I. Course Description:

This mini-course aims to build students' knowledge and skills around working (engaging and sustaining therapeutic alliance) with high need/at risk youth. This course will emphasize racial and ethnic minority youth with mental and behavioral health problems living in impoverished urban areas.

II. Course Objectives

a. Learn about Evidence-Based Practices and Practice Based Evidence techniques to engage youth and young adults in the therapeutic relationship and process.
b. Learn about strength-based strategies for positive youth development.
c. Learn about issues related to youth retention in Social Work services and how to combat them.
d. Learn how to apply and practice knowledge gained in this course to better serve racial and ethnic minority youth and their families living in impoverished areas that have mental health and behavioral health problems.

III. CSWE Competencies

a. Identify as a professional Social Worker.
b. Apply ethical principles of Social Work practice.
c. Apply critical thinking and professional judgments.
d. Engagement of diversity and difference in practice.
e. Advance human rights and economic justice.
f. Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research.
g. Apply knowledge of HBSE.
h. Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
IV. Course Format/Instructional Methods
As part of the learning process, this class will include didactic instruction, Power Points, lectures, videos, exercises, role-plays, and a guest speaker presentation. Students will practice skills by interacting and discussing with each other.

V. Plan for Class 05/17/13
a. Introduce yourselves, fill out survey and discuss
b. Introduction to class
c. What is youth engagement?
d. Who are high need youth in impoverished urban environments?
e. Impact of the Environment: Ecological Systems Theory
   i. Activity-case example of the EST
f. Lunch
g. Introduction to Theoretical Perspectives
   i. Health Belief Model, Behavior Modification, Strategic and Structural Family Systems Theory, Therapeutic Alliance.
   ii. Activity-Role Plays utilizing the Theories

VI. Plan for Class 05/18/13
a. Review of previous day
b. Introduction to Theoretical Perspectives
   i. Strategic Structural-Systems Engagement Model, Adjunctive Family Support interventions, Motivational Interviewing.
   ii. Activity-Motivational Interviewing Training Video
c. Lunch
d. Guest Speaker Professor Robert Ortega on Sports Therapy and Working with High Risk Adolescents (2pm-3.30pm)
e. Course feedback and evaluation

VII. Assignment: Paper based on an Interview
a. Interview a Social Worker who works or has worked with high need/high risk youth. Ask them about what strategies worked for them to keep youth and families engaged and coming back. Relate the Social Worker’s strategies to the literature provided in class and on CTools (Resource file). Refer to the Kim, Munson, and McKay article in particular.
   i. Who to interview: A Social Worker. This can be someone in the class who has experience working with this population. If you can’t find anyone, contact Sandy.
   iii. The literature: Does the Social Worker use evidence-based strategies we talked about in class? Which ones, and why? Do they address it on the individual, family or service system level? (pg. 246-McKay et al. article). If they do not use any perspectives from the literature, what works for them, and why?
 iv. DUE DATE: 05/31/13 BY 5PM
    SUBMIT VIA CTOOLS ASSIGNMENT TAB
Introduction Survey

Name: ________________________________

Year in the Program & track length: ________________________________________________

Are you a Clinical Scholar (circle one): YES  NO

1. Why did you want to take this course?
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

2. Where is your field placement: ________________________________________________

3. Do you have experience with high need/at risk youth (circle one)? YES  NO

4. If you answered “yes” to question 1, please explain:
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

5. What do you think “works” to keep high need/at risk youth engaged with a Social Worker?
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

6. When you were younger, what kept you engaged in positive youth development activities?
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________