ARGOSY UNIVERSITY - San Francisco Bay Area

Consultation, Triage and Testimony FP6535 – Day Course
Summer Sesssion

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Office Hours: contact for an appointment

Important Note: Students are required to read the syllabus before beginning the course. It is assumed that students that stay enrolled in this course agree to the terms of the syllabus. Print a copy for your reference and <u>make sure you mark the due dates in your calendar</u>!

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the practical implications of the professional interface between forensic psychology and organizations such as law enforcement agencies, correctional facilities and court systems. Specific topics will include consultation to attorneys and criminal justice personnel, triage with correctional and mental health agencies, and issues in providing testimony for criminal and civil cases. (Prerequisite: Psychology and the Legal System).

COURSE OBJECTIVES
The purpose of this course is to provide class members the knowledge and techniques necessary to describe and analyze the functions of a forensic psychologist, or as a consultant in criminal, civil and family law settings.

The students will:
- Demonstrate knowledge of the roles a psychologist or consultant plays in correctional settings, and county agencies identifying the challenges to service delivery that are particular to these settings.
- Be able to integrate knowledge of mental health diagnoses and assessment instruments with the kind of decisions a psychologist has to make in determining the needed level of services (triage) for individuals involved with the criminal justice system.

- Demonstrate an understanding of the similarities and differences in the basic roles that psychologists or consultants may play in civil, criminal, family law, and juvenile cases, and how roles differ.
- Through integration and synthesis of knowledge of psychology and the legal system, demonstrate an understanding of how psychologists can convey scientific and clinical/practical knowledge to the courts, correctional settings and the community.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of psychologists as expert witnesses, along with the requirements for providing testimony in court.
- Utilize Psycholegal knowledge and skills foundations in the practice of forensic psychology.
- Use leadership, consultative, and ethical knowledge, skills and attitudes that will allow them to succeed in a professional setting.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

These are the required textbooks. Please note that <u>there are no exceptions</u>, and that the specified editions for these books are the ones that will be used for this course.

Author: Allan E. Barsky and Jonathan W. Gould
Title: <u>Clinicians in Court</u> — <u>A Guide to Subpoenas, Depositions. Testifying and Everything Else You Need to Know</u>
Publisher   Guilford Press
Copyright: 2002
ISBN: 1-57230-788-9

Author: Jose B. Ashford, Bruce D. Sales & William A. Reid (Eds.)
Title: <u>Treating Adult and Juvenile Offenders with Special Needs</u>
Publisher   American Psychological Association
Copyright: 2001
ISBN: 1-55798-667-3

Author: Neil G. Ribner (Ed.)
Title: <u>The California School of Professional Psychology Handbook of Juvenile
               Forensic Psychology</u>
Publisher: Jossey Bass (a division of John Wiley and Sons)
Copyright: 2002
ISBN: 0-7879-5948-0

Author: Henry J. Steadman, Dennis W. McCarty and Joseph P. Morrisey
Title: <u>The Mentally Ill in Jail — Planning for Essential Services</u>
Publisher   Guilford Press
Copyright: 1989
ISBN: 0-89862-279-4

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

COURSE REQUIREMENTS – Department

Citation of Sources: Argosy University seeks to foster a spirit of honesty and integrity. Any work submitted by a student must represent original work produced by that student. Any source used by a student must be documented through normal scholarly references and citations, and the extent to which any sources have been used must be apparent to the reader. The University further considers resubmission of a work produced for one course in a subsequent course or the submission of work done partially or entirely by another to be academic dishonesty. It is the student's responsibility to seek clarification from the course instructor about how much help may be received in completing an assignment or exam or project and what sources may be used. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty or plagiarism shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the University.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, visit the following web site: http://www.turnitin.com/research_site/e_home.html. Argosy University routinely submits student papers to Turnitin.com for Originality Reports. Papers submitted to Turnitin are checked against published works, content on the Internet, and every other paper submitted to Turnitin.

