The University of Oklahoma  
College of Continuing Education  
Advanced Programs – Course Syllabus  

Course Title:  
Diagnosis and Assessment in Art Therapy  

Course Number:  
HR 5110-113  

Course Description:  
This course provides a thorough look at the diagnostic categories of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, 5th Edition, with an additional focus on how art productions and processes reflect those diagnoses. Consideration of the evolution and changes in the DSM will be covered. Students will parallel visual imagery in art products and process with behavioral and psychological symptoms. Familiarity with the format and uses of the DSM will be emphasized. This course will also survey the existing models of assessment in the field of art therapy and research related to assessment. Specific art therapy assessments as well as more general free choice and structured approaches to assessment via art will be presented. Focus will be equally on the administration and technique involved as well as the interpretive outcomes for different method, with professional standards and boundaries regarding all assessment and testing reviewed. General systems of understanding client imagery will be shared.  

Class Dates, Location and Hours:  
Dates: March 21-23 & 28-30, 2014  
Location: OCCE, Norman, Oklahoma. Classes are held at the Thurman White Forum Building of OCCE, 1704 Asp Avenue.  
Hours: Fri 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Sat 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: February 20, 2014  

Site Director:  
Cathy Yeaman. Phone: 405-325-3333; Fax: 405-325-9148; email: apnorman@ou.edu  

Professor Contact Information:  
Course Professor: Kris Newlin, LPC, ATR-BC, ATCS  
Mailing Address: 520 Parrington Oval, Room 224  
Norman, OK 73019  
Telephone Number: (405)535-9413  
E-mail Address: knewlin@ou.edu  
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.  

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:  
Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahoma.bkstr.com. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Representatives are available by phone at (405) 325-3511 or (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or E-mail at 0831mgr@fhg.follett.com from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; and 10 a.m. to 4p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). (Text prices are available online.)  


3. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at [http://learn.ou.edu](http://learn.ou.edu); enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

**Course Objectives:**

- students will become thoroughly familiar with the format and usage of the DSM
- students will understand basic concepts of diagnosis including some of the methods used to arrive at a diagnosis
- students will be able to demonstrate ability to administer a simple art-based assessment and reach tentative diagnostic formulations based upon it as well as have appropriate boundaries and understanding of diagnostic work

**Course Outline:**

**First weekend:**

- Orientation to DSM overall
- Evaluation styles and elements
- Practice in assessment framing and structure
- Mental status exam
- Multi-axial diagnosis
- Art based assessments and instructions
- Self-diagnosis assignment explained

**Second weekend:**

- Continued practice assessing
- Presentation of assessments and critiques in class
- All students present at least one completed evaluation in the format of a case presentation
  - provide write up
  - show the art
  - discuss interpretations and implications
  - make a diagnosis
- These will be discussed in class as a learning tool; there are no wrong answers- just learning from this.
- Interpretive models
- Final exam in class

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

**Method of teaching:**

Lecture, discussion, case presentation by instructor and students, interactive experiential learning.

**Method of evaluation:**

All work done out of class must be typed and double-spaced. Assignments should follow the grading rubrics that will be provided. The pre-assignment needs to be typed and there is no page limit- just show me that you read and understand the Oster book. Any late work receives ½ off of the points possible.
Attendance and active participation:
20 points; 10 per weekend. Points lost for late arrival or early departure. Any cumulative absence over 6 hours drops you a letter grade.

Pre Course Assignment:
Pre-assignment (due first night) to the dropbox on D2L: Review of Oster text-10 points (typed review commentary on the content and utility to you.)

Self-Diagnosis Assessment:
Self-diagnosis assignment- due second Friday - rubric and details will be given first weekend. 20 points

In Class Art Assessment:
In-class art assessment exercise- 10 points

Art Assessment Write-up:
Art assessment write-up and art- complete the assessment during week between classes and turn in final written assessment by one week after class ends. A draft of your assessment is due on the second weekend and the final version is turned in after class discussion of everyone’s work. A rubric will be given the first weekend- 20 points

Final Exam
Final exam- in class on last day of class. Open book exam based upon video example shown at class that day. 20 points

The texts are references for use in carrying out your evaluations and for future professional use. The final exam will be drawn from in-class lecture regarding the DSM as well as from the texts in a global manner. The exam will consist of viewing a video and then diagnosing and supporting that diagnosis. It will be “open book” but the answer won’t be in any book.

Grading:
This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. Total of 100 points: 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, below 60 = F

Assessments are not to be done on family members. Friends and co-workers are okay as are actual clients if you are working in a supervised setting, have written permission to perform the assessment and your client is informed that you are a student learning about these assessments. I will discuss appropriate safeguards in class. For the most part it is best to utilize good natured friends or children of your friends for these assessments. It must be clearly indicated you are a student practicing techniques and learning diagnosis, and not someone diagnosing or treating.

Any student in this class who has a disability that may prevent full demonstration of ability should contact the instructor personally before the end of the first week of classes so that discussion can be held regarding accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate individual educational opportunities.

Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Kris Newlin

Education

• Licensed Professional Counselor, Registered Art Therapist-Board Certified, Art Therapy Credentialed Supervisor
• Master’s of Art in Art Therapy from Vermont College of Norwich University
• Bachelor’s in Psychology with a Minor in Art from University of Central Oklahoma

Current Positions

• Instructor School of Art and Art History
• Group Art Therapist at Beautiful Dream Society (shelter for survivors of human trafficking)

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

Currently teach undergraduate art therapy and creative therapies courses

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

• Human Trafficking
• Child Abuse
• Foster care and Adoption

Representative Publications and Presentations

• March 2014 Published children’s book Silly Sweet Dreams
• March 2014 Speaker at Justice Conference at Norman Regional Hospital
• Published children’s book I Saw God Today, release date pending

Major Professional Affiliations

• Oklahoma Art Therapy Association
• Oklahoma Counseling Association