HCE 650    Basic Concepts of Couple and Family Counseling

This course will provide a historical context for the field of family therapy, as well as an exploration of the major theories that inform the current application of family therapy.

Prerequisite:  None
Credit Hours:  3
Course Type:  Variable
Ideal Class Size:  25

Relationship to CEHD Core Values

Democracy: The course does not specifically address this value.

Civility & Caring: The entire counseling profession is centered on caring and civility.

Equity & Diversity: The course explores how class, gender and cultural issues impact the application of family based models.

Social Justice: Client advocacy is an ethical expectation of the profession.

Scholarship: Current scholarship related to family systems is provided.

Professional Learning & Continuous Improvement: Updating one’s professional expertise is an ethical obligation.

Ethical Practice: Students sign a Code of Ethics Attestation statement upon entry into the Counselor Education program, and all students are responsible for abiding by the professional Code of Ethics in all course work and activities that represent program outcomes and standards.

Course Goal

This course will develop an understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of family therapy and the principles of family development

Objectives

The course will:
1. provide a basic understanding of the key concepts from family systems theory.
2. offer an overview of the major theories that constitute the application of family therapy.
3. explore recent innovations in systemic models as they have been applied in the context of family problems.
4. provide experience with a case conference model that encourages dialogue around family problems and systemic interventions.
5. consider the ways in which class, gender and cultural issues impact the application of family based models.
6. explore ways in which systemic interventions may be integrated with other mental health interventions.
7. discuss ethical standards around confidentiality and how these standards are applied in a systemic context.

10/25/07
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