Accommodations: It is the policy of Argosy University/DC to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If a student with disabilities needs accommodations, the student must notify the Director of Student Services. Procedures for documenting student disability and the development of reasonable accommodations will be provided to the student upon request.

Students will be notified by the Director of Student Services when each request for accommodation is approved or denied in writing via a designated form. To receive accommodation in class, it is the student's responsibility to present the form (at his or her discretion) to the instructor. In an effort to protect the student privacy, the Department of Student Services will not discuss the accommodation needs of any student with instructors. Faculty may not make accommodations for individuals who have not been approved in this manner.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS – ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Paper:** Choose one of the following settings and then investigate what are the assigned and non-assigned (but assumed) roles of a psychologist working in that place:

    - Federal Bureau of Prisons
    - Forensic Psychologist/Case Manager working for a district court
    - Psychologist working as a consultant for the Department of Social Services
    - Psychologist/Case Manager working for a city/county jail
    - Psychologist/Correcitonal Officer working in a prison
    - Community Services Board Psychologist
    - Psychologist in private practice hired by defense attorneys
    - Any other type of psychologist that is associated with criminal justice system

    Your investigation should include written references (publications), as well as interviews with professionals who work of have worked in one or more of these settings. Identify who is/are the client(s) of this psychologist. The topic must be approved by the instructor.

Your paper <u>MUST include a minimum of eight (8) PRIMARY references</u> (not including your text books), and may include (in addition to the eight references) interviews with professionals who work or have worked in one or more of these settings. If you would like to write about another area that is of interest to you, please contact me for approval. PAPER TOPIC MUST BE PRE-APPROVED BY THE INSTRUCTOR.

<u>Each student is required to submit their choice to the professor (via email) by the end of week three</u>. The paper should follow the APA 5th ed. guidelines, and should be a minimum of ten (10) pages, and no longer than fifteen (15) pages (NOT including title page and references). This assignment must follow APA 5th ed. guidelines. Specifically, each paper should include: a page header, page numbers, running head, title, proper citations, a reference page, etc. An example of APA 5th ed. format is presented in Figure 5.1 of the APA manual. An abstract is not necessary. **The paper is due the Thursday of week 6.**

The only format that will be accepted is the APA Publication style. Papers that do not follow this will not be given a passing grade. You must use the 5th edition of the Publication Manual. There is software you can acquire from APA to help you with the formatting. [APA-Style Helper 3.0; ISBN 1-55978-830-7]. You may obtain this at www.apa.org/books. The components of your paper are listed on p. 287 of the APA Publication Manual. Your paper should have a least a title page, abstract page (the abstract should not be more than half a page for this type of paper), text pages and references. You must also include a conclusion or summary section at the end of the text pages. The paper should be no less than 10 pages and no more than 15 pages in length.

Late Assignments: Students are expected to complete assignments in a timely fashion. Late written assignments will receive a 10-point reduction minimum. There are no Make-ups for missed/late papers, or examinations. Students are expected to alter their schedules to meet the requirements of this course.

GRADING
Grades in this course will be based on the following point structure:

In-class Participation…………………………………………..   = 40 pts
Paper…...……………………………………………...........................= 100 pts
Final Exam……...…………………………………………………...= 140 pts
Total..240 pts

PAPER-GRADING CRITERIA

A paper: An paper in the A range is based on an original, logical, and coherently organized set of ideas; it makes a clear and persuasive argument (even if the reader disagrees with the argument); it brings in specific, relevant evidence to back up its assertions; its points, at each turn, are clearly articulated; the words carry precise meaning, they don't obscure the point being made; its sentences use only the word their ideas require, not any more; its paragraphs have distinct though related roles in the essay's cohesion as a whole, each holding one thoroughly asserted idea (not two competing ideas, not one idea half-asserted); accurate and thoughtful use of sources; and its sentences are without the grammatical, spelling, and typographical mistakes that exacting proof-reading would catch.

