Course Description

This course will present the state-of-the-art knowledge and research on mental disorders of children and youth, as well as factors that promote mental health and prevent mental disorders in children and youth. Biopsychosocial theories of resiliency, coping, etiology, the impact of mental health disorders on children and family members, and the relationship of ability, age, class, color, culture, ethnicity, family structure, gender (including gender identity and gender expression) marital status, national origin, race, religion or spirituality, sex, and sexual orientation to mental disorders will be examined. Classification systems of child and youth functioning and disorders will be presented such as the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, DC:0-3 Diagnostic System of the National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families, and the Individuals with Disability Education Act. The impact of labeling and stigma will be explored in order to develop critical thinking about how mental disorders of children and youth are conceptualized.

Course Content

This course will examine psychological, behavioral, and developmental disorders of childhood and adolescence. The particular disorders will be considered in broader psychosocial and ecological contexts which promote mental health or create and maintain symptomatic functioning. These broader contexts will be presented through an overview of theory and research on the following issues: 1) a transactional and developmental perspective on the etiology of mental disorders; 2) parent-infant attachment and family dynamics; 3) risk and protective factors (including individual, familial, and socio-cultural factors) and resiliency; and 4) stress and trauma theory, including the impact of maltreatment and loss. The following conditions will be reviewed in terms of presentation, etiology, prevalence, incidence, and assessment at different developmental stages and gender distributions: 1) relationship disorders; 2) stress-response syndromes, including post-traumatic stress disorder and acute stress reactions; 3) depression, bipolar disorder, and other mood problems; 4) anxiety disorders; 5) developmental disorders; 6) disruptive behavior disorders including ADHD and conduct disorder; 7) communication and learning disorders; 8) eating disorders; 9) substance use disorders; and 10) childhood schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders. Attention will be given to the analysis and assessment of strengths and adaptive functions that may coexist with disorders, as well as to issues in defining mental health and mental disorders in cultural terms. Evidence-based interventions of a psychosocial and pharmacological nature will be reviewed across each of the mental health problems identified above.
Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to: 1. Identify factors influencing the development, natural history, expression, and outcomes of mental health and mental disorders of children and youth at the individual, familial, cultural/ethnic, and social levels. (Practice Behaviors 4.IP, 4.SPE, 4.CO, 4.MHS, 7.IP, 7.SPE, 7.CO, 7.MHS) 2. Describe the transactional processes among the above factors which influence the etiology and maintenance of mental disorders. (Practice Behaviors 7.IP, 7.SPE, 7.CO, 7.MHS) 3. Describe and critique classification systems of mental disorders of children and adolescents, particularly the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) and Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA). (Practice Behaviors 7.IP, 7.SPE, 7.CO, 7.MHS) 4. Identify and differentiate a number of disorders of children and adolescents and apply them to the evaluation of clients. (Practice Behaviors 7.IP, 7.SPE, 7.CO, 7.MHS) 5. Demonstrate knowledge of comprehensive and systemic assessments and evaluations of children and youth. (Practice Behaviors 5.IP, 5.SPE, 5.CO, 5.MHS, 7.IP, 7.SPE, 7.CO, 7.MHS) 6. Demonstrate empathic appreciation of the client's experience of disorders from the perspective of the client's inner world. (Practice Behaviors 7.IP, 7.SPE, 7.CO, 7.MHS) 7. Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of the child's or adolescent's difficulties on parents and other family members. (Practice Behaviors 2.IP, 2.SPE, 2.CO, 2.MHS) 8. Discuss common value and ethical concerns related to mental health and mental disorders of children and youth. (Practice Behaviors 7.IP, 7.SPE, 7.CO, 7.MHS) 9. Demonstrate knowledge of important developmental, structural, and contextual theories, research findings, and core concepts related to normative development of children and youth and the development of mental health problems. (Practice Behaviors 7.IP, 7.SPE, 7.CO, 7.MHS)

Course Design & Format

The objectives of the course will be pursued through readings, lectures, discussions, demonstrations, case studies and presentations, videos, and guest lectures. There will be three in-class closed book examinations of short essay format. There will also be one short open book take home quiz. Students are expected to attend all classes, participate in class discussion and practice vignettes.

Course Requirements and Grading Rubric

- Take-home case evaluation quiz (2/3/15) 10%
- In-class examination #1 (2/10/15) 30%
- In-class examination #2 (3/24/15) 30%
- In-class examination #3 (4/21/15) 30%
- Class attendance, participation and practice vignettes

Case Evaluation (Take Home) Quiz: Students will be required to review a written clinical case example (vignette) and complete a short take home 20 point quiz. The take-home quiz will follow the same format as in-class examinations and is an opportunity for you to prepare for the in-class exams.

- Make a DSM -5 (5points)
- List criteria for diagnosis and provide information from the vignette that meets the criteria (10 points)
- List best practice intervention options as described in class and in readings (5 points)

In-class Examinations: The examinations will be based on a review of clinical vignettes. Using the vignettes, students will be asked to answer a 3 part question for each vignette as follows:

- Make a DSM -5 (5points)
- List criteria for diagnosis and provide information from the vignette that meets the criteria (10 points)
• List best practice intervention options as described in class and in readings (5 points)

Examinations are not cumulative and will take place in-class. Each exam will have 3 clinical vignettes and the possibility to earn 60 points total. Each clinical vignette is worth 20 points.

