Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS513						
Subject Title	Advanced Practice Methods: Brief Therapy						
Credit Value	3						
Level	5						
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil						
Assessment Methods	100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment				
	1. Presentation	0%	20%				
	2. Reflection Paper	20%	0%				
	3. Practice Assignment	50%	0%				
	4. Class Participation	10%	0%				
	 The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned The completion and submission of all component assignment for passing the subject; and Student must pass the specific component(s) (standard of patto pass the subject. 						
Objectives	Students are to learn and examine brief therapy models under the family systems perspective. Special emphasis is given to Solution-focused Brief Therapy. Students are expected to understand the roots and meta-theoretical assumptions of brief family therapy models. They will also be provided with specific guidelines and practice skills for doing therapy in a more focused, goal directed and collaborative way. By using case examples and extensive sharing of practice experience, students will be facilitated to actively experiment this learned approach and develop their own personal style of articulating brief therapy.						

Intended Learning Outcomes

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

- a. apply the philosophy of solution focused brief therapy in practice.
- b. develop a strong grasp of and appraise the basic assumptions and theoretical foundation of solution focused brief therapy.
- c. acquire knowledge and skills in brief therapy, particularly in Solution-focused Brief Therapy.
- d. adapt solution focused brief therapy skills and techniques in the local context.
- e. begin to develop own personalized approach to solution focused brief therapy.

Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus

- 1. Historical development and basic assumptions of brief therapy
 - a. The influence of G. Bateson and M.H. Erickson
 - b. The paradigmatic shift of System Theory
 - c. Orientation of brief therapy
 - d. Common foci in brief therapy
- 2. Brief therapy models
 - a. Strategic family therapy
 - b. The Mental Research Institute (MRI)
 - c. Solution focused brief therapy
- 3. Assumptions and philosophy of Solution focused brief therapy
- 4. Strategies, techniques and skills in practicing Solution focused brief therapy
 - a. Engagement
 - b. Goals setting
 - c. Questioning skills
 - d. Termination and evaluation
- 5. Application of Solution focused brief therapy in different settings
- 6. Critiques on Solution focused brief therapy
- 7. Towards a personalized approach

Teaching/Learning Methodology

Students' learning is realized through attendance in lectures, seminars, practice demonstrations, reading assignments, case studies, practice workshops and practice assignments. They are expected to prepare adequately before class and to participate actively in class activities which include practice workshop, seminar presentation and discussion. Reflection on current practice models is encouraged.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)				
		a	ь	c	d	e
1. Presentation	20%	✓	√	✓	√	√
2. Reflection Paper	20%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Practice Assignment	50%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Class Participation	10%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Total	100 %					

Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing thee intended learning outcomes:

Students are expected to actively share and discuss their learning and ideas with others during lectures and workshops. All students are required to complete individual and group assignments.

1. Presentation (20%)

The purposes of presentation are to give students a platform to examine, comment and integrate the theories and concepts of solution focused brief therapy learnt in classroom setting. The seminar format is:

- a) response to the seminar topic;
- b) discussion: responsible students should prepare background information or cases for discussion;
- c) feedback from students and tutor.

2. Reflection Paper (20%)

After presentation, each group member is required to write up a short paper on his/her responsible topic of the presentation. The presentation reflection paper uses to help students have more in-depth personal reflection of the relevant topics. The presentation reflection paper is about 1000 words.

3. Practice Assignment (50%)

It aims at providing the student an opportunity to use their newly grasped concepts, philosophy, skills and techniques of solution focused brief therapy in students' practice contexts. Each student is required to audio-video-tape a 10-minutes helping interview (best in genuine cases) in using Solution focused brief therapy and have it transcribed into verbatim with analysis and suggestion.

4. Class Participation (10%)

Student Study Effort Expected	Class contact:	
	■ Lecture (including group presentation in class)	27 Hrs.
	■ Practice Workshop	12 Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	Presentation preparation & reading	40 Hrs.
	Skill practice	26 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	105 Hrs.

Reading List and References

Essential

Berg, I. (1994). Family-based services: A Solution-focused approach. NY: W.W. Norton.

Cade, B., & O'Hanlon, W.H. (1993). A brief guide to brief therapy. NY: W.W. Norton.

De Shazer, Dolan, Y., Korman, H., Trepper, T., McCollum, E., & Berg, I. (2021). More than miracles: The state of the art of solution-focused brief therapy (Classic ed.). New York, NY: Routledge.