All of this takes a lot of work. If it is all very nearly accomplished, the essay usually earns an A-

B paper: A paper in the B range is significantly more than competent. Besides being almost free of mechanical errors, the "B" paper delivers substantial information—that is, substantial in both quantity and in interest value. Its points are logically ordered, well developed, and unified around a clear organizing principle that is apparent early in the paper. The opening paragraph draws the reader; the closing paragraph is both conclusive and thematically related to the opening. The transitions between paragraphs are, for the most part smooth, the sentence structure varied.

What sometimes prevents an "A" is the lack of originality, thorough thinking or careful proofreading. If two of these virtues are absent and the other areas of the paper are strong, the essay will usually earn a B-.

C paper: A paper in the C range is generally competent but lacks both imagination and intellectual rigor; it meets the assignment, has few mechanical errors, and it reasonably well organized. The actual information it delivers, however, seems thin and commonplace. One reason for that impression is that the ideas are typically cast in the form or vague generalities—generalities that prompt the confused reader to ask questions about specifics. Stylistically, the "C" paper has other shortcomings: a weak opening paragraph, a perfunctory conclusion, strained transitions, choppy and monotonous sentence patterns, and diction marred by repetition, redundancy, and imprecision.

Library
All resources in Argosy University's online collection are available through the Internet. The campus librarian will provide students with links, user IDs, and passwords.

Library Resources: Argosy University's core online collection features nearly 21,000 full-text journals and 23,000 electronic books and other content covering all academic subject areas including Business & Economics, Career & General Education, Computers, Engineering & Applied Science, Humanities, Science, Medicine & Allied Health, and Social & Behavior Sciences. Many titles are directly accessible through the Online Public Access Catalog at http://library.argosyu.edu. Detailed descriptions of online resources are located at http://library.argosyu.edu/misc/onlinedblist.html.

In addition to online resources, Argosy University's onsite collections contain a wealth of subject-specific research materials searchable in the Online Public Access Catalog. Catalog searching is easily limited to individual campus collections. Alternatively, students can search combined collections of all Argosy University Libraries. Students are encouraged to seek research and reference assistance from campus librarians.

Information Literacy: Argosy University's Information Literacy Tutorial was developed to teach students fundamental and transferable research skills. The tutorial consists of five modules where students learn to select sources appropriate for academic-level research, search periodical indexes and search engines, and evaluate and cite information. In the tutorial, students study concepts and practice them through interactions. At the conclusion of each module, they can test their comprehension and receive immediate feedback. Each module takes less than 20 minutes to complete. Please view the tutorial at http://library.argosyu.edu/infolit/

Academic Policies

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism: In an effort to foster a spirit of honesty and integrity during the learning process, Argosy University requires that the submission of all course assignments represent the original work produced by that student. All sources must be documented through normal scholarly references/citations and all work must be submitted using the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th Edition (2001).* Washington DC: American Psychological Association (APA) format. Please refer to Appendix A in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th Edition* for thesis and paper format. Students are encouraged to purchase this manual (required in some courses) and become familiar with its content as well as consult the Argosy University catalog for further information regarding academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

Scholarly writing: The faculty at Argosy University is dedicated to providing a learning environment that supports scholarly and ethical writing, free from academic dishonesty and plagiarism. This includes the proper and appropriate referencing of all sources. You may be asked to submit your course assignments through "Turnitin," (www.turnitin.com), an online resource established to help educators develop writing/research skills and detect potential cases of academic dishonesty. Turnitin compares submitted papers to billions of pages of content and provides a comparison report to your instructor. This comparison detects papers that share common information and duplicative language.

The Argosy University Statement Regarding Diversity

Argosy University prepares students to serve populations with diverse social, ethnic, economic, and educational experiences. Both the academic and training curricula are designed to provide an environment in which students can develop the skills and attitudes essential to working with people from a wide range of backgrounds.

This syllabus is subject to change