PSYCH 8382: Doctoral Clinical Practicum I

Course Information:

- Course Days and Time: Thursdays 1:00pm to 2:50pm
- Course Location: Clinic Conference Room

Instructor:

- Jaime L. Anderson, Ph.D.
- Email: jla068@shsu.edu
- Office: CHSS 378
- Office Hours: By appointment

General Information

No textbook is required for this course. Readings on selected topics will be provided throughout the semester.

Course Description

Course Objectives: This course has two primary objectives. The first is to discuss current practice in clinical assessment, with an emphasis on the integration of empirical research into clinical practice. Specifically, this course will focus on advancing your knowledge of clinical assessment, including discussion of the value of standardized assessment as well as therapeutic assessment techniques. The second objective is to provide a space for group supervision and consultation regarding clinical work at each of your practicum placements.

The topics covered in the class are pre-determined by the course instructor. However, if specific assessment topics are of interest to students (and time permits), we can discuss inclusion of additional topics as a group.

Specific Learning Outcomes: By the end of this course, you should:

- 1. Understand the value of standardized clinical assessment tools.
- 2. Learn the basic components of Therapeutic Assessment.
- Exhibit the ability to choose appropriate assessment measures for a given referral question, competently administer an assessment battery, and adequately formulate a case conceptualization and accompanying recommendations.

- 4. Practice assessment report writing skills.
- 5. Understand the importance of consultation and group supervision with your peers.
- 6. Be able to meaningfully summarize clinical conceptualizations and clinical progress in a way that is useful to colleagues (either for consultation or learning demonstration).

The learning outcomes described above will be assessed through the completion of an assessment case in the clinic, a case presentation, and class participation.

Format of the Course: Each week, a topic relevant to clinical assessment will be discussed. It is expected that students in this course will have completed the assigned reading for the week so that we may have a meaningful discussion for the first half of the class period. The second hour of the class will be spent discussing your current clinical work in your outside setting. During the course of the semester every student will complete a clinical assessment case through the clinic. At the end of the semester, each student will present a case presentation outlining his/her assessment case. Please see additional details below.

Course Requirements

Class Attendance: Class attendance is important in this course. Ongoing learning of the assessment process, supervision, and consultation are important in your progression as clinicians. Therefore, class attendance is expected for each student.

Assigned Readings: Readings will be assigned for many weeks. In order to generate meaningful discussion of each topic, it is important that you complete the assigned readings.

Class Participation: All students must participate! Although all students will be asked about their current clinical work each week, it is also important that each of you actively participates in the discussion section of the first half of each class.

Assessment Case: All students will complete a psychological assessment in the clinic. Although we will attempt to find the most appropriate cases for each student, no certain "type" of assessment will be guaranteed, given the lengthy assessment waiting list. There is no set due date, but it is expected that all students will have completed their assessments by the end of the semester (including client feedback).

Case Presentation: Towards the end of the semester, we will begin case presentations. Much like your assessment capstone presentation, you will present your assessment case to the class. Your presentation should include a discussion of the presenting problem/referral question, the assessment

measures chosen (including your reasoning behind this decision), and your case conceptualization/recommendation.

Grades will be determined based on your participation in class, performance on your assessment case and case presentation, and <u>evaluations from your primary clinical placement sites</u>.

Professional Behavior

Laptops: As this is intended to be a discussion-based course, I ask that you refrain from using your laptops. If there is a time in which you would like to take notes of the materials being discussed, you may use your laptop, as long as this is not at the expense of class discussion.

As graduate students, I expect that each of you will exhibit professional behavior in this regard. While I understand the many competing responsibilities, I ask that you please refrain from checking email or surfing the web while in class.

Food/Drink: I do not mind if you eat or drink during class. However, please be quiet and respectful while doing so.

Instructor Evaluations: All students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Student Syllabus Guidelines: You may find online a more detailed description of the following policies. These guidelines will also provide you with a link to the specific university policy or procedure: <u>http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/</u>

Academic Dishonesty: Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Please see: https://netreg.shsu.edu/mirror/codeofconduct.html

Classroom Rules of Conduct: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may audio record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process. Please see:

http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/728eec25-f780-4dcf-932c-03d68cade002.pdf

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days: Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. Please see: http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/0953c7d0-7c04-4b29-a3fc-3bf0738e87d8.pdf

Students with Disabilities Policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (next to the Farrington Building) Telephone: 936-294-3512 TDD: 936-294-3786 E-mail: disability@shsu.edu Web Address: www.shsu.edu/disability

Visitors in the Classroom: Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a caseby-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.