

COU501 Clinical Assessment in Counselling

Level: 5

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JULY

Synopsis:

This course is designed to provide a theoretical and practical introduction on the following topics:

- Purposes, principles and processes of clinical assessment
- Professional issues of assessment
- Clinical assessment and initial intake
- Mental status examination
- Working with client resistance
- Role of diagnosis in assessment
- DSM-5 diagnostic criteria relating to anxiety, depression and other commonly encountered disorders
- Role of case conceptualization in assessment
- Case conceptualization: Biopsychosocial approach
- Case conceptualization: Cognitive-behavioural approach
- Case conceptualization: Solution-focused approach

Topics:

- Assessment in psychotherapy & counselling
- Basic assessment principles in counselling
- Clinical assessment and diagnosis
- Initial interview communication principles
- Using appropriate assessment tools and measures in counselling
- Ethical and legal issues in clinical assessment
- Issues related to counselling assessment with diverse populations
- Case conceptualizations in counselling: An overview
- Counselling assessment and diagnostic formulations
- Explanations and cultural formulations in clinical assessment
- Treatment planning and treatment formulations in counselling
- Different theoretical case conceptualisations in psychotherapy

Textbooks:

Lynn Zubernis; Matthew Snyder: Case Conceptualization and Effective Interventions: Assessing and Treating Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Disorders (eText) 1st Sage
ISBN-13: 9781483388724

Len Sperry, Jon Sperry: Case Conceptualization: Mastering This Competency with Ease and Confidence (eText) Taylor & Francis
ISBN-13: 9781000074598

Learning Outcome:

- Examine the purpose, nature, process and basic principles of assessment in counselling.
- Appraise different theoretical orientations of assessments in counselling.
- Critique the importance of culture and contexts in assessment and formulation in a local context.
- Discuss meaningful selection, administration, scoring and interpretation of assessment results.
- Formulate case conceptualisations through interpretation of assessment results.
- Evaluate the implications of ethical and legal issues in assessment.

Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 1	50
Overall Examinable Components	ECA	50
Total		100

*The information listed is subject to review and change.