Incompletes: Incompletes are given only when it can be demonstrated that it would be unfair to hold the student to the stated time limits of the course. The student must formally request an incomplete from the instructor prior to the final week of classes.

Attendance is a requirement. Your grade will be affected negatively if you miss any classes without communication with the instructor. Make-up assignments for missed classes may be required.

*NOTE: Participation does not mean you need to talk a lot in class. It is more about bringing a positive learning attitude to the class and being present for each session. Each of us participates differently, and I will strive to honor that diversity among us.

Students in Need of Accommodations
If you have a documented disability or condition that may interfere with your participation in this course, please schedule a private appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations for your specific needs. This information will be kept strictly confidential. For more information and resources, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities office at G664 Haven Hall, (734) 763-3000. Also, if religious observances conflict with class attendance or due dates for assignments, please notify me so we can discuss appropriate arrangements.

Theme Relation to Multiculturalism & Diversity
Multiculturalism and Diversity will be addressed through discussion of incidence and prevalence of child and adolescent mental disorders, as related to persons differing in ability, age, class, color, culture, ethnicity, family structure, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), marital status, national origin, race, religion or spirituality, sex, and sexual orientation, health status, and SES.

Theme Relation to Social Justice
Social Justice and Social Change will be addressed through discussion of the misapplication of mental health diagnoses based on race, class, and gender bias, and the potential impact of poverty, discrimination, and disenfranchisement on the development of mental disorders and disorders of parenting.

Theme Relation to Promotion, Prevention, Treatment & Rehabilitation
Promotion, Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation will be addressed through discussion of protective factors which promote resiliency and positive adaptation.

Theme Relation to Behavioral and Social Science Research
Behavioral and Social Science Research will inform the entire content of this course, which will draw especially on current research in the following areas: developmental psychopathology, attachment, risk, resiliency and coping, trauma and maltreatment, and studies of particular disorders.

Relationship of the Course to Social Work Ethics and Values
Ethical and value issues related to all course topics will be identified and discussed. Examples of these include: how views of the rights of children affect our understanding of child mental health, how societal values regarding child development affect judgments we make about the mental health of
children, how the use social workers make of DSM-IV can bias judgments of child mental health, what the value issues are in paying attention to the child’s inner world, and how cultural and gender biases also affect professional views of child mental health. Issues related to person-centered mental health practice, client self-determination, confidentiality, dignity, HIPPA, duty to warn, and associated legal, ethical, and value concerns will also be addressed, particularly as they pertain to client services and intervention with youth with mental health problems.

**Intensive Focus on Privilege, Oppression, Diversity, and Social Justice (PODS)**

This course integrates PODS content and skills with a special emphasis on the identification of theories, practice, and/or policies that promote social justice, illuminate social injustices and are consistent with scientific and professional knowledge. Through the use of a variety of instructional methods, this course will support students developing a vision of social justice, learn to recognize and reduce mechanisms that support oppression and injustice, work toward social justice processes, apply intersectionality and intercultural frameworks and strengthen critical consciousness, self knowledge and self awareness to facilitate PODS learning.

**Topics and Required Reading Assignments**


DSM-5 online supplemental information can be found at [http://www.psychiatry.org/dsm5](http://www.psychiatry.org/dsm5)

The SSW library also has a subscription to the DSM-IV through Stat!Ref. You can access it on-line with the following link (if off campus you will have to authenticate with your UM-uniqunam to get in):

[http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V/?func=native-link&Resource=UMI03044](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V/?func=native-link&Resource=UMI03044)

Additional required and recommended readings will be on electronic reserve in CTools for this class section.

**(1/13/15) Social Work Practice, Assessment and Use of the DSM 5**

1. DSM-5, (pp. 5-17).

2. DSM-5, (pp. 19-25).


(1/20/15) Anxiety Disorders in Children and Youth
(specific phobias, separation anxiety disorder)

1. DSM-5, (pp. 189-202).


(1/27/15) Anxiety Disorders in Children and Youth
(generalized anxiety disorder, social anxiety disorder, panic disorder)

1. DSM-5, (pp. 202-225).


(2/3/15) Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, practice vignettes and exam review
Case Example Evaluation (Take Home) Quiz

1. DSM-5, (pp.235-242).


(2/10/15) **Examination #1 and Tic disorders**

1. DSM-5 (pp.81-85).


(2/17/15) **Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder**

1. DSM-5, (pp. 59-66).


(2/24/15) **Disruptive Behavior Disorders (Oppositional Defiant Disorder and Conduct Disorder)**

1. DSM-5, (pp. 461-476).


(3/3/15) **No class: Spring Break**

(3/10/15) **Childhood Trauma, Abuse & Neglect (PTSD), practice vignettes**

1. DSM-5, (pp. 265-290).


(3/17/15) **Eating Disorders, and practice vignette’s and exam review**

1. DSM-5, (pp. 329-354).


(3/24/15) **Examination #2 and Depression**


(3/31/15) Depression and Bipolar Disorders, and practice clinical vignettes

1. DSM-5, (pp.155-188)
2. DSM-5, (pp. 123-154)

(4/7/15) Autism Spectrum Disorders and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

1. DSM-5, (pp. 50-59).


(4/14/15) **Substance Abuse Disorders and Stigma and Social Justice Issues in diagnosis and treatment, and exam review**

1. DSM-5 (pp. 481-584).


(4/21/15) **Examination #3**