief overview of common disorders encountered in outpatient settings, including affective disorders, anxiety disorders, obsessive-compulsive and dissociative disorders, Post traumatic stress disorders (PTSD), and personality disorders including borderline, narcissistic, and antisocial disorders. The class will also address the issue of differential therapeutics; that is which therapeutic approaches (e.g. individual, family, couple), are appropriate for which conditions. Technical and boundary issues with patients, technical handling of difficult early problems in treatment; treatment planning; and initial stages of therapy will also be covered. Other topics to be covered include suicidal and homicidal ideation and behavior.

Although there are readings assigned for each class, the course will revolve around having students present their intake interviews to the class with the goal of developing diagnoses and dynamic formulations. The course will also focus on identifying and assessing the particular socio-cultural as well as psychological factors that may be relevant to clinical formulations. In addition, students will be assigned an ongoing psychotherapy case, which will be presented in class. The readings are meant to serve not as a focal point for the course, but as background for the development of clinical skills.

The adult intake class will now be doing the initial screening of people who come to The Psychological Center. This will be done in the following manner. Each person in the intake class will be available for two hours one day per week (from 12 to 2, 4-6, or 10-12) to do the actual screening. Which day of the week students are assigned to will be decided in consultation with the course instructor. Patients who are applying to the clinic for psychotherapy or consultation will be given appointment times for one of the fixed times by the person at the desk. The intakes will be from **ONE TO THREE SESSIONS** depending on the vicissitudes of the case. The applicant will be told from the beginning that attendance at the intake meetings is extremely important since we have a long waiting list and far more requests for services than we can fulfill. Given this initial briefing, if the patient misses or cancels a session, s/he will be told that if s/he cancels or misses again, it will be assumed that s/he is not sufficiently interested to continue at this time. If the

patient cancels more than two times, s/he will receive a letter informing him or her that s/he can no longer pursue an intake at the current time, but may reapply to the clinic at a later time should s/he decide to commit him or herself to the process.

Students will be responsible for writing three in-depth intake reports. These Intake reports should be done only on completed intakes. The format for these reports will be distributed in class. No reports will be accepted after the last week of the semester. If all intakes are not turned in at that time, the grade will be lowered accordingly.

If after presenting your intake patient in class or after consultation with your supervisor, you determine that he or she needs a medication consult, please contact the consulting psychiatrist, Dr. David Ott to discuss the case. We have added a section to the psychology consult sheet where you can indicate whether a psychiatric consult has been done. Briefly, a psychiatric consult is in order when the patient has a history of or is currently suicidal or homicidal, depressed, psychotic, has had previous psychiatric hospitalization(s).

In cases where it is extremely difficult to make a differential diagnosis, and particularly to determine the patient's level of organization, it is possible to have the patient tested by one of the students in the testing course. Psychological testing should be introduced to the patient as part of the intake process that will enable us to determine how the patient might best be helped. If it is determined that the patient is not appropriate for the clinic, he or she should not be tested, even if the diagnostic issues remain unclear. Testing is usually done when we deem that the patient is appropriate for the clinic, but have questions about level of organization, underlying psychotic process, neurological or cognitive impairments—all of which may affect the therapy process. Feedback on the psychological testing process ought to be given by the tester and the intake interviewer, and ought to occur prior to the beginning of therapy if possible.

The students conducting the intakes will pick up the patients they screen as individual psychotherapy patients as they have openings. When the intake therapist no longer needs therapy patients, s/he will continue to do the screenings, assigning patients as necessary. When the clinic has no more openings for therapy patients, the intake workers will continue to screen people, but with a focus on helping them to find appropriate referrals outside The Psychological Center. In the latter cases, students will be responsible for completing a short intake report on each patient.

**Required Texts:**

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual-Four (DSM-IV-TR). American Psychiatric Association, 2000.

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process. New York: The Guilford Press, 1994.

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Case Formulation. New York: The Guilford Press, 1999.

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy: A Practitioner's Guide. New York: the Guilford Press, 2004.

Psychoanalytic Diagnostic Manual. Alliance of Psychoanalytic Organizations.

LaBruzza, Anthony. Using the DSM-IV: A Clinician's Guide to Psychiatric Diagnosis. New Jersey: Jason Aronson.

Sullivan, H.S. The Psychiatric Interview. New York: Norton. 1958.

Shapiro, D. Psychotherapy of the Neurotic Character. New York: Basic Books, 1989.

