

MFT 5353 - 110 Medical Family Therapy & Psychopathology  
Spring 2020  
Texas A&M University – Central Texas

#### Course Dates, Modality, and Location:

Course Dates: Thursday 11:00 am - 1:45 pm, Jan 13, 2020 - May 8, 2020.

Location: Warrior Hall 312

Modality: This is a blended course which meets face-to-face and online. Please refer to class calendar for specific dates/times that course meets online. This course utilizes the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>]. It will be conducted primarily as a seminar and will include experiential components. For this process to be successful, students are expected to participate fully by reading assigned materials, attending class, and participating in class exercises and discussions in face-to-face class meetings, as well as within the Canvas environment.

#### Instructor and Contact Information:

Instructor: Hao-Min Chen, Ph.D.

Office: WH 318 J

Email: [hmchen@tamuct.edu](mailto:hmchen@tamuct.edu)

Face-to-face Office Hours: Wednesday 11am- 4pm. Please email for appointment.

Student-Instructor Interaction: I will be available to meet to discuss and resolve class-related issues during my office hours. Please send an email so we can schedule an appointment during my office hours or other times that we both are available. I will also check and reply to emails on a regular basis. 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

### 1.0 Course Overview and Description & Course Objective

Examine the role of the marriage and family therapist in larger behavioral health systems. Learn collaborative manner addressing the unique psychosocial problems of individuals, couples, and families with acute and chronic medically related concerns. Study principles of individual diagnosis of mental illness as defined in the DSM and the implications for systematically based treatment.

### 2.0 Intended Student Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes – this course targets three of the MFT program's Student Learning Outcomes (SLO-3) - Assess how contextual issues affect individual lives and relational dynamics.

(SLO-4) - Formulate treatment plans based on individual issues, relational dynamics, and contextual issues.

(SLO-6) - Develop collaborative relationships with other mental health professionals and agencies within the local community.

It targets these SLO's through the following Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain the major components of the behavioral health care delivery system, its impact on the services provided, and the barriers and disparities in the system. (SLO-3) (SLO-4)
2. Explain the origins of medical family therapy and how medical family therapy engages the larger health care system in helping treat patients with behavioral health and family problems. (SLO-6)
3. Understand the major behavioral health disorders, including the epidemiology, etiology, phenomenology, effective treatments, course, and prognosis. (SLO-3) (SLO-4) (SLO-6)
4. Understand the clinical needs and implications of persons with comorbid disorders. (SLO-4)
5. Understand the liabilities incurred when billing third parties, the DSM diagnoses, and the CPT codes necessary for reimbursement, and how to use them correctly. (SLO-6)
6. Understand the effects that psychotropic and other medications have on clients and the treatment process. (SLO-4)(SLO-6)
7. Understand recovery-oriented behavioral health services. (SLO-6)

### 3.0 Required Reading

McDaniel, S.H., Doherty, W.J., Hepworth, J. (2014). *Medical Family Therapy & Integrated Care* (2nd ed.). APA Books.

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed.). Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Publishing.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### 4.0 Course Requirements

All writing submitted to the instructor should be a final draft, free of spelling, grammatical, stylistic, and typographical errors. Students are encouraged to allow ample time for writing, keeping in mind the frequency of computer glitches. Late assignments will not be accepted. Extension of assignments will only be given to legitimate reasons as the ones listed under excused absences. See 9.0 Absence and Grading of this syllabus for more details.

Attending group and individual supervision is ethical and crucial for beginning therapists. More than one unexcused absences from classes will result in failing this course. If you experience any difficulty attending the class, please talk to the instructor as soon as possible.

### Assignments:

4.1 Class Participation (25 points): Students should attend classes and engage in multiple discussions and role-plays throughout the semester to practice using key concepts, theories, and techniques.

4.2 On-line Discussion (25 points): Each student will post 1 comment/observation on designated online classes. Please see class calendar for the dates to post. Every post has to relate to class materials or professional concepts and reference(s)/citation(s) should be included. This is due by the end of the class time that day. Late post will receive zero point.

4.3 Final Exam (25 points): Details will be announced in class.

4.4 Treatment Plan Presentation (25 points): Sign up a topic for a paper or presentation from the list provided. You may also choose to do a group (2 person maximum) or individual presentation. Presentation is 25 mins long, not including Q & A. Your presentations should include: visuals (PowerPoint, videos, etc.), good

explanations of material, & interaction with the audience. Please follow the rubric which will be posted on Canvas.

## 5.0 Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

### Overview of Grading:

Class Participation 25 points

Online Discussion 25 points

Treatment Plan Presentation 25 points

Final Exam 25 points

Total Points 100 points

### Posting of Grades:

#### Grade Points

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 70-79

D 60-69

F 59 or below

If students have any concerns or difficulties completing the class tasks/assignments, please talk with the Professor at least two weeks before each deadline so that she can provide individualized assistance or discuss alternative assignments. In general, students receive oral or written feedback on their assignments within 1 month of their submission.

### Posting of Grades

Student grades will be posted on the Gradebook. Students should monitor their grade status.

6.0 Tentative Course Outline and Calendar: Please see attached/Canvas posting.

7.0 Important University Dates: Please see <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. The latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers are strongly recommended. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.

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](mailto: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](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](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. Tutor.com tutoring will not offer writing support beginning August 1, 2019, but will continue to offer other tutoring support.

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) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing [studentsuccess@tamuct.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@tamuct.edu).

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

#### 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.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This semester, the UWC is also offering online only hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

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-to-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 WOnline [<https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto: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

### 9.0 Absences and Grading

As mentioned earlier, attending class is crucial for student therapists. More than one unexcused absence from class will result in failing this course. Examples of excused absences can include injury or illness that is too severe or contagious, illness of a dependent family member, religious holiday, etc. Please see <https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07/> for details. Students are responsible to notify the instructor about their (expected or unexpected) absence as soon as possible.

### 10.0 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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