

Course	COUN 5545 /JC Blended Family Therapy																											
Term, Day, Time	Fall 2, 2009 – Tuesday – 6:00pm-10:00pm 10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, 12/8, 12/15																											
Instructor	Name: Lu Griz, Psy.D. Mobile: (904) 753-0426 Email: drlugriz@bellsouth.net																											
Catalog Description	This course focuses on the application of Family Systems Theory to the issues involved in establishing high nurturance blended families.																											
Course Level Outcome Objectives	<i>Upon successful completion of this class students will be able to:</i> 1. Demonstrate understanding of the family system and its role in shaping human development. 2. Demonstrate understanding of a variety of therapeutic family intervention models. 3. Demonstrate a knowledge of and sensitivity to unique blended family problems. 4. Demonstrate an understanding of high nurturance family functioning from the various models of practice.																											
Materials	<i>Stepcoupling: Creating & Sustaining a Strong Marriage in Today's Blended Family</i> ; Wisdom/Green; 1 st ; Three Rivers; ISBN: 0609807412 Supplemental Readings will be discussed in class																											
Methods of Learning	Students will learn through a variety of methods which include, but are not limited to lectures, text readings, research articles, discussion, group supervision, role plays, and out of class assignments.																											
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Below 70%

F

Activities

Each student will identify their families' distortions, irrational beliefs, and how it has affected their lives from past to present. Then, with the help of the professor and other students, each student will design a family intervention for their family members. Each intervention will be further explored with role-plays.

Class Participation and Attendance:

- Students are expected to attend all class sessions of every course for the full 36 contact hours. In the case of unavoidable absence, the student must contact the instructor. The student is subject to appropriate academic penalty for incomplete or unacceptable makeup work, or for excessive or unexcused absences. Generally, a student who misses more than one four-hour course period (per course) without a documented military or medical excuse and advanced permission of the instructor should withdraw from the class. The University reserves the right to involuntarily drop enrolled students from classes, which they do not attend. **PLEASE BE ADVISED: Students who do not attend the first class session, who have not made prior arrangements with the instructor for being absent, will be dropped from their courses.**
 - Attendance on the last day of class is mandatory to ensure that all work is completed and to be awarded a passing grade. An Incomplete will not be acceptable without documental proof (Death Notice, Doctor's Letter, etc.) as to absence relating to non-completion of class work. These must be faxed 904-262-1459 or dropped off to Webster University by the Monday after the term ends.
 - Participants are expected to arrive on time and be actively involved in the learning experience. Each student should desire to learn, participate, and proactively contribute to the learning of others during each discussion and exercise.
 - Students are to participate in classroom discussions. The discussions are an opportunity for students to reveal their understanding of the assignments made for the current and previous classes.
 - Assignments are given to prepare the student to participate in class discussions; therefore, it is imperative that reading assignments and associated questions for discussion be completed prior to class.
 - A maximum of 10 points will be awarded based on the level and quality of participation and preparation.
 - Failure to turn in an assignment within one week will result in a grade of "0" for that assignment. In addition, failure to submit an assignment will lower the final grade by an additional two points.
 - All assignments are due as detailed in the Course Schedule.
 - Late assignments will be accepted, if they are turned in *no later* than one week later, but will be penalized one letter grade. Furthermore, late assignments will lower the student's final grade by an additional one point.
- Late assignments will not be accepted for the final assignments the last week of the course to allow timely completion and grades to be submitted.

<p>Policy Statements: University Policies</p>	<p>University policies are provided in the current course catalog and course schedules. They are also available on the university website. This class is governed by the university's published policies. The following policies are of particular interest:</p> <p>Academic Honesty</p> <p>The university is committed to high standards of academic honesty. Students will be held responsible for violations of these standards. Please refer to the university's academic honesty policies for a definition of academic dishonesty and potential disciplinary actions associated with it.</p> <p>Drops and Withdrawals</p> <p>Please be aware that, should you choose to drop or withdraw from this course, the date on which you notify the university of your decision will determine the amount of tuition refund you receive. Please refer to the university policies on drops and withdrawals (published elsewhere) to find out what the deadlines are for dropping a course with a full refund and for withdrawing from a course with a partial refund.</p> <p>Special Services</p> <p>If you have registered as a student with a documented disability and are entitled to classroom or testing accommodations, please inform the instructor at the beginning of the course of the accommodations you will require in this class so that these can be provided.</p> <p>Disturbances</p> <p>Since every student is entitled to full participation in class without interruption, disruption of class by inconsiderate behavior is not acceptable. Students are expected to treat the instructor and other students with dignity and respect, especially in cases where a diversity of opinion arises. Students who engage in disruptive behavior are subject to disciplinary action, including removal from the course.</p> <p>Student Assignments Retained</p> <p>From time to time, student assignments or projects will be retained by The Department for the purpose of academic assessment. In every case, should the assignment or project be shared outside the academic Department, the student's name and all identifying information about that student will be redacted from the assignment or project.</p> <p>Contact Hours for this Course</p> <p>It is essential that all classes meet for the full instructional time as scheduled. A class cannot be shortened in length. If a class session is cancelled for any reason, it must be rescheduled.</p>
<p>Course Policies</p>	<p>Course Attendance: The University reserves the right to drop students who do not attend class</p>

the first two weeks of the term/semester. Students are expected to attend all class sessions of every course. In the case of unavoidable absence, the student must contact the instructor. The student is subject to appropriate academic penalty for incomplete or unacceptable makeup work, or for excessive or unexcused absences.