Shapiro, D. Neurotic Styles New York: Basic Books, 1965.

### **Class 1: Introduction to Clinical Interviewing**

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process. Appendix, pp. 349-361.

McWilliams, Psychoanalytic Case Formulation. Chapters 2, Orientation to Interviewing.

### **Class 2: Introduction to Clinical Interviewing cont.**

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process.. Chapters 1, 2 and 3

LaBruzza, Anthony. Using the DSM-IV: A Clinician's Guide to Psychiatric Diagnosis. Chapters 1-9

McWilliams, Psychoanalytic Case Formulation. Chapters 2d 2

Sullivan, H.S., The Psychiatric Interview, pp. 3-93

### **Class 3; The Mental Status Exam and introduction to personality assessment and diagnosis**

LaBruzza, Anthony. Using the DSM-IV: A Clinician's Guide to Psychiatric Diagnosis. Chapters 1-9, 10

Mc Williams, N. Psychoanalytic Case Formulation. Chapters 2 and 3

#### **Class 4: The Structural Interview**

Kernberg, O. F. (1984). The Structural Interview. In: Kernberg, O.F.: Severe Personality Disorders: Psychotherapeutic Strategies. New Haven: Yale University Press.

#### **Class : The Psychodynamic Formulation**

Mc Williams, N. Psychoanalytic Case Formulation. Chapters 3 and 4

Perry, S., Cooper, A. and Michels, R. The Psychodynamic formulation: Its Purpose, Structure and Clinical Application.

#### **Class 6: Affective Disorders**

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process.. Chapter 11

LaBruzza, Anthony. Using the DSM-IV: A Clinician's Guide to Psychiatric Diagnosis Chapter 17

Blatt, S.J. (1974). Levels of Object Representation in Anaclitic and Introjective Depression

DSM-IV-TR. Pp. 345-427

#### **Class 7: Personality Disorders**

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process. Chapters 7 and 8

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Case Formulation. Chapters 8-10

LaBruzza, Anthony. Using the DSM-IV: A Clinician's Guide to Psychiatric Diagnosis

Chapter 27

DSM-IV-TR. Pp.685-729

#### **Class 8: Hysteria, Dissociative Disorders, and Somatoform Disorders**

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process.. Chapters 14 and 15

LaBruzza, Anthony. Using the DSM-IV: A Clinician's Guide to Psychiatric Diagnosis

Chapters 19,20, 21

Shapiro, D. Neurotic Styles. Pp. 108-133.

DSM-IV-TR. Pp. 519-533.

**Class 9: Anxiety and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders**

LaBruzza, Anthony. Using the DSM-IV: A Clinician's Guide to Psychiatric Diagnosis

Chapter 18 and 27

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process.. Chapter 12 and 13

Shapiro, D. Neurotic Styles, pp.23-54.

DSM-IV-TR. Pp.429-484.

**Class 10: Paranoid and Schizoid Disorders**

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process.. Chapter 9 and 10

**Class 11: Assessing Structure and Defenses**

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process.. Chapter 5.

Mc Williams, N. Psychoanalytic Case Formulation. Chapters 5, 6 and 7.

LaBruzza, Anthony. Using the DSM-IV: A Clinician's Guide to Psychiatric Diagnosis Chapter 9

**Class 12: Introduction to Psychotherapy: Setting up the Frame.**

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy: A Practitioner's Guide. New York: the Guilford Press, chapters 5-6.

McWilliams, N. Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy: A Practitioner's Guide. New York: the Guilford Press., chapter 7.

### **Class 13: Psychotherapy: Beginning Phases**

Appelbaum, A. Psychotherapeutic routes to structural change.

Shapiro, D. Psychotherapy of the Neurotic Character. New York: Basic Books, 1989.

Pine, F. The Interpretive Moment.

Pine, F. The Four Psychologies of Psychoanalysis and their Place in Clinical Work

### **Class 14: Assessment of Trauma**

Psychic Trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, pp. 100-106. PDM.

Hein, D., Cohen, L., Campbell, A. (2005). Is Traumatic Stress a Vulnerability Factor for Women with Substance Abuse Disorders. *Clinical Psychology Review*, 25, 813-823.

### **Class 15: Assessing for Substance Abuse**

D. Yalisove. "Introduction" in Essential Papers on Addiction.

CAGE: <http://counsellingresource.com/quizzes/alcohol-cage/index.html>