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PSYX 348.01: Psychology of Family Violence

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PSYX348: Psychology of Family Violence

Tues & Thurs, 11:10am-12:30pm

Instructor information

Instructor: Cameo Stanick, Ph.D.

Office: Skaggs 362

Email: cameo.stanick@umontana.edu

Phone: 243.5191

Office hours: Tuesdays 2-3pm, Thursdays 1-2p, or by appointment

Course description:

This course will explore the theoretical explanations for the presence of violence in American families, as well as cover research and interventions in the areas of child physical and sexual abuse, child neglect and maltreatment, battering of women, courtship violence, and elder abuse. You will also learn about some of the prevention and intervention strategies that have been examined in the scientific literature regarding family violence.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Increase students' understanding of the science behind the psychology of family violence as it occurs in our society
2. Students will come away with knowledge of the theoretical underpinnings for why and how family violence occurs
3. Students will learn about different forms of family violence and how to take an active role in intervention and prevention

Required textbooks:

Barnett, O., Miller-Perin, C., & Perrin, R. (2011). *Family violence across the lifespan: An introduction*. (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

- Small notebook for journal entries (unless you prefer to email)

Course Calendar:

Dates	Topic
8/26/14	Syllabus overview
8/28/14	What is family violence? Ch 1
9/2/14	Ch 1 cont'd
9/4/14	Ch 2 Research & Theories
9/9/14	GUEST LECTURER: Dr. Bart Klika, School of Social Work Child Welfare System & the Prevention of Child Abuse NO OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK
9/11/14	GUEST LECTURER: Dr. Bart Klika, School of Social Work Child Welfare System & the Prevention of Child Abuse
9/16/14	Ch 2 cont'd
9/18/14	EXAM 1 NO THURSDAY OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK
9/23/14	Ch 4 Child physical abuse
9/25/14	Ch 4 cont'd
9/30/14	Ch 5 Child sexual abuse

Dates	Topic
10/2/14	Ch 5 cont'd
10/7/14	Ch 3 Child neglect & psychological maltreatment
10/9/14	Ch 3 cont'd
10/14/14	EXAM 2
10/16/14	Ch 7 Dating violence
10/21/14	Ch 7 cont'd
10/23/14	Ch 8 IPV
10/28/14	Ch 8 cont'd
10/30/14	Ch 9 IPV PSYCINFO EXTRA CREDIT DUE
11/4/14	NO CLASSES – VOTING DAY
11/6/14	Ch 9 cont'd
11/11/14	NO CLASSES – VETERAN'S DAY
11/13/14	EXAM 3
11/18/14	Ch 12 Abuse of the Elderly and Disabled Peoples GUEST LECTURER NO OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK
11/20/14	Ch 12 cont'd GUEST LECTURER
11/25/14	Ch 10 Family violence in understudied populations
11/27/14	NO CLASSES THANKSGIVING
12/2/14	Ch 10 cont'd
12/4/14	Ch 11 Practice, Policy & Prevention RESEARCH PARTICIPATION EXTRA CREDIT DUE
12/8/14 – 12/12/14	FINAL EXAM WEEK

Course guidelines and policies:

Student Conduct Code

You are expected to adhere to the University's student conduct code with regard to academic integrity. *All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).*

Course Sensitivity

Throughout the course we will be discussing and viewing **sensitive material** that pertains to family violence. This may be difficult to hear or to watch. It is imperative to evaluate whether or not you are prepared to participate in this class. If not, please see me after class, and we can discuss your options. Although you might feel prepared to take this course, the sensitive nature of the material might be overwhelming at times. Please see me after class if this is the case, and we can discuss your experience. You are also free to leave the classroom during material that may be too difficult for you. **This course is NOT designed to replace therapeutic work.** Consequently, overly personal information should not be relayed in class discussions.

Finally, many topics about which individuals tend to feel very passionate will be discussed and debated throughout the course of the semester. I ask that you remain respectful of others' opinions, even if they do not match your own or are controversial.

