GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

PRLS 598—Processes and Techniques in Therapeutic Recreation (3)

Fall 2009

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PREREQUISITES

PRLS 327, PRLS 416, PRLS 418 and PRLS 503

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Exploration of processes and techniques used in Therapeutic Recreation, with a focus on the nature and diversity of recreation and leisure activities, modalities and interventions, facilitation techniques and approaches, leadership roles and tasks, communication skills, clinical supervision, health and safety considerations, and the impact of the impairment and/or treatment on the individual.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Explain the major theories/approaches used for intervention and counseling programs in regards to Therapeutic Recreation services.

2. Identify facilitation techniques that can be employed as interventions in Therapeutic Recreation programs.

3. Define the role of the professional helper in regards to Therapeutic Recreation services.

4. Classify the characteristics of a professional helper in regards to a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist.

5. Differentiate among the key aspects of successful communication in relation to Therapeutic Recreation services.

6. Justify the appropriate leadership styles to be used in regards to implementing Therapeutic Recreation services.

7. Compare the different leadership tasks a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist is expected to perform.

8. Summarize the roles of a clinical supervisor in a Therapeutic Recreation setting.

9. Illustrate the importance of understanding the medical needs of clients when planning and implementing Therapeutic Recreation services.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Students are held to the standards of the George Mason University Honor Code. You are expected to actively participate in online discussions and fulfill all weekly assignments. Assignments must be submitted on the specified date due or **no credit will be given**.

REQUIRED TEXT

Austin, D.R. (2009). *Therapeutic Recreation: Processes and Techniques (6th ed.)*. Champaign, IL: Sagamore Publishing.

EVALUATION

This course will be graded on a point system, with a total of 400 possible points.

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| Requirements | | **Points** |
| Read each week’s Power Point and take notes from the corresponding chapter | | |
| Answer and submit 4 weekly questions (16 points per week) - Due each Friday by midnight |  | 128 |
| Discussions (9 each) – Identify 1 journal article and 1 YouTube site per two chapters |  | 72 |
| Comprehensive Exam | | 200 |
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| TOTAL | | 400 |

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| **Grading Scale** | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| A | = 320 - 400 |  | B | = 240 - 319 |  | C | = 160 - 239 |  | F | = 0 - 159 |

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

| **Date** | | | **Topics after Orientation to Course** | **Readings/Assignment Due** |
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|  |  |  | Theories, Therapies, and Techniques | Chapter 2: Theories and Therapies |
|  |  |  | Theories, Therapies, and Techniques | Chapter 3: Facilitation Techniques |
|  |  |  | Theories, Therapies, and Techniques | Individual journal article discussion and YouTube address |
|  |  |  | Service and Communication | Chapter 5 : Helping Others |
|  |  |  | Service and Communication | Chapter 6 : Communication Skills |
|  |  |  | Service and Communication | Individual journal article discussion and YouTube address |
|  |  |  | Leadership Styles | Chapter 7 : Being A Leader |
|  |  |  | Leadership Styles | Chapter 8 : Specific Leadership |
|  |  |  | Leadership Styles | Individual journal article discussion and YouTube address |
|  |  |  | Supervision and Health Considerations | Chapter 9 : Clinical Supervision |
|  |  |  | Supervision and Health Considerations | Chapter10: Health and Safety Consideration |
|  |  |  | Supervision and Health Considerations | Individual journal article discussion and YouTube address |
|  |  |  | To be announced |  |
|  |  |  | Comprehensive Exam | Chapters 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 |

*Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.*

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| GMU RHT Logo (without date) | * All students are held to the standards of the George Mason University Honor Code [See http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/#Anchor12] * University policy states that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the professor * Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and inform the instructor , in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See www.gmu.edu/student/drc] * For additional School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism information, please visit the website at http://rht.gmu.edu |