Make-Up Requirements

- For each class hour missed, a one (1) page, double-spaced, typed paper, with one (1) reference will be submitted by the end of the term. The instructor will assign the topic. A four (4) hour class will require four (4) pages supported with (4) references from popular or academic press.
- This paper will be graded and incorporated in the class participation grade. If the make-up work is not submitted, the student's final grade will be reduced one (1) letter grade.
- Students are responsible for any class material presented during their absence, and any assignments due should be submitted prior to the absence, if possible.

Conduct:

Students enrolling in a degree program at Webster University assume the obligation of conducting themselves in a manner compatible with the University's function as an education institution. Misconduct for which students are subject to discipline may be divided into the following categories:

1. All forms of dishonesty, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University.
2. Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other University activities or of other authorized activities on University premises.
3. Classroom disruption. Behavior occurring within the academic arena, including but not limited to classroom disruption or obstruction of teaching, is within the jurisdiction of Academic Affairs. In case of alleged campus and/or classroom disruption or obstruction, a faculty member and/or administrator may take immediate action to restore order and/or to prevent further disruption (e.g. removal of student[s] from class or other setting). Faculty members have original jurisdiction to address the immediacy of a situation, as they deem appropriate. When necessary and appropriate, Public Safety and/or the local [or military] police may be contacted to assist with restoring peace and order. Faculty response is forwarded to the academic dean (or his or her designee) for review and, if necessary, further action. Further action might include permanent removal from the course. Repeated offenses could lead to removal from the program and/or the University.
4. Theft of or damage to property of the University. Students who cheat or plagiarize may receive a failing grade for the course in which the cheating or plagiarism took place.

Students who engage in any of the above misconducts may be subject to dismissal from the University on careful consideration by the executive

	<p>vice president of the University or his designee. To the extent that penalties for any of these misconducts (e.g. theft or destruction of property) are prescribed by law, the University will consider appropriate action under such laws.</p> <p>Students are subject to the Student Code of Conduct and Judicial Procedure described in the Online Student Handbook.</p> <p>Course Contact Hours: Unless a course has enrolled fewer than four students, faculty have a contractual obligation to meet the full complement of contact/meeting hours (36 for graduate courses). Not to meet this full complement of hours may be construed as a breach of contract and may also endanger Webster University's accreditation by The Higher Learning Commission, a commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and its licensure by the State of Florida. Finally, course meetings which are missed for any reason must be made up.</p> <p>Note: To achieve the objectives of this course, this syllabus may be revised at the discretion of the instructor without prior notification or consent of the student.</p>
<p>Weekly Schedule</p>	<p><u>Pre-Assignment for Session 1:</u> Write a single-page paper giving an overview of a blended family system with which you are familiar. This will be discussed in class, and will not be collected or graded.</p> <hr/> <p><u>Session 1</u> Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General systems theory • Understanding your own family system • Blended family systems <p>Assignments for Session 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read chapter 2 <hr/> <p><u>Session 2</u> Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A system born of loss • Adaptation • Re-joining <p>Assignments for Session 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read chapter 3 <hr/> <p><u>Session 3</u> Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing roles • New rules

Assignments for Session 4:

- Read chapter 4

Session 4

Topics:

- Boundaries
- Assertiveness

Assignments for Session 5:

- Read chapter 5
- Mid-Term exam

Session 5

Topics:

- Roles
- Balance

Assignments for Session 6:

- Read chapter 6

Session 6

Topics:

- Blending
- Negotiating

Assignments for Session 7:

- Read chapter 7

Session 7

Topics:

- Values
- Needs
- Wants

Assignments for Session 8:

- Read chapter 8

Session 8

Topics:

- Power
- Balance

Assignments for Session 9:

- Prepare for Final Exam

	<p><u>Session 9</u> - Review - Wrap-up - In-class Final exam</p>
<p>Additional Information</p>	<p>For Webster University policies and procedures, please refer to the Catalog and Student Handbook. If you have a documented disability as described in Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA), you can contact our Academic Resource Center (ARC) at www.webster.edu/acadaffairs/asp/arc.htm, or call 800-981-9801, ext. 7620 to make arrangements for services. Also, please notify your site administrator if you are attending an extended campus.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOTE: COURSE SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE!</p> <p>Reviewed by: <i>Dr. Stephanie Vavilala</i> Job Title: <u>Counseling Coordinator</u> Date: <u>9/28/09</u></p>