Professor: Dr. Vanessa Hunn
Office: MEP 222A
Email: hunnv1@nku.edu
Credit Hours: 3

Course Description: This course is designed as an introduction to and exploration of Juvenile suicide within the context of cyber bullying. This phenomena is relatively new and is currently being explored by researchers and educators to determine causes, factors, prevention, and intervention. The course will explore possible causes of cyber bullying among tweens, teens, and college age individuals; examine factors which may predict perpetrators and victims; explore possible preventive strategies; and critically examine how individuals in the helping profession can address this problem. The course will explore the role of social media in bullying and suicide. This course is an elective within the social work curriculum.

Learning Objectives:

1. Explore the phenomena of cyber bullying
2. Define the parameters of cyber bullying
3. Learn about gender issues that affect cyber bullying
4. Learn about victims and perpetrators of cyber bullying
5. Explore cyber bullying from a human behavior paradigm

REQUIRED TEXTS

Online readings and videos via Blackboard

CLASS FORMAT/TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The class activities are online format. Students must take responsibility for accessing, reading, and studying the course content in light of the online format of the class. The instructor will use discussion board to talk with and answer student questions regarding the material.
GRADING AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Five (5) Online Discussion Boards (worth 50 points each) 250 points

Professional Behavior (i.e. timely completion of assignments; appropriate interaction with professor and fellow students in online format;  40 points

Total points possible 290 points

Grading scale: The grading scale used is a standard NKU plus/minus scale.

+/- Grading Scale

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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>% Equal to or Greater than</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92.99</td>
<td>3.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82.99</td>
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<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79.99</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69.99</td>
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<td>F</td>
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</table>
Students are expected to:

a) Engage in mature, respectful online class discussions
b) agree to disagree in online class discussions, to be respectful of the opinions/perspective, life experiences of others
c) Be professional with interaction with professor and fellow students

Professional Integrity Statement

Social work students adhere to the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics. The NASW Code is reviewed in several social work classes; however, students are responsible for reading the Code and exhibiting professional behavior.

The code is found here: http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/code.asp

Students must be familiar with the Northern Kentucky University Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. The Code addresses Freedom of Expression, Student Evaluation of the Professor, Expectations of the Student. Students are expected to read the Code at http://deanofstudents.nku.edu/codes_and_policies/codeofstudent_rights/index.php.

Academic Integrity Statement

It is expected that a student at Northern Kentucky University will refrain from plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct and contrary to both the rules and the values of the university, the department, and the ethics of the professions. Plagiarism will be dealt with in keeping with the University Honor Code, http://deanofstudents.nku.edu/codes_and_policies/codeofstudent_rights/index.php. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the Northern Kentucky University, Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Diversity Statement

In order to learn, we must be open to the views of people different than ourselves. Each and every voice in the classroom is important and brings with it a wealth of experiences, values and beliefs. In this time we share together over the semester, please honor the uniqueness of your fellow classmates, and appreciate the opportunity we have to learn from each other. Please respect your fellow students’ opinions and refrain from personal attacks or demeaning comments of any kind. Finally, remember to keep confidential all issues of a personal or professional nature discussed in class.
Disability Statement

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments, auxiliary aids or services) for this course must register with the Disability Services Office. Please contact the Disability Service Office immediately in the University Center, Suite 320 or call (859)572-6373 for more information. Verification of your disability is required in the Disability Services Office for you to receive reasonable academic accommodations. Students must also inform the instructor. Visit DSO’s Website at [www.nku.edu/~disability/](http://www.nku.edu/~disability/)

Method of Course Evaluation by Students

Evaluation of course and instruction by students contributes to an important aspect of the Social Work Program’s quality review process. Students involved in this will have an opportunity to give their personal written expressions and assessments of the course and professor, on a standardized student evaluation form. This form will be provided online in keeping with evaluation policies of the program and the university. The evaluation will be treated in a confidential manner in which student anonymity will be protected unless students elect to identify themselves voluntarily.

COURSE CALENDAR – Fall 2016

Week I – August 22-28

Intro to cyber bullying

Video – “Cyber Bullying Kills”

Video – “Cyber Bullying on the College Campus”

Week II – August 29-September 4

Article – “Is Cyber Bullying Worse than Traditional Bullying?”

Week III – September 5 – September 11

Discussion Board Assignment #1 – Is Cyber Bullying Worse than Traditional Bullying?- worth 50 points – available September 5 – September 11

Week IV – September 12 – September 18

The Role of Social Media

Video – “Olympian, Gabby Douglas bullied online for her facial expression, hair”

Video – “The Role of Technology in Social and Mental Health”
Week V – September 19 – September 25

Video – “Social Media – One Tool Used by Cyber Bullies”

Video – “Cyber Bullying and Facebook”

Week VI – September 26- October 2

Article – “What Sticks and Stones Can’t Do, Facebook Will – and More!”

Week VII – October 3 – October 9

Discussion Board Assignment #2 – What Can be Done to Control Social Media Bullying? - worth 50 points – available October 3 – October 9.

Week VIII – October 10 – October 16

Aggression, Race, and Gender

Article – “Indirect Aggression, bullying and female teen victimization: A Literature Review”

Article – “Fox News Shuts Down Comments On Malia Obama Post...”

Week IX – October 17 – October 23

Article – “Uncovering the Structure of and Gender and Developmental Differences in Cyber Bullying”

Week X – October 24 – October 30

Discussion Board Assignment #3 – Why Girls? - worth 50 points – available October 24 – October 30

Week XI – October 31 – November 6

Juvenile Suicide and Cyber bullying

Article

“Bullied to Death: Perceptions of Peer Abuse and Suicidal Behavior during Adolescence”

Week XII – November 7 – November 13

Video “Suicide and Bullying”

Week XIII – November 14 – November 20

Discussion Board Assignment #4 – Does Bullying CAUSE Suicide? - worth 50 points – available November 14 – November 20
Week XIV – November 21- November 27

Cyber Bullying and the helping professions

ARTICLE - A Comprehensive Survey On Student Perceptions of Cyberbullying at a Major Metropolitan University (Lawler & Muzzulo, 2015)

Week XV – November 28 – December 4

Reflection

Week XVI – December 5 – December 9

Review

Finals Week December 10-16

Discussion Board #5—What Can Be Done to Minimize/Eliminate Cyber Bullying? worth 50 points – available DECEMBER 10-13 (Saturday – through Tuesday)