

Spring 2015

**Crisis Intervention - 01:202:370
Monday - Wednesday 5:00-6:20pm,
Lucy Stone Hall – B269
Instructor: Antonia Winstead, MSW**

Contact Information:

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Office Hours: Tuesday 3:30 – 5:30 PM - By Appointment Only

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class presents the latest skills and techniques for handling real crisis situations. Specifically, it presents a six-step model for dealing with people in crisis: Defining the Problem: Ensuring Client Safety, Providing Support, Examining Alternatives, Making Plans, and Obtaining Commitment. Using this model, the class will then build specific strategies for handling a myriad of different crisis situations - in many cases providing the dialogue that you might use as a nurse, minister, police officer, counselor, or other practitioner. At the end of this course, you will have developed skills and strategies that you can take out of the classroom and into your respective profession of choice.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, students are responsible for:

- 1) An increased knowledge of handling crisis situations
- 2) An increased understanding of the current initiatives in the field of trauma and crises and the ability to translate this to your professional field of choice.

REQUIRED READING

1) Crisis Intervention Strategies by Richard K. James & Burl E. Gilliland 7th edition (2013). Cengage Learning. ISBN: 9781111186777

2) Throughout the course you may also be required to read numerous journal articles, for which you will be responsible. Most will be provided to you, others you will be expected to retrieve. This will be mandatory and if I believe students are not retrieving the articles, there will be quizzes on the material. The articles that are provided will be posted on sakai.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) *Attendance & Participation*: Participation and attendance are required and mandatory. Every unexcused missed class session will result in a deduction of 10 points off your final grade. You are expected to have the material read for the respective class. Failing to provide sufficient answers to posed questions will result in a score of zero for that day's participation. Students are expected to fully participate in the lectures and will

be called on regularly. Exams will ONLY be rescheduled for an emergency and ONLY with appropriate documentation.

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss a class please use the university absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. This system was never meant to replace department or instructor policies on absences and make-up work. Please note that my policy is that no missed class is excused and it will result in a 10 point deduction.

2) *Reading Material*: If participation and feedback on readings suffers, pop quizzes will be given sporadically.

3) *Newspaper Article Review/Presentation*: The first grade will be a write-up and presentation of a newspaper article dealing with an issue pertinent to crisis intervention. This article can range anywhere in the topic of how to handle crisis situations, crisis training and specific situations, for example, PTSD, Suicide, Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Addiction, Depression, Unexpected Death, Violence in the Workplace or School or Natural Disasters. If someone presents a newspaper article on something before you, please refrain from choosing the same article. Hard copy newspaper articles can be searched, as well as outlets like the New York Times and the Washington Post, which would allow you to search by key word. **NO WIKEPEDIA. The article should be attached to a 1 page type-written summation.**

Students should outline the problem or topic in the article and depending on the content, they should offer suggestions, opinions or remedies- DO NOT SIMPLY REGURGITATE THE ARTICLE. The class should also pay attention to grammar, spelling and content, as this contributes to your grade. A sign-up sheet will be provided early in the semester and late assignments will not be accepted. Presentation of this newspaper article and your opinions and suggestions are expected to last least **FIVE MINUTES. Time yourself prior to your presentation.** Also, once a day is chosen, it cannot be changed. Write down your date, if you miss it for any reason you will receive a zero for that grade.

4) *Final Exam and Midterm Exam*: The exams will be multiple choice or essay, depending on the size of the class. You will know this within the first two weeks of class. The final exam may or may not be cumulative.

COURSE GRADING

Newspaper Article 20%

Midterm Exam 30%

Attendance and in class participation 10%

Final Exam 40% <http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/>

[The last day for this class is Monday, May 4. Reading Days are May 5 & 6. Finals begins May 7 through the 13.](#)

2/02/2015 – Mon.
Chapter 4- Tools of the Trade

2/04/2015– Wed.
Chapter 5-Crisis Case Handling; Chapter 6-Telephone and Online Crisis Counseling

2/09/2015 – Mon.
Chapter 7-Postrumatic Stress Disorder

2/11/2015 – Wed.
Chapter 8-Crisis of Lethality

2/16/2015 – Mon., 2/18/2015 – Wed.
VIDEO

2/23/2015 – Mon.
Chapter 9-Sexual Assault and Chapter 10 – Partner Violence

2/25/2015 – Wed. – Chapter 11 Chemical Dependency (Part 1)
Chapter 11 – Chemical Dependency (Part 2); Mid Term Review

3/02/2015 – Mon.
MIDTERM EXAM

3/04/2015 – Wed.
Chapter 12- Personal Loss

3/09/2015 - Mon.
Chapter 13- Crisis in Schools

3/11/2015 - Wed.
Chapter 14- Violent Behavior in Institutions

3/16/2015 THROUGH 3/20/2015 SPRING BREAK

3/23/2015 – Mon.
Chapter 15 – Crisis Hostage Negotiation; Chapter 16- Human Services Workers in Crisis

3/25/2015 – Wed. - 3/30/2015 – Mon.
Chapter 17 – Disaster Response

4/01/2015 – Wed. - 4/06/2015 – Mon.
PRESENTATIONS

4/08/2015 - Wed.
PRESENTATIONS

4/13/2015 - Mon.
PRESENTATIONS

4/15/2015 – Wed.
PRESENTATIONS

4/20/2015 - Mon.
PRESENTATIONS

4/22/2015 – Wed.
PRESENTATIONS

4/27/2015 - Mon.
PRESENTATIONS

4/29/2015 - Wed.
FINAL EXAM REVIEW

5/04/2015 - Mon. (Last day of class)

FINAL EXAM – Follow Rutgers University exam schedule:
<http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/> **You will be responsible for knowing the date and time of your final exam.**

****Please be advised: this syllabus is subject to change as the instructor deems necessary.***