

## **COU572 Medical Family Therapy**

**Level:** 5

**Credit Units:** 5 Credit Units

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Presentation Pattern:** EVERY JULY

### **Synopsis:**

The medical family therapy course introduces students to work collaboratively with medical and mental health professionals within a medical setting. It uses a common systemic language to address psychosocial problems of individuals, couples and families with acute and chronic medical related concerns from a systemic family therapy perspective. The course will also assess the role of the medical family therapist as he/she navigates relational conflicts that can arise in couples and families dealing with childhood developmental problems and medical related issues.

### **Topics:**

- An Overview of Medical Family Therapy
- Clinical Strategies for Medical Family Therapy
- Collaboration with other Health Professionals
- The Shared Emotional Themes of Illness
- The Self of the Medical Family Therapist
- Community Engagement
- Health Behaviours that Harm
- Couples and Illnesses
- Pregnancy Loss, Infertility and Reproductive Technology
- Medical Family Therapy with Children
- Somatising Patients and their Families
- The Experience of Genomic Medicine: The New Frontier
- Care-giving, End of Life Care, and Loss

### **Textbooks:**

Medical Family Therapy: Advanced Applications (e-text) Jennifer Hodgson, Angela Lamson, Tai Mendenhall, D. Russell Crane Springer  
ISBN-13: 9783319034829

Clinical Methods in Medical Family Therapy (Focused Issues in Family Therapy) 1st Tai Mendenhall, Angela Lamson, Jennifer Hodgson, Macaran Baird Springer  
ISBN-13: 9783319688343

**Learning Outcome:**

- Critique theoretical and conceptual framework underlying medical family therapy.
- Appraise the key ideas/ concepts including common systemic language in working collaboratively with medical and mental health professionals within a medical setting.
- Organise salient ideas and concepts with that of the person-of-the-therapist in a given clinical context.
- Assemble the collaborative skills needed to work with medical and mental health professionals within a medical setting from the medical family therapy perspective.
- Prepare one's teaching ability to present systemic family therapy concepts and ideas to other health professionals within the medical setting.
- Formulate the medical family therapy concepts and technique(s) for application in one's collaborative work with medical/ mental health professionals.

**Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Evening Class):**

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

\*The information listed is subject to review and change.