

Course Syllabus

Edit

Course title: Applied Assessment Skills in Integrated Health, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse

Course #/term: SW 601 001 WI 23

Time and place: Tuesday 9:00 AM- 12:00 Noon B798

Credit hours: 3

Instructor: Tammie B. Glenn

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

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You may expect a response within 24 hours

Office: SSWB

Office hours: By Appointment

1. Course Statement

Course description

This course focuses on a holistic approach in promoting the development and deepening of assessment and screening skills and competencies. Conducting brief, evidence-based and evidence-informed assessments and screenings for common health, mental health, substance use and other behavioral health concerns which impact and/or compromise health and well-being will be the focus of this course. Holistic approaches which are developmentally appropriate across the life span and relevant in a variety of settings will be applied. Grounding of the assessment process in person in environment perspective (PIE), strengths-based approaches, the nature of the client/family and social support systems, cultural, spiritual and religious beliefs and other

socio-economic resources that impact health and client well-being will be included. Examples of screenings and assessments addressed in this course include a focus on mental health problems; adjustment to illness; risky, harmful or dependent use of a variety of substances (e.g. alcohol, illicit drugs, prescription medications, etc.); cognitive impairment; harm to self or others; abuse, neglect, and domestic violence; and behaviors that compromise health among others.

Course objectives and competencies

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate:

- Understanding and application of a holistic approach to health in conducting bio psychosocial spiritual assessments including person in environment (PIE), strengths based client assets, nature of the client/family and social support system, cultural, spiritual and

religious beliefs and other socio-economic resources that impact on health and delivery of care (EPAS 2,3,7).

- Understanding of the signs, symptoms and treatments clients may receive for the most common health conditions, health crises, and comorbidity seen in a variety of practice settings and resulting impact on client well-being. (EPAS 7 ,8).
- Ability to utilize established classification criteria, recognize and identify, the most common mental health and substance use conditions seen in a variety of practice (EPAS 7)
- Competency in conducting brief, evidence-based, and developmentally sensitive screens for risky, harmful, or dependent use of substances, including alcohol, illicit drugs, and prescription medications. (EPAS 4, 7).
- Competency in conducting brief, evidence-based, and developmentally appropriate screens for cognitive (EPAS 3, 7)
- Competency in conducting brief screens for risk related to self-harm, harm to others, impairments in functional self-care, and environmental (EPAS 3,7)
- Ability to identify signs of abuse, neglect, domestic violence and other trauma in individuals across the lifespan and conduct brief, evidence-based screenings. (EPAS 1,2,3,7)

Course design

This course encourages a “flipped classroom” format in which students complete pre-class work (readings, videos, etc.). The majority of class time used for ALL students will focus on engaging in active clinical practice of assessment and screening using client vignettes and/or student-generated detailed client scenarios/role plays which represent diverse populations, health concerns/diagnoses, co-morbidities and lived experiences. Active practicing of skills, engaging in role-playing, observation and critical analysis of assessment process and mutually constructive feedback is critical to the skill development focus of this class. Clinical scenarios will address a diverse variety of client populations, needs and practice settings. Video and/or audio taping and presenting of student screening and assessment practice for discussion and learning will be an integral part of skill building in this class.

Intensive focus on 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 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.

Consideration will be given to the ways in which diversity factors such as age, race, ethnicity, disadvantage, gender, sexual orientation, sexual identity, class, immigration status, ability, family status, geographic location, ethnicity, and culture interact with and impact health, mental health and behavioral health impact assessment and screening. Culturally responsive engagement in the assessment process will be a focus.

Class Requirements

Text and class materials

Required text: Jordan C. & Franklin C. (2020). *Clinical Assessment for Social Workers: Quantitative and Qualitative Methods*. Oxford University Press, NY, New York.

