



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2019

TA1239 – INTRODUCTION TO MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

1 (2.5-0-0) 15 HOURS FOR 6 WEEKS

INSTRUCTOR: Tanya Ray

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OFFICE HOURS: Please drop by my office, email or call for an appointment

LOCATION: E302

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: NONE

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

NONE

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The role of an Educational Assistant involves assisting children who have a variety of exceptionalities. This course will provide students with a basic understanding of mental health issues experienced by all children, including those frequently accompanying a variety of other exceptionalities.

DELIVERY MODE(S):

Students will be engaged in active learning, and classes will include a mixture of lecture, discussions, small group work, case studies, in-class assignments and audio-visual materials.

OBJECTIVES:

Students will be expected:

1. To understand the background and terminology used in a variety of mental health diagnosis.
2. To demonstrate an understanding of the implications for instruction for students with mental health concerns.
3. To demonstrate an understanding of the classroom strategies and organization for supporting the learning of students with mental health concerns.
4. To demonstrate an understanding of creating a positive classroom environment and maintaining a supportive learning environment for students who have mental health concerns.
5. To understand student needs by becoming familiar with strategies for helping students with mental health concerns, as well as the variety of community resources available.
6. To understand the roles of the educational assistant with respect to helping or finding resources for children with mental health issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to:

1. Recognize and explain basic terminology used in current medical diagnosis of Mental Health disorders in children.
2. Identify various instruction techniques for students who mental health concerns.
3. Demonstrate in writing the use of classroom strategies and organization for supporting the learning of students who mental health concerns.
4. Demonstrate through examples the benefit of creating a positive classroom environment and maintaining a supportive learning environment for students who mental health concerns.
5. Use various programming and intervention strategies used in assisting students with a particular mental health issue.
6. Identify the roles of an educational assistant with respect to the learning characteristics of students who have mental health concerns.

TRANSFERABILITY:

The passing grade for courses taken within the Human Services Department is **C-** (1.7)

GRADING CRITERIA:

| Alpha Grade | 4-point Equivalent | Percentage Guidelines | | Alpha Grade | 4-point Equivalent | Percentage Guidelines |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| A+ | 4.0 | 90-100 | | C+ | 2.3 | 67-69 |
| A | 4.0 | 85-89 | | C | 2.0 | 63-66 |
| A- | 3.7 | 80-84 | | C- | 1.7 | 60-62 |
| B+ | 3.3 | 77-79 | | F | 0.0 | 0-59 |
| B | 3.0 | 73-76 | | | | |
| B- | 2.7 | 70-72 | | | | |

EVALUATIONS:

- Major Project/Paper 30%
- In class/take home mini assignments 30%
- Attendance & Participation 10%
- Test 30%

All assignments must be typed and follow APA guidelines. Computers are available in the library, as well as the computer labs.

LATE POLICY:

Assignments are to be submitted through Moodle by midnight on the due date. Unless arrangements have been made with the instructor **prior** to the assignment due date, late assignments will be docked 5% per week. If the assignment is not received within two weeks of the initial due date, a grade of zero will be given.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the right of the student and of the instructor to a favorable learning/teaching environment. It is the responsibility of the student and the instructor to engage in appropriate adult behaviors that positively support learning. This includes treating others with dignity and respect and following the expectations outlined below.

CLASSROOM

Regular, PUNCTUAL attendance.

- Learning from other students' notes or from Moodle is not optimal.
- If you are late to class, you miss important information about assignments, homework and quizzes. It is also disruptive to other students' learning.
- If you miss a class, refer to Moodle or check in with another student.

Children are not considered to be part of the classroom learning environment, please make alternate arrangements for your child(ren).

Turn off cell phones

- Studies indicate that cell phones not only interfere with your learning, but also the students around you.

QUIZZES/EXAMS

Write in-class quizzes/exams on the date and time they are scheduled.

- If an emergency arises that causes you to be unable to write the quiz, please call or email your instructor to leave a message BEFORE the exam begins.

ASSIGNMENTS

Hand in assignments via Moodle on the date indicated, by 12 midnight unless otherwise specified.

- Instructors reserve the right to make exceptions to this rule in extenuating circumstances on a case by case basis.
- ALL assignments will be typed, double-spaced (or follow the provided template) and will include a cover page with your name, course number and assignment name.

OUTSIDE OF CLASS

- Complete assigned readings and assignments, participate in group projects, check Moodle.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at

<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/>

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

| DATE | TOPIC/CHAPTER | ASSIGNMENT/TEST |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| September 10 | Course Outline What is mental health? Terminology | |
| September 17 | Types of Mental Disorders | |
| September 24 | Behavior disorders Trauma, Injury to self or others Substance abuse | |
| October 1 | Educator's role Parent communication | |
| October 8 | Suicide Prevention presentation? (Community Helpers) | Assignment due |
| October 15 | Self-Care | |
| October 22 | | Quiz |