The General Nature of Trauma

1. Basic Concepts in Psychological Trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (Chapter 1)
2. Basic Psychological Disruptions: Mastery, Attachment and Meaning (Chapter 2)
3. Basic Biological Disruptions: Emergency Mobilization, Kindling, the Repetition Compulsion (Chapter 3)
4. The Special Problem of Learned Helplessness (Chapter 1)/Adult Children of Alcoholics (Chapter 7)/False Memory Syndrome
5. The Health Consequences of Untreated Trauma (Chapter 4)
6. Mid-Term Exam

Victims

7. Homicide: War, Terrorism, Civilian Murder (Chapter 7)
8. Sexual Abuse: Child and Adult/Human Trafficking (Chapter 5)
9. Battering: Child and Adult (Chapter 6)
10. Natural and Man-Made Disasters/Violence in the Workplace

Treatments

11. Crisis Interventions/Individual/Group Treatments (Chapter 8)
12. Family, Health Care Providers, Legal Supports (Chapter 9)
13. The Problem of Evil/The Meaning of Love (Chapter 10)
14. FINAL EXAMINATION
Required Readings:


Course Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Thursday, October 11, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Thursday, November 1, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Thursday, December 13, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Class Participation and attendance</strong></td>
<td><strong>25%</strong></td>
<td>** Entire Semester**</td>
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</tbody>
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Exams

Exams will cover any assigned materials in the text, the contents of class notes, any extra readings the student may wish to include, and material from the weekly class discussions. Exams will include the definitions of key concepts and the names of scholars who have made significant contributions to the study of trauma.

Term Paper

Each student is responsible for reading at least five books on some specific aspect of psychological trauma and for submitting a five page paper on that topic. (The sixth page is to list the five references that were used.) The course text may not be used.

The paper is to be typed, double-spaced, in 10 or 12 CPI, with 1 inch margins on all 4 sides of each page. Proper spelling and grammar are expected. Pages are to be numbered. Papers that do not follow these requirements or that exceed ten pages of text and one page of references will be substantially penalized by lower grades. Papers that are handed in late are lowered on full grade for each week that they are overdue.

Please Note Well:

No student shall pass this course who has not completed all four course assignments. There are no exceptions to the deadlines, and I reserve the right to assign lower grades to assignments and exams which are handed in late. Term papers handed in late lose one full grade for each week that the paper is late.

Students are expected to attend class weekly and to participate in class discussion. 25% of the final grade is left to the instructor’s discretion and is based on overall class performance. No student shall receive an “A” grade for this course who has not been an active class participant as judged by the instructor.

As a courtesy to our colleagues, beepers, cell phones, and other electronic devices are to be placed in vibration mode or turned off during class.
Suggested Readings:

Psychological trauma is a fascinating area of inquiry. The following books and articles are recommended for students who wish to examine more thoroughly the issues raised in each weekly lecture. While not required reading, the material in these books and articles would be helpful in answering class and exam questions in greater depth. Asterisks indicate paperbacks.

Lecture 1 - Basic Concepts in Psychological Trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder


Lecture 2 - Basic Psychological Disruptions: Mastery, Attachment, Meaning


Lecture 3 - Basic Biological Disruptions: Emergency Mobilization, Kindling, The Repetition Compulsion


Lecture 4 - The Special Problem of Learned Helplessness


Lecture 5 - The Health Consequences of Untreated Trauma


Lecture 6 - MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Lecture 7 - Homicide: War, Terrorism, Civilian Murder


Friedman, L.S. What Motivates Suicides Bombers? Detroit, MI: Thompson/Gale, 2005


Lecture 8 - Sexual Abuse: Child and Adult/Human Trafficking


Sax, L. Girls on the Edge: The Four Factors Driving the New Crisis for Girls-Sexual Identity, the Cyberbubble, Obsessions, Environmental Toxins.


Lecture 9 Battering: Child and Adult


Lecture 10 - Natural and Man-Made Disasters/Adult Children of Alcoholics


Raphael, B. When Disaster Strikes: How Individuals and Communities Cope with Disaster. New York:


Lecture 11 – Crisis Interventions/Individuals/Group Treatments


Lecture 12 - Family Health Care Provider, Legal Supports


Lecture 13 The Problem of Evil/The Meaning of Love


