

Mental Health Disorders (FRAN*6200) Course Outline

Fall 2016, Thursdays 4-7pm

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Course Description

The course involves a multi-disciplinary, in-depth investigation of mental health and illness from a biological, psychological and social perspective from birth (or conception) to old age within the family context. Topics include the historical context, prevalence and etiology, common disorders and the mental health system (or lack of a system), the notion of recovery, stigma and current issues. In keeping with a multi-disciplinary approach, students will have ample opportunity for in-depth examination of topics that align with their professional goals and discipline, and sharing their discoveries with the class.

The course will involve lectures, critical review, student presentations and student-led discussions on assigned readings. Guests with expert knowledge will be invited to present. Students will have opportunities to hone their communication skills including writing, oral and interactional skills.

Course Objectives

- To enhance understanding of the complexities surrounding mental health disorders including the contexts
- To introduce the epidemiology of mental illness
- To describe prevention and treatment services in mental health and to introduce some of the conceptual and practical issues related to the provision of mental health services
- To enhance understanding of the mental health (and addictions) service systems
- To examine current contextual issues relevant to mental health disorders

Readings

1. A Concise Introduction to Mental Health in Canada 2nd ed by Elliott Goldner, Emily Jenkins and Dan Bilsker. Canadian Scholars' Press: Toronto, 2016

2. Readings on Ares Course Reserve

Assignments are an opportunity for you to explore areas of interest to you.

4 Reflection papers on the science of mental health disorder (10% each; 40%) Due Sept 22, Oct 6, 20 and Nov 10. Examples of these papers include: a critique of a journal article from the reading list or the students' choosing, a review and critique of an issue related to mental illness, a commentary on current mental health concerns and so forth. Length: one or two paragraphs or about one page.

Class presentation (20%) October 27 or November 3. Students can present on a topic of interest to them; for example select one mental health disorder or one issue and present it in detail.

Final paper (40%) Due November 24, 2016. This paper provides an opportunity for you to develop in-depth knowledge of mental health disorder and to demonstrate this knowledge. Topics should align with your professional interests. Example general topics include stigma, mental illness in the workplace, accessibility and barriers, justice and mental health, concurrent disorders, homelessness of people with mental illness and equality.

Tentative Schedule		Reading
Sept	8 Define and historical overview	Chpt 1
	15 Prevalence & etiology	Chpt 2; one of I-III; one of IV or V
	22 Spectrum of disorders	Cpt 4; VI; VII
	29 Children and youth	Chpt 7; VIII; (IX optional)
Oct	6 Younger and older Adults	Chpt 10; X
	13 Stigma and Culture	Chpt 6; Chpt 9
	20 Addictions and Mental health	Chpt 5; Chpt 15
	27 Presentations	
Nov	3 Presentations	
	10 Mental health services	Chpt 11, 12, 13
	17 Intervention	one of: XI, XII, XIII
	24 Knowledge and summary/conclusions	
Dec	1 (no class; rescheduled classes from Oct 10)	

Regulations

All rules and regulations of the University of Guelph, College of Social and Applied Human Sciences, Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition apply.

Graduate Calendar

The Graduate Academic Calendar is the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to graduate programs
<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/>

Academic Misconduct

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Graduate Calendar
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/graduatestudies/gchandbook/academicmisconduct>