Course Name: Family Therapy            Instructor: Sam S. Hill, III, Psy.D.
Course Number: PSYC5345.001            Semester: Spring - 2012
Office: BH 315                            Meeting Room: CI-112
Meeting Times: Thursdays 4:20 PM to 6:50 PM Telephone: (361) 825-2394
Fax: (361) 825-6098                      e-mail: sam.hill@tamucc.edu

SYLLABUS

I. TEXT (Required)


II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Psychology 5345 is an advanced course of study in Family Theory, Practice and Therapy. This is a graduate level introductory survey of the major theories and theorist in the area of family therapy. The course of study will review traditional theories of family therapy as well as how to conduct an assessment of family dynamics, and the implications for the application of family therapy in practice. There will also be a review of the research done in the area and the applicability of research findings in practice. There will be particular work done on the emerging role of attachment theory in family dynamics and in the use of genograms as a tool of analysis and therapy.

You will examine ethical and professional issues in family therapy. The course materials and lectures are such that you will be encouraged to integrate your existing knowledge of developmental psychology, social psychology, and personality theory into this course material.

III STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course you will;

1. Know and understand the principle family therapy theories as demonstrated in by your examinations, class discussions and presentations.
2. Have learned how different family theories conceptualize and evaluate the dynamics of the human experience in general and how attachment theory may be a useful theoretical and practice approach to understanding family dynamics.
3. Have a heightened sensitivity to cultural and ethnic issues that influence family functioning and attitudes and demonstrate this understanding in your examinations, class participation and project assignments.

IV. EXAMINATIONS

There will be two examinations worth 150 points each, and a semester project worth 100 points.

V. ATTENDANCE

Attendance at stated meetings is mandatory.

VI. SEMESTER PROJECT

You will produce a semester project. You will make a 20-minute case presentation to the class on the analysis and case conceptualization of individual families the professor will provide you with the vignette. We will go over the details of the presentation in class.

VII. DETERMINATION OF GRADES

Course grades will be based primarily on the total number of points earned by the end of the semester. There are 400 possible points. To receive an "A" for the course, you will need 361 points (or 90% of the possible points). A "B" requires 321 points (80%), a "C" requires 281 points (70%).

At Dr. Hill’s discretion a grade may be raised but never lowered, for any of the following reasons:

1. quality of participation in their discussions,
2. improvement throughout the course
3. isolated low grade.

VIII. STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Americans with Disabilities ACT (ADA) requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation please contact the Disability Services Office at (361) 825-5816 or visit the office in Corpus Christi Hall Room 216.

IX. ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor and your faculty advisor often. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must
be signed by the student. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203, and can be reached at 825-3466.

X. ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITY

The current University Catalog and Student Handbook discuss plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

XI. GRADE APPEALS

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, if the student believes that he has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the plan of study, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. Should the student have a complaint about his grade he is encouraged to first discuss the matter with Dr. Hill. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamu.edu/provost/university_rules/index.htm. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

XII. OFFICE HOURS

Monday 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Tuesday 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM, .
Thursday 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM, and 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.
Other times by appointment

ASSIGNED READING

G - Goldberg
H - Hughes
M - McGoldrick
W – Walsh

01/12 – G – PART I – Fundamentals of Family Psychology (58)
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