

Psychology 473/573: Marriage and Family Therapy
Winter 2007

Instructor: Crystal Dehle, Ph.D.

Office: 212 Straub

Office Hours: MW 10-11 am or by appt.

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Course Description and Goals

Welcome to Marriage and Family Therapy! This course provides undergraduates with an upper division introduction to the academic study of couples and intimate relationships. The course draws heavily from both social and clinical psychology (as well as sociology, communication, and family studies), and provides an important foundation in relationship science for those interested in pursuing advanced training in couple and family therapy and/or couples research.

Course Pre-Requisite

Successful completion of Psychology 303 (Research Methods) is a pre-requisite for this course. Much of the content of the course comes from empirical research on couples and families, thus a basic understanding of research methodology is important for understanding the material. Students who have not successfully completed Psychology 303 should not be registered for the course.

Required Textbook: Miller, Perlman, & Brehm (2007). *Intimate Relationships*, 4th edition

Course Components and Requirements

Class meetings: Class meetings will be used for lectures, videos, and discussion. Lecture material will include coverage of selected topics from the assigned reading material, along with other topics or elaborations of topics not included in the assigned readings. Therefore, it is important that students attend class, take careful notes, and study the assigned readings. An abbreviated version of the lecture slides for each topic will be available prior to the lecture on the course Blackboard site. These slides are provided to you as an aid in note-taking, not as a complete set of lecture notes that will adequately prepare you for exams. You should bring the abbreviated slides with you to class (in a form that is useful to you) and fill them in with additional notes and examples from the lecture. I do not make my complete lecture notes available to students. If you miss a lecture, you need to get complete lecture notes from another student who attended class on the day(s) you were absent. Students are expected to arrive for class on time, stay for the entire allotted time, and to behave in a manner that does not disrupt the learning of others.

Exams: Mastery of the course content presented in the readings and class meetings will be assessed with 4 exams. Exams may include multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer items. The lowest of your four exam scores will not be used when calculating your course grade. If you miss an exam for any reason (illness, emergency, vacations, etc.), the missed exam score will be used as the dropped exam score. **Thus, make-up exams will not be scheduled.** Students who miss more than one of the four scheduled exams cannot pass the course.

Psy 473 Paper: Students registered for Psy 473 will also complete an essay designed to assist in applying and integrating the course material using a specific example presented in contemporary film. Students will view a film titled 'The Story of Us' (R-1999) and write an analysis of the film focusing on aspects or themes of the film that are consistent with the material presented in the course (class meetings and the textbook) on intimate relationships, as well as aspects or themes of the film that are inconsistent with the material presented in the course. The text of the papers should be at least 3 pages long (typed, double-spaced, 12 point font, 1" margins). The film will be available on reserve in the video reserve area of Knight Library for viewing at the library. Given the number of students in the course, and the resulting demand on the film placed on reserve at the library, students may wish to view the video elsewhere at their leisure by renting a copy of the movie. Papers will be graded on both content and writing quality. Therefore, papers should be carefully revised and edited for organization, clarity, grammar, and other writing mechanics. **The paper is worth up to 20 points and is due in class on March 14. Emailed papers will not be accepted. Papers turned in anytime after our class meeting on 3/14/07 will be penalized 2 pts. (10% of the total points possible) per day late.** The selected film for the assignment is rated R. If viewing an R rated film is a problem or concern, please see me and I will provide you with an alternative selection for the assignment that is rated PG-13.

Psy 573 Paper: Students registered for the course at the 500 level (Psy 573) are required to complete a paper reviewing the empirical literature on a topic related to couples or families. The text of the review paper should include a minimum of 8-10 pages of text, and the entire paper should conform to APA (American Psychological Association) 5th edition formatting guidelines. Paper topics need to be pre-approved by the instructor by January 24, 2007. Papers will be graded for both content and writing quality. Therefore, papers should be carefully revised and edited for organization, clarity, grammar, and other writing mechanics. **The paper is worth up to 40 points and is due in class on March 14. Emailed papers will not be accepted. Papers turned in anytime after our class meeting on 3/14/07 will be penalized 4 pts. (10% of the total points possible) per day late.**

Grading

Exams:	90 pts. total (30 points each and lowest of 4 exam scores dropped)
Psy 473 Film essay:	20 points
PSY 573 Review paper	40 points

Course Grade: Your grade for the course will be based on the percentage of points earned from the maximum points possible (110 points for Psy 473 students and 130 points for Psy 573 students).

A+ 100%	B- 79-81%	D 62-67%
A 92-99%	C+ 78%	D- 59-61%
A- 89-91%	C 72-77%	F < 59%
B+ 88%	C- 69-71%	
B 82-87%	D+ 68%	

Learning Accommodations

Instructors will accommodate students with documented disabilities and will comply with individualized instructions provided by Disabilities Services. However, students must take the initiative in discussing arrangements with the instructor in the first week of class and providing documentation as soon as it is available. Students without a documented disability who are experiencing learning difficulties are encouraged to consult Disabilities Services (164 Oregon Hall; 346-1155). Without documentation, special accommodations are not guaranteed and are to be made at the discretion of the instructor. [Disability Services: disabsrv@darkwing.uoregon.edu, 346-1155; <http://ds.uoregon.edu/>]

Academic Honesty

Members of the university community are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors. To falsify the results of one's research, to present the words, ideas, data, or work of another as one's own, or to cheat on an examination corrupts the essential process by which knowledge is advanced. It is the official policy of the University of Oregon that all acts of alleged academic dishonesty by students be reported to the Director of Student Judicial Affairs in the Office of Students Life.

Peer Advisors

If you have questions about course requirements, graduation, graduate school or anything else related to a degree in psychology, check with the peer advisors in room 141 Straub first! They are there most days 10-4, so drop by to have your questions answered.

Tentative Course Schedule

<u>Lecture Date</u>	<u>Lecture Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
1/8	Introduction to course	
1/10	The Building Blocks of Relationships	Ch. 1
1/15	NO CLASS: MLK Holiday	
1/17	Social Cognition	Ch. 4
1/22	Communication	Ch. 5
1/24	Exam 1 (Ch. 1, 4, 5 & Lecture)	
1/29	Interdependency	Ch. 6
1/31	Interdependency	
2/5	Love	Ch. 8
2/7	Love	
2/12	Exam 2 (Ch. 6, 8 & Lecture)	
2/14	Sexuality	Ch. 9
2/19	Stresses and Strains	Ch. 10
2/21	Conflict and Violence	Ch. 12
2/26	Conflict and Violence	
2/28	Exam 3 (Ch. 9, 10, 12 & Lecture)	
3/5	Dissolution and Loss of Relationships	Ch. 13
3/7	Dissolution and Loss of Relationships	
3/12	Maintaining and Repairing Relationships	Ch. 15
3/14	Maintaining and Repairing Relationships	Papers Due In Class!!!
3/20 (T)	Exam 4 (Ch. 13, 15 & Lecture) 10:15-12:15	