Disability modifications

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Disability Services for Students](#). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or call 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

Grading policy

Departmental and university policies regarding incompletes do not allow changing “incomplete” grades after one year has passed since the “I” was granted. If you earn an incomplete, it is in your best interest to complete the work or retake the class well before the one year mark, however.

For students taking this course CR/NCR, a CR is a grade of C or above. A NCR is a grade of C- or below.

The grading scale for this course is based on a 10-point system:

99 – 93.5 = A
93.4 – 90 = A-
89 – 86.5 = B+
86.4 – 83.5 = B
83.4 – 80 = B-
79 – 76.5 = C+
76.4 – 73.5 = C
73.4 – 70 = C-
69 – 66.5 = D+
66.4 – 63.5 = D
63.4 – 60 = D-
<60 = F

Your grade in this course will be computed from **four equally-weighted exams, 10 in-class discussions and 10 reflection journal entries**. All exams will be administered during class. No exams will be given before the scheduled date, and there will be no make-up exams except in the event of an *emergency* (with a note documenting the emergency) or *required university-sanctioned activity*. The exams will be half multiple-choice questions, but there will also be five short answer questions for each exam. ***The final exam will focus primarily on material from the last few classes, but all topics covered during the course are “fair game” on the final.*** Exams will make up 80% of your final grade. **Bring a clean Psychology NCS form and #2 pencil to each exam.**

Attendance and participation in the class will constitute the additional 20% of your course grade. Class group discussions and activities will focus on the integration and application of course topics. In order to gain a full perspective on the material we will be discussing, it is very important that you attend all classes. It is noted on the course schedule what chapters and topics will be discussed each day. You are expected to have read each chapter **before it will be discussed**. Learning just from the textbook, however, will hinder your ability to gain all that this course offers, and may leave you insufficiently prepared for the exams. The small group discussions will be held randomly, and **attendance during these discussions constitutes 10% of your final grade!** Participation in these discussions will be on a credit-no-credit basis. There is no way to make up missed group discussions and activities.

In addition, numerous film clips will be shown that pertain to the topics we are discussing. Some of these films can be upsetting and all students should be aware of their limits and leave if necessary. At the completion of each major section or film clip, the class will engage in a **journaling exercise**. This exercise is mandatory, but I will only collect your entries for completion purposes toward your participation grade and will not read the content unless you specifically give me permission to do so (**10% of participation grade**). The purpose of the exercise is to allow for processing of the difficult material

presented in class, as well as to reflect on how your ideas about family violence may be impacted by what you are learning throughout the course.

There will be a few extra credit opportunities offered throughout the class (see below). On-time correct completion of the opportunity will earn the assigned credit.

Extra Credit

You will have the opportunity to gain up to 4 extra credit points per extra credit opportunity (max of 8 points).

Opportunities:

1. **Conducting a Targeted PsycINFO search:** Conduct a PsycINFO literature search on a topic of your choice, but related to family violence.
 - a. After conducting the search, turn in answers to the following questions **via email or in hard copy in class in a Word document**:
 - i. What are the **search terms** that you used, and how many articles were retrieved for your search?
 - ii. Select one article (preferably a journal article, which is indicated by the "publication type" field and is typically labeled "peer-reviewed journals") and access the full text of the article. Print out the first page of the article, copy and paste it into another document, OR email the full-text article with the rest of this assignment to indicate that you were able to access the article and turn it in with your assignment.
 - iii. Read this article and **write a brief (1 paragraph) summary** of the article you chose in lay language. DO NOT copy any part of the abstract; this, of course, would constitute plagiarism.
 - iv. **List three different search terms** (or combinations of search terms) that you might use if you were to research this topic further to make it more targeted.
2. **Sign up for and participate in a research project** being conducted in the psychology department. You MUST sign up for a [SONA](#) account, if you haven't already, in order to receive credit for this opportunity. Extra credits differ per research project, and you can receive a max of 4 credits/points for this opportunity.