Subject Code: APSS5771

Subject Title: Psychopathology: Holistic and Humanistic Orientations

Credit Value: 3

Level: 5

Pre-requisite / Co-requisite / Exclusion: Nil

Minimum Pass Grade: D

Assessment Methods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>100%</th>
<th>Continuous Assessment</th>
<th>Individual Assessment</th>
<th>Group Assessment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Short Quiz</td>
<td>10 %</td>
<td>0 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>40 %</td>
<td>0 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Seminar Presentation</td>
<td>0 %</td>
<td>20 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Book Report</td>
<td>30 %</td>
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<td>0%</td>
<td>Examination</td>
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Objectives:

This subject embraces a humanistic and holistic orientation in perceiving and interpreting mental illness. Apart from learning diagnosis, etiology and prevalence of various types of mental illness, students are equipped with a humanistic and holistic grasp of various perspectives, in particular clients’ subjective experiences in articulating and understanding persons with mental illness. They are able to recognize, analyze, articulate as well as criticize various perspectives in perceiving mental illness.

Contribution to Mental Health Outcomes:

1. Equip with knowledge in various perspectives in understanding, interpreting and intervening with various types of mental illness and problems in different mental health services settings.

2. Develop competence in practicing various psychosocial intervention approaches in treatment and rehabilitation of clients with mental illness and problems.

3. Develop a humanistic and holistic concern of clients’ needs, rights and life meaning in relation to psychopathological symptoms.

4. Develop flexibility in working in a multidisciplinary team context of various mental health service organizations.

5. Recognize, articulate and work through dilemmas and dynamics in mental health services.
6. Equip with knowledge to position their practice within international and regional platform in mental health service and intervention.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:

a. possess knowledge of about etiology, prevalence, course and cause of different types of mental illness, particular attention will focus on psychosis, affective disorders, personality disorders, substance abuse and anxiety disorders.

b. develop interest and a critical articulation of various perspectives in describing, explaining and treating mental illness.

c. nurture a holistic and humanistic understanding towards persons with mental illness.

d. understand and critically articulate roles of various professionals in handling clients with mental illness

**Subject Synopsis/Indicative Syllabus**

1. Etiology, Pharmacology, Prevalence and Course of Mental illness
   a. Schizophrenia and Psychosis
   b. Bipolar and Depressive Disorder
   c. Anxiety Disorders
   d. Substance Abuse and Dual Diagnosis
      Personality Disorders

2. Perspectives and Concepts of Mental Illness
   a. Neurocognitive Perspectives
   b. Psychoanalytic Perspectives
   c. Phenomenological and Existential Perspectives
   d. Cognitive and Behavioral Perspectives
   e. Interpersonal Perspectives
   f. Culture Perspectives
   g. Controversies and Postmodern Perspectives

3. Subjective Experiences of Persons with Mental Illness
   a. Subjective Experiences in Manifestation of Symptoms
   b. Subjective Experiences in Diagnosis and Label
   c. Subjective Experiences in Treatment and Rehabilitation
   d. Subjective Experiences in Facing Others’ Perception

4. The Meaningfulness of Symptoms in Mental Illness
   a. Meaningfulness in terms of Needs and Drives
   b. Meaningfulness in terms of Unresolved Emotional Complexes
   c. Meaningfulness in terms of Life Experiences and Personal Beliefs
   d. Meaningfulness in terms of Cultural, Social and Family Contexts

5. Professional Articulation of Humanistic and Holistic Orientation: Dynamics and Dilemmas
   a. Diagnosis Vs Understanding
   b. Control Vs Empathy
   c. Categorization Vs Communication
   d. Deficits Vs Coping

6. Living and Coping with Symptoms of Mental Illness
Teaching/Learning Methodology

By means of a reflective approach in teaching, students are required to articulate a holistic and humanistic understanding towards clients with mental illness. Apart from knowing symptoms, etiology and courses of various types of mental illnesses, they are required to acknowledge clients’ own feelings, experiences, needs and unresolved past traumas behind symptoms and disorders through learning clients’ subjective experiences through lectures, case studies and preparing mini-survey seminars. They are equipped with a critical mind to appreciate, to analyze and to criticize the pros and cons of various perspectives in understanding and explaining mental illness. A bio-social-psycho articulation of mental illness enable them to nurture a humanistic and holistic in understanding, communicating and working with persons with mental illness.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific assessment methods/tasks</th>
<th>% weighting</th>
<th>Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Short Quiz</td>
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Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:

Students are required to submit a case analysis and a term paper for assessment. In the case analysis, they are required to analyze the subjective experiences of a client with mental illness in diagnosis and treatment. Particular attention will be focus in what ways clients' rights, self image, social functioning and daily life are affected by the mental illness. In the terms paper, they are required to examine, discuss and analyze related issues in psychopathology especially in facing the dilemmas of social control and humanistic concern.

Student Study Effort Required

Class contact:
- Lecture 28 Hrs.
- Seminar and Tutorial 14 Hrs.

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Reading List and References

Essential

American Psychiatric Association. (1994). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental*
Disorder (4th ed.)

Supplementary