



PSY 537, ADVANCED THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Leah Phillips, Ph.D., LSSP
Office Location: Virtual
Office Hours: By Appointment
University Email Address: leah.phillips@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: Within 48 hours (excluding weekends). If you have not heard back from me after 48 hours, feel free to send another email.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook:

Miller, W.R. & Rollnick, S., (2023) Motivational Interviewing: Helping People Change (Applications of motivational interviewing), 4th Ed. New York: Guilford

Course Description

A study of selected current specific techniques used in the practice of psychotherapy. Students will study a set of clinical procedures based on various theoretical models, including cognitive-behavioral therapy, psychodynamic psychotherapy, solution-focused psychotherapy, and others. Emphasis will be on techniques with evidence-based effectiveness and practical value in producing therapeutic movement, and students will practice the procedures in a controlled clinical settings. They will also be encouraged to develop an articulated practice model of their own.

Prerequisites: PSY 508 or consent of program advisor.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will conduct thorough clinical interviews.
2. Students will develop their own theoretical philosophy and utilize those techniques in mock therapy sessions.
3. Students will understand and form effective therapeutic relationships with mock clientele.
4. Students will understand and accept supervisory feedback and constructive criticism, and modify techniques and interactions to be more effective with clientele.
5. Students will provide appropriate, respectful, constructive criticism and encouragement to peers.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Learning Management Systems, Using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint

Instructional Methods

Asynchronous online learning

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Engagement in the online class via discussions is essential. The nature of the course requires supervised skills development, gaining professional interactions, conduct, and attitudes in an intensely experimental learning experience, which requires one to be engaged in the course.

GRADING

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

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

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D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or Below

Assessments

Your grade will be based on the following (subject to change):

Assignment	Points
Midterm	100
Final Exam	100
Discussions	100
Intake Video	50
Intake Report	50
Therapy Exercises/Activities	150
Therapy Session Plan from Evaluation	50
Total	600

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

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Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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.

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 East Texas A&M campus open computer lab, etc.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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

Interaction with Instructor Statement

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Professional Conduct. Students are expected to conduct themselves as mature and responsible adults while enrolled in this course. Be cognizant that side conversations in class can be distracting to the instructor and your classmates. Please show respect for others when

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they speak. If you do not agree with their point of view, ask for clarification or offer alternative viewpoints. Behavior meant to demean or belittle a class member will not be tolerated. Also, student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at East Texas A&M University. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor will seek the assistance from the proper authorities (e.g. Chair of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education and/or Dean's Office).

E-mail and myLEOonline (D2L Brightspace). All Students should activate and regularly check their Leo Mail and myLEOonline (D2L Brightspace) accounts associated with this class. All assignments will be turned in on myLEOonline (D2L Brightspace) (when applicable) unless otherwise instructed to do something differently by the instructor of this course. All class communication will be done through D2L. I **WILL NOT** send communication about the class to personal email accounts.

Late Assignments: Late assignments will **NOT** be accepted unless you have provided adequate documentation allowing your absence to be excused (doctor's note in case of illness or copy of a funeral program in case of a death of a loved one). In the event your absence is excused, the missing assignment or exam must be completed **within 1 week** of your return to class or the student will receive a grade of 0.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

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Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M 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 student academic dishonesty policy

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

East Texas A&M Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

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In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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 Services
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5930

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Website: <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

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Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M 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 East Texas A&M 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 East Texas A&M 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 East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

All assignments are due on the Sunday of the week assigned by 11:59 pm.

Week	Dates	Topic	Assignment
1	1/12 - 1/18	Introduction to Course	Introduction Discussion
2	1/19 – 1/25	Assessment and Case Conceptualization – Part 1	Discussion
3	1/26 – 2/1	Assessment and Case Conceptualization – Part 2	Discussion
4	2/2 – 2/8	First Session Treatment Planning	Intake Video Due
5	2/9 – 2/15	Second Session and Beyond SOAP Notes	Intake Report Due
6	2/16- 2/22	CBT - theory and application with anxiety & depression	SOAP Note Exercise
7	2/23 – 3/1	CBT Special Issues with Children & Adolescents	Therapy Exercise
8	3/2 – 3/8	MIDTERM EXAM	
9	3/9 – 3/15	SPRING BREAK	
10	3/16 – 3/22	Motivational Interviewing – Intro	Discussion
11	3/23 – 3-29	Motivational Interviewing – Techniques and Applications	Therapy Exercise
12	3/30 – 4/5	DBT – Intro & Mindfulness	Discussion
13	4/6 – 4/12	DBT – Techniques and Emotional Regulation	Therapy Exercise
14	4/13 – 4/19	Relational Frame Theory & ACT	Therapy Session Plan
15	4/20 – 4/26	ACT – Techniques	Therapy Exercise
16	4/27 – 5/3	FINAL EXAM	

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