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## **COUN 414.01W Home & Family Living**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2021  
Online

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Michelle Blake, MS, NCC, LPC Associate

**Office Location:** ONLINE

**Office Hours:** Schedule as needed.

**Office Phone:** Email **Office Fax:** 903-886-5991

**University Email Address:** mblake1@leomail.tamuc.edu

**Preferred Form of Communication:** University Email Address with Student Name and Class Name in the subject line; please include a phone number

**Communication Response Time:** Within 48 hrs. M-F

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

#### ***Textbook(s) Required***

Goldenberg, I., Stanton, M., & Goldenberg, H. (2017). Family therapy: An overview (9th ed).  
Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

#### ***Optional Texts and/or Materials***

American Psychological Association Publication Manual (6th ed). Washington, DC: American  
Psychological Association

#### **Course Description**

This course will be a functional study of family therapy with an emphasis on the family unit as well as different types of family therapy and assessments. The history of family therapy, different family therapy models, and ethical considerations for working with families will be explored.

#### **Goals/Rationale of the Course**

1. The student will become familiar with the history of family counseling.
2. The student will recognize and understand family counseling theories.
3. The student will understand what factors play into family dynamics such as culture, race, religious beliefs, etc...

4. The student will become familiar with family counseling as it relates to working with diverse families
5. The student will recognize ethical considerations when working with families.

### ***Student Learning Outcomes***

The student will:

1. Be an active and engaged participant in discussions by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, student research, and class activities and sharing personal observations and opinions.
2. Become familiar with the family counseling models
3. Identify ethical decision making in regard to family counseling.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### ***Instructional Methods***

This course will utilize mainly lectures and class discussions, role-plays, videos, and any other methods that help enhance the learning experience may be used.

### ***Student Responsibilities***

As learners, you are expected to read all assigned materials and actively participate in the course. Active participation constitutes giving thoughtful responses. **If I feel students have not come prepared for class, a pop quiz will be given.** So please be prepared. During the discussions, it is expected that each student be respectful and polite to one another when interacting. Sensitive topics may come up and students might share personal information. It is up to each student on how much of himself or herself he or she wants to share. **Please remember that what is said in the classroom should be kept confidential.**

Discriminatory, rude, and/or inappropriate language to either me or your fellow students will not be tolerated in this class and the student(s) choosing to act in a discriminatory or rude manner or use inappropriate language will be asked to leave the class. Disruption of class or inconsiderate behavior will not be tolerated. **If the student continues to act in the same manner during future classes, the instructor reserves the right to drop the student from the course.** Please read the student handbook regarding student conduct.

### ***Electronics***

Not only is texting and being on social media during lecture distracting to others, and myself, but also it is disrespectful. All electronics must be put up and phones must be on silent. If you have an emergency, please let me know before class. If you are on your phone during class, I have the right to not repeat my instructions to you.

## **Course Assignments and GRADING**

**Quizzes: (150 points)**

You will have a total of 15 quizzes over the course of the semester. **Quizzes are due Sundays at 10pm.** If you fail to submit your quiz on time, you will receive a zero.

Quizzes will not be alike so do not try to partner together to complete them. There may be multiple choice, written and short answer responses. These are not timed but you need to read the questions carefully.

**\*\*Week 1 – You will complete Quiz that is just an acknowledgement that you have read and understand the syllabus and watched video about the syllabus.**

**Genogram: (50 points) DUE 10/10/2021 at 10pm**

Students will create their own family genograms. The genograms must have at least three generations (grandparents, parents, and the student, their spouse/partner, children, etc.) and address the following:

1. Family relationships
2. Spoken/unspoken family rules and values
3. Religion
4. Occupations
5. Education
6. Communication patterns

Along with the genogram, students must submit a 1-2 page reflection paper discussing (1) what you learned about you family, (2) family patterns you have noticed, and (3) what you learned about yourself. This part needs to be in paragraph form and shows you have thought about your assignment. You can either scan your genogram in or you can use any computer program to create your assignment. Make sure that you proof your paper. Please upload to D2L. Please note that **I will not accept late assignments. If you don't submit on time, you will get a zero.**

**Family of Origin Activity: (50 points) DUE 11/14/2021 at 10pm**

Respond to the following prompts as you consider your family of origin:

1. Describe your family of origin. Who were your major caretakers? Do you have any siblings? If so, list the birth order of siblings in your family.
2. If your parents were living during your childhood, were they separated, divorced, or living together? If they were separated or divorced, how old were you when the separation or divorce occurred?
3. Describe your earliest childhood memory. What was your age at the time?
4. How would you describe yourself as a child?
5. In what ways does your family identify with a cultural, ethnic, racial, or religious/spiritual heritage?
6. What roles did your family assign to individual members (“the smart one”, “the athlete”, “the depressed one”, “the boss”)? How would you define your role?
7. How important is education in your family?
8. Describe an important family ritual or tradition?
9. How did your family handle conflict or problems?

10. What did your family do together for vacations or to have fun?
11. How did your family celebrate birthdays? Holidays?

