

Argosy University: COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Social and Cultural Foundations in Counseling Psychology

Course Number: PC6510

Section & Times: Section BLB: 10/26/06 – 12/16/06

Onsite Weekends: 11/11/06-11/12/06 & 12/2/06-12/3/06

Instructor & Contact Info

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Feel free to contact me by email or phone at any time.

Required Reading

Fadiman, Anne (1997). *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux ISBN: 0374525641

Readings will be posted in PDF formats online. Please let me know if you require reading in another format (i.e. MS Word for screen readers).

Course Description

This course provides an understanding and application of social and cultural foundations in counseling psychology.

Course Objectives

As a result of this course, students will demonstrate the following:

- 1) Ability to explore self-awareness of social and cultural foundations to include identities, prejudices, privileges, oppression, stereotyping, and racism.
- 2) Ability to explore social and cultural foundations in others to include similarities and differences in populations, awareness of multicultural competencies, and applications to adults, children, families, and groups.

3) Sensitivity to diversity issues to include ability to identify similar experiences and defense patterns in reaction to difference, to resonate with similar experiences while containing difference, and to discern between individual values/standards and functional/dysfunctional behaviors.

4) Ability to facilitate others to discern and integrate similarities and differences.

Methods of Instruction

Methods include lecture, discussion, video viewing, group exploration, group process, exercises, role-playing, and skill practice. The class will be taught using multiple modes to address diverse learning styles. If you have specific needs or feel that you would benefit from a different mode of learning, please let me know.

Content Areas

The principal purpose of this course is for students to increase sensitivity to diversity issues by applying theory to practice. This course emphasizes the exploration of personal reactions to difference as well as alternate responses with the use of varying theoretical frameworks. Content includes social and cultural identities, biases, prejudices, roles of privilege and oppression, stereotyping, racism, similarities and differences in populations, multicultural competencies, theory and methods in the exploration of difference, dialectics, and frames of activism.

Assignments:

1) Readings come from Fadiman text, online, and class handouts. Posting instructions will be found on the online discussion board each week.

2) Assignments will be determined based on class feedback during the first week. Students should express where their areas of growth are needed and what assignments would help to nurture this growth.

3) Grade your class participation using the Class Participation Evaluation Criteria.
Due by Sat 12/16/06.

Student Performance Evaluation and Criteria

Class attendance and online participation is mandatory. Onsite, online, and email assignments are to be submitted by due dates by **12:00 midnight** for full credit. Grades are determined by:

1) Class assignments: 70%

2) Class Participation (onsite and online): 30%

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.

Additionally, Argosy University 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 instructor regarding how much help may be received in completing an assignment, exam or project and what sources may be used.

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 are responsible for maintaining an electronic copy of any work submitted, because 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.

ADA Policy

It is AU/San Francisco Bay Area Campus policy not to discriminate against qualified students with a documented disability in its educational programs, activities or services. If you have a disability-related need for accommodations in this class, contact the Campus Director of Student Services who serves as the Disability Services Coordinator.

Your instructor is responsible for delivering this curriculum in a format that will ensure the objectives are met and measured. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways depending upon the experience, orientation, technological acumen, emphasis and preferences of the instructor as well as the resources available. Your instructor is also required to ensure that the course Outline include details regarding assignments and method of instruction. Any adjustment to the syllabus will be clearly delineated in the Outline and available for download prior to registration and on the first day of class.