

# Department of Psychology Psychology 750.07 (S01) – COUPLE AND SEX THERAPY Winter 2011 – Course Outline

**Instructor:** Michele Phillips **Lecture Location:** A053

**Phone:** 403-289-0126 **Lecture Days/Time:** M 9:00-11:50

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Office Hours: TBA

#### **Course Description and Goals**

The Couple and Sex Therapy module will be divided into four 3-hour classes focused on couple therapy and two 3-hour classes focused on sex therapy. Topics for each class will be as follows:

Week 1: General clinical assumptions and guidelines in working with couples

Week 2: A developmental perspective in working with couples

**Week 3:** John Gottman's research and practice principles for making marriages or long-term committed relationships work

Week 4: Emotionally focused therapy with couples – Susan Johnson's work

Week 5: Assessment of sexual concerns

**Week 6:** A systemic perspective of sexual therapy

#### **Required Text**

A package of required readings will be available December 1, 2010 for students. Additional (but not required) readings include:

Gottman, John. (1999). The seven principles for making marriage work. New York: Random House.

Gottman, John, Schwartz Gottman, J. & Declaire, J. (2006). 10 lessons to transform your marriage. New York: Random House.

Johnson, Susan. (2004). The practice of emotionally focused couple therapy. New York: Brunner Routledge.

Johnson, Susan. (2008). Hold me tight: Seven conversations for a lifetime. New York: Little, Brown, and Company.

Schnarch, David. (1997). Passionate marriage: Sex, love, and intimacy in emotionally committed relationships. New York: Norton.

#### **Evaluation**

Evaluation is based on participation in class discussion and activities (25%) and a brief take-home exam (75%). The take-home exam will be handed out on Feb.14, 2010 with the response due, via email, on Feb. 28, 2010. The exam will require a 3-4 double-spaced essay in response to a question, which covers the entire module material. Grading is on a pass/fail basis.

# Important dates Winter 2010

Date	
M Jan 3	Lecture begins.
F Jan 21	Last day to drop a course with tuition refund.
T Jan 25	Last day for registration/change of registration.
Feb 20-27	Reading days. No lecture.
M Feb 21	Alberta Family Day. No lecture.
F Apr 15	Lecture ends.

## **Reappraisal of Grades**

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

#### **Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

#### **Academic Accommodation**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

#### Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

# Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names or UCIDs with their grades or other FOIP-sensitive information.

## **Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints">http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints</a>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

#### Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombuds provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or <a href="mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca">ombuds@ucalgary.ca</a> (<a href="http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html">http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html</a>).

#### Safewalk

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333.

# **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Jan 21, 2011**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Jan 25, 2011**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 15, 2011**.