This paper must be in APA format 7<sup>th</sup> ed, which means Times New Roman font, size 12, and 1" margins all around. Please answer all questions fully, 5-8 sentences per question is appropriate. Please make the response to each question a new paragraph. Make sure that you proof your paper. Please upload to D2L Please note that **I will not accept late assignments. If you don't submit on time, you will get a zero.**

**Interview a Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT): (100 points) DUE 12/13/2021 at 10pm**

Students will interview a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. Please do not wait to schedule an interview with the therapist, as their schedules may be busy. Please write up the answers to the following questions:

1. The therapist's name, credentials, title, and telephone number
2. The name of the practice where the therapist works 3. How does one become a LMFT?
4. What led them to choose this career path?
5. What is/How do they approach working with families?
6. What is the most rewarding and most challenging part of being an LMFT?
7. \* Please develop 4 more questions of your own. \*

Reflection Questions: (Answer the following questions in 5-8 sentences).

1. What are your thoughts regarding family therapy after interviewing the therapist?
2. What was the experience like for you? What feelings did you have, before, during and after?
3. What did you learn that you did not know before?
4. Is this (LMFT, family therapy, couples) an area of interest for you, why or why not?

This paper must be in APA format 7<sup>th</sup> ed, which means Times New Roman font, size 12, and 1" margins all around. Please answer all questions fully. Please make the response to each question a new paragraph. Make sure that you proof your paper. Please upload to D2L. **Please note that I will not accept late assignments. If you don't submit on time, you will get a zero.**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

**A = 315-350 B = 280-314**

**C = 245-279 D = 210-244**

**F = 209 or Below**

### **Late Assignment Policies**

All assignments are due on the given assignment date prior to class on D2L. I will not accept late assignments. They must be uploaded and submitted to D2L. I will not accept

any assignments that are e-mailed to me. Trouble with your computer is not an acceptable excuse.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

The best way to communicate with me between classes is email. Please use “Counseling 414” in the subject of your email. In the content part of your email be sure to include your first and last name and the best phone number in which I can contact you, if necessary. I respond to my emails daily Mon-Fri. Also, I will be more than happy to meet with you via Zoom. Contact me so that we can set up a convenient time.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS Browser support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year. Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

## Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

## Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version). For example,

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
			as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows 8	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - o 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - o Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - o Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
  - You must have a:
    - o Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
    - o Speakers or headphones.
  - o \*For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
    - Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
    - Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported. Pop-ups are allowed. JavaScript is enabled. Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing.

Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:

- o [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
- o [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (*version 17 or later*) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
- o [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
- o [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

## **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

### **Brightspace Support Need Help? Student Support**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "[click here](#)" to submit an issue via email.

### **System Maintenance**

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### ***University Specific Procedures Academic Integrity***

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures: [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

### ***ADA Statement***

#### **Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

#### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### ***Nondiscrimination Notice***

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### ***Campus Concealed Carry Statement***

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun.

Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.



Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## **COURSE CALENDAR**

Updated 09.02.2021

**This is a tentative course calendar. It is subject to change at the discretion of the course professor.**

<b>Week/Date</b>	<b>Class Activity</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
WEEK 1 08.30.2021	Introductions/Course overview/Syllabus Chapter 1	Syllabus Acknowledgement Form "Quiz 0" – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapters 1 & 2
WEEK 2 09.06.2021	Chapter 2	Quiz Ch 1-2 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapter 3
WEEK 3 09.13.2021	Chapter 3	Quiz Ch 3 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapter 4
WEEK 4 09.20.2021	Chapter 4	Quiz Ch 4 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapter 5
WEEK 5 09.27.2021	Chapter 5	Quiz Ch 5 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapter 6
WEEK 6 10.04.2021	Chapter 6	Quiz Ch 6 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapter 7 <b>Genograms Due 10/10/2021 at 10:00pm</b>
WEEK 7 10.11.2021	Chapters 7	Quiz Ch 7 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapter 8
WEEK 8 10.18.2021	Chapters 8	Quiz Ch 8 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapters 9
WEEK 9 10.25.2021	Chapters 9	Quiz Ch 9 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapters 10
WEEK 10 11.01.2021	Chapters 10	Quiz Ch 10 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapters 11
WEEK 11 11.08.2021	Chapters 11	Quiz Ch 11 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapters 12 <b>Family of Origin Activity Due 11/14/2021 at 10:00pm</b>
WEEK 12 11.15.2021	Chapters 12	Quiz Ch 12 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapter 13 & 14

WEEK 13 11.22.2021	THANKSGIVING BREAK	Read Chapter 13 & 14 -Enjoy your week off! ☺
WEEK 14 11.29.2021	Chapters 14	Quiz Ch 13 & 14 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Read Chapter 15
WEEK 15 12.06.2021	Chapter 15	Quiz Ch 15 – Sunday @ 10:00pm Work on LMFT Paper
WEEK 16 12.13.2021	LMFT Interview Paper Due	<b>LMFT Interview Paper Due 12/13/2021 at 10:00pm</b>

Once you have completely read this syllabus in its entirety, please email me with required email subject line:

- 1) An introduction of yourself that includes 2 fun facts about yourself.
- 2) What day and time quizzes are due each week?
- 3) The 3 major assignment due dates.
- 4) What do you hope to learn from this class?
- 5) Your learning style.

This will fulfill this week's assignment "form" in the event I still do not have access to D2L.