De Jong, P., & Berg, I. (2013). *Interviewing for Solutions* (4th ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson Books/Cole.

De Shazer, S., Dolan, Y. & Korman. H. (Eds.) (2007). More than Miracles: The State of the Art of Solution-focused brief therapy. New York: Haworth Press.

O'Connell, B. (2012). Solution-focused therapy. London: SAGE.

Quick, E.K. (2008). Doing what works in brief therapy: A Strategic Solution-focused Approach. New York: Academic Press.

Supplementary

Berg, I. (1992). Working with the problem drinkers: A solution-focused approach. NY: W.W. Norton.

Chevalier, A.J. (1995). On the client's path: a manual for the practice of solution-focused therapy. Oakland, Calif.: New Harbinger Publications.

De Shazer, S. (1985). Keys to solutions of brief therapy. New York: W.W. Norton.

De Shazer, S. (1982). *Patterns of brief family therapy: an ecosystemic approach*. New York: Guildford Press.

De Shazer, S. (1988). Clues: investigating solutions in brief therapy. New York: W.W. Norton.

Haley, J. (1997). Leaving home: the therapy of disturbed young people. New York: Brunner /Mazel.

Hawkes, D., Marsh, T., Wilgosh, R. (1998). *Solution focused therapy: a handbook for health care professionals*. MA: Reed Educational and Publishing Ltd.

Hoffman, L. (1981). Foundations of family therapy: a conceptual framework for systems change. New York: Basic Books.

Duncan, B.L. & American Psychological Association. (2010). *The heart & soul of change: what works in therapy* (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: American

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- Lipchik, E. (2002). Beyond technique in solution-focused therapy: working with emotions and the therapeutic relationship. New York, NY: The Guilford Press.
- Madanes, C. (1981). Strategic Family Therapy. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- McNeilly, R.B. (2000). Healing the whole person: a solution-focused approach to using empowering language, emotions, and actions in therapy. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
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- Nichols, M., & Schwartz, R. (2017). Family therapy: concepts and methods (11th edition.). Boston: Pearson Education.
- O'Hanlon, W., & Weinner-Davis, M. (1989). In search of solutions: a new direction in psychotherapy. New York: Norton.
- Papp, P. (1983). The process of change. New York: Guildford Pres.
- Selekman, M.D. (1997). Solution-focused therapy with children: harnessing family strengths for systemic change. New York, NY: The Guilford Press.
- Selekman, M. (2005). Pathways to change: brief therapy solutions with difficult adolescents. New York: Guilford Press.
- Selvini Palazzoli, M., Cecchin, G., Prata, G., and Boscolo, L. (1978). *Paradox and counterparadox: a new model in the therapy of the family in schizophrenic transaction*. New York: Jason Aronson.
- Trepper, T.S., Dolan, Y., McCollum, E.E., & Nelson, T. (2006). Steve de Shazer and the future of solution-focused therapy. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 32(2): 133-139.
- Weakland, J., Fisch, R., Watzlawick, P. & Bodin, A. (1974). Brief therapy: focused problem resolution. *Family Process*, 13(1), 141 168.
- Young, K.C., Chu, C. K., & Ho W. S. (1994). Solution-focused therapy in Hong Kong: Practice and reflection. *Hong Kong Journal of Social Work, 28*(2), 33-41.

Supplementary (Chinese)

- 吳家玲、何會成等 (2003)。 *尋解導向治療 初探篇*。(第三版)。香港: 香港明 愛家庭服務。
- 何會成、劉翠玲等 (2003)。*尋解導向治療 進深篇*。香港:香港明愛家庭服 務。
- 楊家正、游達裕、梁玉麒編(2001)。*解困之道 尋解面談應用手冊及個案匯編*。香港:香港大學出版社。
- 游達裕、朱志強、陳偉業 (2017) 。 *尋解新趨勢*。香港 : 策馬文創有限公司。
- 許維素等(2006)。 *焦點解決短期心理諮商*。台北:張老師文化事業股份有限公司。
- 許維素(2014)。*焦點解決短期治療:理論與實務*。台北心理出版社股份有限公司。

De Jong, P. & Berg, I / 李慧貞譯 (2006)。 *建構解決之道的會談:焦點解決短期治療*。臺北市:心理出版社。

洪莉竹 (2007)。*稻草變黃金:焦點解決諮商訓練手冊*。台北 :張老師 文化事業股份有限公司。