There are two ways to obtain the text:

- You can purchase hard copy on Amazon for \$75 w/free shipping or Kindle Version for \$60
- Chegg also has it available to rent for the semester for \$25: [https://www.chegg.com/etextbooks/clinical-assessment-for-social-workers-5th-edition- Links to an external site.9780190071929-0190071923?trackid=09bf7e25837e&strackid=b244b0f63fd1](https://www.chegg.com/etextbooks/clinical-assessment-for-social-workers-5th-edition-Links-to-an-external-site.9780190071929-0190071923?trackid=09bf7e25837e&strackid=b244b0f63fd1)Links to an external site.
- This book is also available digitally through the UM Library through the HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access Service: <https://search.lib.umich.edu/catalog/record/018297440>Links to an external site.

All other materials will be available through the course [Canvas site](#).

Class schedule

Date/Time	Agenda	Readings & Assignments
Week 1: 1/10	Setting the stage for assessment	See canvas
Week 2: 1/17	The Assessment Process	
Week 3: 1/24	Essential Skills in Social Work Assessment	
Week 4: 1/31	Social work assessment with adults 1 Skill Lab Prep 1	
Week 5: 2/7	Skill Lab Session 1	
Week 6: 2/14	Social work assessment with adults 2	

Date/Time	Agenda	Readings & Assignments
Week 7: 2/21	Social work assessment with children 1	
Week 8: 3/7	Social work assessment with children 2	
Week 9: 3/14	Skill Lab Session 2	
Week 10: 3/21	Assessment for cognitive and physical conditions Skill Lab 3 Prep	
Week 11: 3/28	Final Skill Lab Session 3	
Week 12: 4/4	Assessment for trauma, violence, abuse, and neglect; Assessment for self-harm across the life span	
Week 13: 4/11	Debrief Assessment for substance use Behaviors/Disorders	
Week 14: 4/18	Wrap-Up!	

Assignments

This is a clinical skill method course in which you will learn **how** to conduct real-world social work assessments with clients from different backgrounds and experience various psychosocial challenges. There will be three major assignments throughout the semester, all of which are designed to help you to learn, practice, reflect, and improve

on your clinical assessment skills. Below provides a brief outline of the three major assignments, and you can learn more about the assignments on Canvas.

Assignment 1: Bio-Psycho-Social-Spiritual (BPSS) assessment simulation 1

This is a two-part assignment for which (in part 1) you are asked to develop a client profile and write a BPSS assessment on the client that you developed. In part 2, you will engage in a live simulation as a clinician interviewing one of your classmates (week 5 skill lab) and write a BPSS assessment about the client that you interviewed. You will have the opportunity to hear from your “client” after your assessment interview and to reflect on the interview/simulation.

Assignment 2: Clinical Assessment Interview Critique

In this assignment, you are asked to evaluate and comment on a clinical interview that is done by other clinicians. The main purpose of this assignment is to offer an opportunity for you to approach the clinical assessment from a different perspective, i.e., stepping out of your student role and stepping into an evaluator role. In addition, it is also anticipated that you will use what you would learn in this class and intentionally use these acquired knowledge when evaluating another clinician’s work.

Assignment 3: BPSS assessment simulation 2

This is a two-part assignment similar to Assignment 1 for which (in part 1) you are asked to continue developing the client profile you developed in Assignment 1. With an increased complexity of your newly developed client profile, you will write a BPSS assessment on the new client. In part 2, you will engage in a live simulation as a clinician interviewing one of your classmates (week 11) and write a BPSS assessment about the client that you interviewed. You will have the opportunity to hear from your “client” after your assessment interview and to reflect on the interview/simulation.

Assignment	Due date	Percent of overall grade
Assignment 1	Feb.7th, 11:59 PM EST	15%
Assignment 2	March 14 th , 11:59PM EST	25%

Assignment	Due date	Percent of overall grade
Assignment 3	March 28 th 11:59 PM EST	40%

Attendance and class participation [20% of overall grade]

Student Time Expectation. This is a 3-credit course. This means that, as a student, you are expected to spend a total of 112.5 hours throughout the 14 weeks (i.e., **8 hours per week**). For more details, please go to the UM Center for Academic Innovation website for detail.

