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PM 720 - PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

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Fall Semester, 2001

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INTRODUCTION

This course is intended to be a practical, hands-on course in psychopathology. It will cover the various areas of psychopathology as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM IV-TR). Students will have opportunities to learn and utilize knowledge of DSM IV to facilitate assessment, diagnosis and treatment planning as would be required in mental health centers and similar institutions.

GOALS

As a result of completing this course, students shall:

1. Become familiar with a variety of historical Christian views concerning various mental health diagnoses.
2. Develop an understanding of psychopathology using DSM IV-TR nosology.
3. Become familiar with the use of DSM IV-TR in clinical settings.
4. Develop skills in diagnosis and assessment using DSM IV-TR terminology.
5. Develop the ability to translate diagnostic results into treatment planning goals.

REQUIRED READINGS

American Psychiatric Association (2000). Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM IV TR). 4th ed. Washington, DC: APA

RECOMMENDED READING

Meyer, R. G. & Deitsch, S. H. (1996). The Clinician's Handbook. Needham Heights, MA: Simon and Schuster.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Active participation in class sessions.
2. Punctual class attendance is required. Students should limit their absences to emergency cases such as illness, family emergencies etc.
3. Students will complete a 4-5 page report covering a historical Christian theologian's views of a mental health disorder. In this paper, students should cover the following points:
 - Provide a brief summary of the author's views concerning the mental health disorder.
 - Discuss how the author reconciles the disorder with Christian faith. For example, does the author see the disorder as incompatible or compatible with Christian faith?
 - Discuss any explanations the author provides for the origins of the disorder.
 - Compare and contrast the author's understanding with current knowledge of the disorder.
 - Briefly outline any suggestions for treatment the author offers.
 - Briefly discuss how this Christian historical perspective might or should influence your understanding and approach to the disorder.

For this assignment, you are free to any Christian historical writer. I offer the following as suggestions:

Athanasius: *Oration of the Incarnation of the Word*

Thomas Aquinas: *Summa Theologiae*, esp. Questions 22-48.

St. Augustine: *Confessions*

Jonathan Edwards: *On Religious Affections*

Gregory the Great: *The Book of Pastoral Care*

Martin Luther: *Letters of Spiritual Counsel*

Soren Kierkegaard: *The Concept of Anxiety*
The Sickness Unto Death

John Wesley: *Thoughts on Nervous Disorders; Particularly that which is usually termed lowness of spirits*
Sermon XLVII - Heaviness through Manifold Temptations
A letter to a Friend Concerning Tea.

I have provided a copy of an article on Wesley and Depression on reserve. Though much longer in length, it provides an example of the kind of paper I desire.

4. Complete 10 diagnostic assessments using DSM IV criteria.
 - Students will be provided with actual cases to be used in completing this requirement..
 - In completing this assignment, students will use the DSM multi-axial system.
 - In the first three assigned cases, students will be expected to provide a detailed account of the process used to arrive at the diagnosis.
 - **The final two (2) diagnostic assessments will be graded.** Grading will be based on the following:
 - A. Accuracy of the primary and any auxiliary diagnoses including accurate use of diagnostic codes
 - B. Inclusion of all relevant diagnoses
 - C. Completion of the multi-axial system

The diagnostic assignments will be due on each Thursday beginning September 27th.

5. Student will be assigned to groups at the beginning of the class. Each group will be expected to lead a class presentation on a topic related to the DSM IV categories. Presentations will be evaluated on the basis of the thoroughness, and overall quality. Presentations will be of 30 - 40 minutes duration with 10 minutes for questions and feedback.
6. Students will be expected to complete a paper on some relevant topic. This paper should be a minimum of 10 pages and should not exceed 15 pages. In this paper, students should include relevant Christian insights and implications. Papers will be graded on the following bases:

- Demonstrated understanding of the topic
 - Thoroughness of the paper
 - Clarity of thought
 - Quality of writing
 - Overall quality
 - Inclusion of Christian insights.
6. Students will complete a mid-term exam. This exam will cover the introductory material through disorders of infancy and other material related to the overall understanding of the DSM 1V-TR. The exam will be largely objective in nature.
 7. Students will be expected to complete a final exam on the course material. This exam will involve the diagnosis of several cases utilizing both video and written case material.

EVALUATION

Course grade will be determined in the following manner:

1. Two diagnostic assessments - 10% each for a total of 20%

Due on November 29th and December 6th. 2001

2. 4-5 page report – 15%

Due on October 4th. 2001

2. Group presentation - 10% of grade

See the relevant dates in the schedule

3. Paper - 20%

Due on December 6, 2000

4. Mid-term exam – 15 %

October 9, 2001

5. Final exam - 20%

Thursday, December 13, 9:00 –11:00 PM

GRADE RANGES

A	93	C	73
A-	90	C-	70
B+	87	D+	67
B	83	D	63
B-	80	D-	60
C+	77	F	below 60

COURSE SCHEDULE

Please follow the topics noted below as a guide for readings in the DSM 1V-TR manual.

Week 1 -

Introduction
Christian Perspectives on Psychopathology

Week 2

History of the DSM Manuals
- Influences in DSM Manuals
- Understanding the DSM IV Classification System

Week 3

DSM IV Multi-axial Assessment
- Diagnosing with the DSM IV
- Uses of the DSM IV

Week 4

Disorders of Infancy, Childhood and Adolescence
- **Presentation on ADHD – September 27th.**

Diagnosis 1 Due

Week 5

Cognitive Disorders

October 4, Diagnosis 2 Due

Week 6

Mid-term exam on October 9
Substance Abuse Disorders

October 11, Diagnosis 3 Due

Week 7

- Presentation on one Substance Abuse Disorder – October 18th.
Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders

October 18, Diagnosis 4 Due

Week 8

Mood Disorders
-Presentation Treatment Approaches to Major Depression – October 25th.

October 25, Diagnosis 5 Due

Week 9

Anxiety Disorders
**- Presentation on Treatment Approaches to PTSD or Panic Disorder –
November 1st.**

November 1st., Diagnosis 6 Due

Week 10

Somatoform Disorders
Factitious Disorders

November 8th., Diagnosis 7 Due

Week 11

Dissociative Disorders
Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders

November 15th., Diagnosis 8 Due

Week 12

Fall Reading Week – No class

Week 13

Eating disorders

- **Presentation on Etiology of Eating Disorders – November 29th.**

Sleep Disorders

Impulse Control Disorders NOC

Adjustment Disorders

November 29th. Diagnosis 9 Due

Week 14

Personality Disorders

The Treatment of Personality Disorders

December 6th., Diagnosis 10 Due

Final exam, Thursday December 14, 9:00 – 11:00 PM Week 15