PSY4388/PSY5388, Special Topics. Culture, Counseling, and Relational Therapy: The Influence of Contexts.
Study Abroad to Taiwan. Summer 2019
Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Course Dates, Modality, and Location:
Course Date: May 13-31, 2019
Travel Dates: May 20-30, 2019
This course meets face-to-face, with supplemental materials made available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [https://tamuct.instructure.com/]. There is an additional face-to-face meeting on May 3, 2019 at WH 215.

Instructor and Contact Information:
Instructor: Hao-Min Chen, Ph.D.
Office: WH 318 J
Email: hmchen@tamuct.edu
Summer Office Hours: By appointment

Student-Instructor Interaction: I will be available to meet to discuss and resolve class-related issues during my office hours and the travel dates. Please email to make an appointment. I will also check and reply to emails during normal work hours (8am-5pm) within course dates (5/13-31, 2019). Remember that there is only 1 of me and many of you, so please allow at least 1-2 business days for a response.

Warrior Shield:
Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas
Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by 911Cellular [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and Description:
This course includes an examination of the various clinical components regarding counseling and relational therapy as well as a review of Eastern and Western cultural differences in these components. This course is designed to explore the influences of contexts for mental health professionals when working with their clients. Students will visit Taiwan to learn about culture, counseling, and relational therapy. Class materials will be assigned before, during, and after the visit. Students will visit several universities and community sites in three major cities in Taiwan, including Taipei, Hualien, and Changhua. They will also have opportunities to interact with local students and faculty members. Cultural activities and immersion experiences will be arranged as well.

Course Objective:
Emphasis is on the culture, counseling, and relational therapy. Focus is on identification of the influences of
culture and contexts on mental health professionals and their clients. Through class readings, lectures, site visits, cultural exchange, and immersion experiences, students will learn about culture, counseling, relational therapy, and the influence of contexts.

Prerequisites: N/A

Important Notes for the 2019 Study Abroad to Taiwan:
1) This syllabus is for the use of participants in the 2019 Study Abroad in Taiwan.
2) Safety is important!
3) Secure your belongings, especially passport, important IDs, and money.
4) Punctuality is important. For the program, all classes, departures, school visits, and activities included in the study abroad program must follow an organized time format. In other words, the “bus will not wait on you.”
5) Dress code: Dress appropriately for all activities.

Intended Student Outcomes:

Relevant Core Competencies (CCs) from the Commission on Accreditation of Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) are referenced.

A. Students will improve their ability to conceptualize client systems through a relational lens.
B. Students will learn to consider the influences of cultural factors when clinically assessing client systems.
C. Students will learn to consider different cultural perspectives when providing intervention and developing treatment plan for their clients.

Required Reading and Textbook(s):
Required Reading: Articles and/or book chapters will available through Canvas and TAMUCT Library.


Optional Texts:

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The syllabus is subject to change without notice to meet student, faculty, or other needs. Please refer to class announcements for possible adjustments.
**Mandatory Pre-trip Class Meeting (15 points) & Pre-trip Journal (10 points)**

Students are expected to attend pre-trip class meeting and complete a brief pre-trip journal. Journal questions and more details will be posted on Canvas. Student must turn in their journal before or by 5/19/2019.

Associated Student Learning Outcomes: A-G

**Cultural Exchange – Professionalism, Group Presentations & Activities (50 points)**

Students will be required to participate in EVERY class activity and to engage with the related discussion, experiential exercises, etc. Attendance, punctuality, preparedness, and active participation are expected. It is essential that students meet all requirements set forth for the course. Graduate students will give brief presentations to local students and faculty as cultural exchange. Presentations will be on 5/29/2019. Please see Canvas for more details.

Associated Student Learning Outcomes: A-G

**Final Reflection Journal (25 points)**

Upon returning from the Study Abroad, students will turn in a reflection journal. More instructions and due day will be posted on Canvas. Please see Canvas for more details.

Associated Student Learning Outcomes: A-G

**Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion**

*Overview of Grading:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory Pre-trip Class Meetings</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-trip Journal</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Exchange – Professionalism, Group Presentations &amp; Activities</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Reflection Journal</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grade breakdown:**

- A: 90-100
- B: 80-89
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: 68 and below

**Posting of Grades:**

Grades will be posted on Canvas. Students should monitor their status. There may be approximately 4 weeks of turn-around time for grades to be posted.

**Tentative Course Outline and Calendar:** Please see your travel packet and Canvas for details.

**Important University Dates:** Please see [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html)

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT**

**Technology Requirements**

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system.
Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [https://tamuct.instructure.com/] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [https://tamuct.onecampus.com/]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support
Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.
For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Other Technology Support
For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central.
24 hours a day, 7 days a week:
   Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu
   Phone: (254) 519-5466
   Web Chat: [http://hdc.tamu.edu]
Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

University Resources, Procedure, and Guidelines:
Drop Policy.
If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a Drop Request Form [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf].

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar’s Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar’s Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar’s Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity.
Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student’s academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student’s work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university’s Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university’s standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact
your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more information regarding the Student Conduct process, [https://tamuct.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/tamuct-student-conduct-panel]. If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may submit a report, [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Academic Accommodations.
At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university’s programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion Canvas page (log-in required) [https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students.
Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs’ Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit the Student Affairs web page [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution’s Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these requirements and guidelines online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring.
Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 519-5796, or by emailing Dr. DeEadra Albert-Green at deeadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive FREE online tutoring support. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

The syllabus is subject to change without notice to meet student, faculty, or other needs. Please refer to class announcements for possible adjustments.
University Writing Center.
Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with online only hours Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students’ ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students’ texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via WCOnline. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

University Library.
The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our Library website [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

INSTRUCTOR POLICIES

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend ALL organized activities during the Study Abroad Program time frame. Due to the participatory nature of the course, it is NOT possible to make up the experiences missed during an absence. Any missed activities without the instructor’s consent will have a negative impact on the final course grade.

Please see the course calendar for all due dates and check for updates regularly through Canvas.

The syllabus is subject to change without notice to meet student, faculty, or other needs. Please refer to class announcements for possible adjustments.
Late work will NOT be accepted except under extreme circumstances as approved by the instructor. If accepted, late work will be subject to a reduction of 10% of the available points per day before grading.

Copyright Notice.
Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas’ Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

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