Student Absences. Participating all synchronous sessions is expected. If you have to miss a class, in part or in total, you are required to notify the instructor via email) at least **12 hours in advance of our class meeting time**. Failure to communicate an absence to the instructor (including last-minute notice that is within 12 hours of the upcoming session) will result in an automatic deduction (1 point) toward your final grade. Likewise, missing more than one class, in part or in total for any reason, will result in an automatic deduction toward your final grade. Additionally, chronic and/or significant tardiness will count toward an absence, i.e., missing more than 30 minutes for each class.

Exceptions to the above-mentioned student absences policy will only be granted on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the instructor.

Attendance and Class Participation Evaluation. I highly encourage you to attend all classes and to actively participate in class. Should something prevent you from attending the class (i.e. illness, a conference, a religious observance, personal emergency, internet or other access issues) please let me know, *when possible at least 24 hours before an expected absence, or within 24 hours of an unexpected absence/emergency*). Note: If you are absent from class, you are still responsible for any assignments due that day. Please review the [Policy on Class Attendance Links to an external site](#) found in the MSW Student Guide.

Grading

For UM School of Social Work Policies, please go to [Grades in Academic Courses and in Field Instruction Links to an external site](#), as well as [Student Grievance procedures Links to an external site](#), and the [policy for grading in special](#)

[circumstances Links to an external site.](#)for more detail. Individual assignment grading can be found in each assignment's rubric. Final course grade will be assigned using the following rules:

101% - 105% ~ A+

86% - 89% ~ B+

75% - 78% ~ C+

95% - 100% ~ A

82% - 85% ~ B

70% - 74% ~ C

90% - 94% ~ A-

79% - 81% ~ B-

65% - 69% ~ C-*

* A final % lower than 65% is considered F (fail) for this class

Class Recording and Course Materials

Audio and video recording of in-class lectures and discussions is prohibited without the advance written permission of the instructor. Students with an approved accommodation from the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities permitting the recording of class meetings must present documentation to the instructor in advance of any recording being done. The instructor reserves the right to disallow recording for a portion of any class time where privacy is a special concern. If the instructor chooses to record a class, they will decide which classes, if any, are recorded, what portion of each class is recorded, and whether a recording is made available on the course management website. On days when classes are recorded, students will be notified a recording is occurring. Class recordings and course materials may not be reproduced, sold, published or distributed to others, in whole or in part, without the written consent of the instructor.

COVID-19 Statement

For the safety of all students, faculty, and staff on campus, it is important for each of us to be mindful of safety measures that have been put in place for our protection. By returning to campus, you have acknowledged your responsibility for protecting the collective health of our community. Your participation in this course on an in-person/hybrid basis is conditional upon your adherence to all safety measures mandated by the state of Michigan and the University, including maintaining physical distancing of six feet from others, and properly wearing a face covering in class. Other applicable safety measures may be described in the [Wolverine Culture of Care Links to an external site.](#)and the [University's Face Covering Policy for COVID-19 Links to an external site.](#). Your ability to participate in this course in-person/hybrid may be impacted

by failure to comply with campus safety measures. Individuals seeking to request an accommodation related to the face covering requirement under the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the [Office for Institutional Equity Links to an external site.](#) If you are unable or unwilling to adhere to these safety measures while in a face-to-face class setting, you will be required to participate on a remote basis. I also encourage you to review the [Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities Links to an external site.](#) and the [COVID-related Addendum to the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities Links to an external site.](#)

Health-Related Class Absences

Please evaluate your own health status regularly and refrain from attending class and coming to campus if you are ill. You are encouraged to seek appropriate medical attention for treatment. School of Social Work students who miss class due to illness of any kind will be given opportunities to access course materials online or provided with alternative learning opportunities. Please notify me by email about your absence as soon as practical, so that I can make accommodations. Please note that documentation (a doctor's note) for medical excuses is *not* required.

Additional School and University policies, information and resources are available here: <https://ssw.umich.edu/standard-policies-information-resources> [Links to an external site.](#) They include:

- *Safety and emergency preparedness*
- *Mental health and well-being*
- *Teaching evaluations*
- *Proper use of names and pronouns*
- *Accommodations for students with disabilities*
- *Religious/spiritual observances*
- *Military deployment*
- *Writing skills and expectations*
- *Academic integrity and plagiarism*