COURSE SYLLABUS
SOCIAL WORK 573 Mental Health and Ethnic Minorities
Summer 2017 (5 week session May 30 – July 3, 2017)
Northern Kentucky University

Professor: Dr. Vanessa Hunn
Office: MEP 233
Email: hunnv1@nku.edu
Credit Hours: 3

Course Description: This course is designed to give the student an introduction to mental health disorders, prevalence, incidences, and manifestation in a variety of ethnic minorities.

Course Objectives

1. Understand the significance of mental health disorders and how they affect ethnic minorities

2. Identify various mental health disorders, symptoms, prevalence, and incidence

3. Evaluate research studies, and evaluate practice interventions

4. Understand the historical background of mental health in ethnic minorities that underlies treatment, access to treatment and social work intervention.

5. Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination that contribute to mental health disorders in ethnic minorities

6. Discern patterns and understand how racism, sexism, classism, and other forms of societal oppression influence mental health stigma and access to treatment
7. Study of scholarly research, orientation to research language and methodology.

REQUIRED TEXTS
Online readings and videos via Blackboard
Embedded Librarian: Jennifer Smith. The embedded librarian can help you access assigned reading materials.

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

Online Exams (5) – each worth 20 points for a total of 100 points
Class participation, professionalism in an online format 25 points

Total Points 125 points

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

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<td>Plus – Minus scale</td>
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Students are expected to:
  a) Take all exams
  b) Participate in online Q & A as needed
  c) agree to disagree in online class discussions
  d) 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.

Credit Hour Policy Statement

In accordance with federal policy, NKU defines a credit hour as the amount of work represented in the achievement of student learning outcomes (verified by evidence of student achievement) that reasonably approximates one hour (50 minutes) of classroom instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work. For every course credit hour, a typical student should expect to spend at least three hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work including, but not limited to, class meeting time, reading, reviewing, organizing notes, studying, and completing assignments. At least an equivalent amount of time is expected for other academic activities such as online courses, laboratory work, internships, practica, study work and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

Inclusive/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/

**Evaluation of Instructor**

Northern Kentucky University takes Instructor and Course Evaluations very seriously as an important means of gathering information for the enhancement of learning opportunities for its students. It is an important responsibility of NKU students as citizens of the University to participate in the instructor and course evaluation process. During the two weeks* prior to the end of each semester classes, you will be asked to reflect upon what you have learned in this course, the extent to which you have invested the necessary effort to maximize your learning, and the role your instructor has played in the learning process. It is very important that you complete the online evaluations with thoughtfully written comments.

Student evaluations of courses and instructors are strictly confidential. They are not available to the instructor until after final grades submission. Extensive precautions are taken to prevent your comments from being identified as coming from you.

Starting Spring semester 2011, the students who complete an evaluation for a particular course (or opt out of doing so in the evaluation) will be rewarded for their participation by having access to their course grade as soon as that grade is submitted by the instructor. On the other hand, any student who does not complete the course evaluation (or opt out of doing so in the evaluation) should expect to incur a two-week delay in access to his or her course grade beyond the university's official date for grade availability.

To complete online evaluations go to http://eval.nku.edu <http://eval.nku.edu/> . Click on "student login" and use the same USERNAME and PASSWORD as used on campus.
COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1 – May 30 – June 5

Assignments:

**Topics for online discussion: Q & A NON-GRADED Discussion Board**
- Introductions
- Syllabus
- Learning Objectives

**Assignments:**

Read:


**Exam #1 (May 30-June 5)** – exam may be taken TWICE to better exam score. This exam covers information from the Appel, Huang, Ai, & Lin research article (see above).

**Learning objectives:**
Upon completion of this session, you will be able to:
1. describe the learning objectives
2. define the evaluation criteria used for the course
3. discuss course expectations for the course
4. describe mental health issues in Asian Women within the context of Appel, Huang, Ai, and Lin study
5. Test comprehensive knowledge of course materials
6. Study of scholarly research, orientation to research language and methodology
7. Progress in cultural competence

**Week 2 – June 6-12**

Assignments:
Read:


**Exam 2 – (Available June 6-12) –**
exam may be taken TWICE to better exam score. This exam covers material from the Dickerson & Johnson (2012) article (see above).

**Learning objective:**
Upon completion of this session, you will be able to:

1. Describe research findings from Dickerson & Johnson research related to American Indian/Alaska Native Youth
2. Test comprehensive knowledge of course materials
3. Study of scholarly research, orientation to research language and methodology
4. Progress in cultural competence

**Week 3 – June 13-19**

Assignment:
Read:


**Exam 3 – (Available June 13 – June 19)** – exam can be taken **TWICE** to better exam score. This exam cover material from the Harley and Hunn (2015) and Marion & Range (nd) articles.

**Learning objectives:**
Upon completion of this session, you will be able to:
1. Understand and describe the relationship between well-being and spirituality in low-income African American Adolescents
2. Understand and describe factors that act as buffers against mental illness in African American female college students
3. Test comprehensive knowledge of course materials
4. Study of scholarly research, orientation to research language and methodology
5. Progress in cultural competence

**Week 4 – June 20-June 26**

**Assignments:**

Read:


Exam 4 – Available June 20-June 26. Exam may be taken TWICE to better exam score. This exam covers information from the Poston et al (2014) and Vaughn, Robbins, & Escobar (2014) articles.

Learning objectives:
Upon completion of this session, you will be able to:
1. Understand and describe health disparities among racial and ethnic minority firefighters
2. Understand and describe mental health and alcohol problems in Latino older adults
3. Test comprehensive knowledge of course materials
4. Study of scholarly research, orientation to research language and methodology
5. Progress in cultural competence

Week 5 – June 27 – July 3
Assignment:
Read:


Exam 5 – Exam will be available June 27 –July 2 ONLY. Exam may be taken TWICE to better score. Exam 5 is NOT COMPREHENSIVE. It only covers content from Zhang (1999) article ONLY.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand and describe characteristics of mental disorders within the context of ethnicity
2. Test comprehensive knowledge of course materials
3. Study of scholarly research, orientation to research language and methodology
4. Progress in cultural competence