

COU504 Structural Family Therapy

Level: 5

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JULY

Synopsis:

The module is designed for gaining a deeper theoretical knowledge of the Four-step Model developed by Salvador Minuchin and colleagues, and its application in family therapy. Using video segments of family interviews, the course will cover the theoretical bases, conceptual frameworks, and skills in marriage and family therapy. A unique feature of the module lies in its heavy emphasis on clinical data in raising students' awareness of theoretical application to clinical practice. The module also focuses on the therapist's style, and utilising the family therapist's pouch in the family session.

Topics:

- Assessing Families: From Symptoms To Systems
- Basic principles in Structural Family Therapy
- Step One: Surfacing the Presenting Problem
- Step Two: Highlighting Problem-maintaining Interactions
- Step Three: A Structurally-focused Exploration of the Past
- Step Four: An Exploration of Alternative Ways
- Working with Children
- Working with Adolescents
- Working with Couples
- Working with Larger Systems
- Conducting the First Family Interview
- Structural Family Therapy Techniques

Textbooks:

The Craft of Family Therapy: Challenging Certainties 2nd Salvador Minuchin, Michael D. Reiter, and Charmaine Borda Routledge
ISBN-13: 9781000373196

Assessing Families and Couples: from Symptom to System Salvador Minuchin, Michael Nichols, Wai Yung Lee Pearson
ISBN-13: 9780205470129

Learning Outcome:

- Examine the philosophical and theoretical concepts underpinning structural family therapy.
- Appraise the structural family therapy map for assessing families.
- Organise the Four-step Model and the craft of family therapy in clinical practice.
- Assess the problem-maintaining patterns from a structural family therapy perspective.
- Design structurally focused exploration of the past.
- Compose structural interventions in changing family interactions and patterns.

Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 1	40
Overall Examinable Components	ECA	60
Total		100

*The information listed is subject to review and change.