

# Final Syllabus for Summer 2013

Lewis and Clark College  
Graduate School of Education and Counseling  
Department of Counseling Psychology

CPSY 553  
Feminist Therapies  
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The class met on May 6, 2013 and adopted the following as their final syllabus.

Contact Information: Email: [arees@lclark.edu](mailto:arees@lclark.edu), 503-768-6074

I will be in the office most days, during the time this class is meeting, but do not have formal office hours. Please contact me if you would like to meet, also, if my office door is open I am generally available.

## Course Texts:

Enns, C. Z., & Williams, E. N. (Eds.). (2012). *The Oxford Handbook of Feminist Multicultural Counseling Psychology* (1st ed.). Oxford University Press, USA.

Other materials for the course will be chosen in collaboration with the students based on interest and need (background coursework/experience included). These readings will be available on the Moodle website for the class. I also post numerous readings in a “Resources” section that are optional readings or articles you may want to keep for later reading.

## Catalog Description:

Feminist therapy is a broad, diverse area of practice. Within it are multiple theoretical perspectives and methods sharing a focus on addressing the impact of gender socialization and cultural expectations on individuals and society. This course provides an overview of multiple types of feminist therapies focusing on diversity, ethics, and advocacy. Feminist counseling with women, men, and families is covered. Taught from a feminist pedagogical framework, students assist in the development of course content.

## Course Objectives:

Students will :

- Gain an understanding of the variety of approaches/theoretical perspectives in feminist therapy
- Understand the role of feminist theory and therapy within other therapeutic frameworks/theories/methods
- Develop an understanding of multicultural feminist approaches

Learn to approach diagnosis from a critical feminist standpoint  
Gain an understanding of feminist ethics and ethical decision making  
Learn to apply feminist theories and methods in counseling with women, men,  
and families

### Course Content/Requirements

This is an interactive seminar course designed to introduce students to feminist theory and therapies. Feminist practitioners within psychology and counseling hold a variety of perspectives. The course content will be developed in collaboration with students to contain the following components:

#### Required

- 1) Conference proposal: Students will write a 1-2 page conference presentation proposal for a national conference. Students can prepare a proposal for the American Counseling Association Conference, Association for Women in Psychology, or another conference of interest. You will be strongly encouraged to submit your proposal.
- 2) Due each class, a reaction journal (1-2 pages per week) with your thoughts about the readings and prior week's class discussion. All readings will have discussion questions to stimulate thinking, but you are not required to address those specific questions or to ONLY address those questions. The final journal entry will be a summary of how this course has impacted your worldview, theoretical perspectives, and counseling practice. (6 total)
- 3) A two credit class meets for 30 hours total, I left off one week to assign watching videos for class outside of classtime – titles to be determined in collaboration with students based on topics of interest to all. You will watch 3-4 hours of video.

#### Negotiable requirements

##### 4) One of A or B

A) Pick on article or book chapter for everyone to read, and lead a class discussion on the topic, questions for reflection must be developed for students to accompany the chapter/article chosen.

B) Presentation on specific topic.

Both A and B must include some type of activity to enhance learning

##### 5) : One of C or D or E

C) 2 take home essays, minimum 3 pages each. Questions would be processing type (e.g. Which of the feminist theories (if any) best describes your perspective and why? How will you apply this in your counseling work?) Student will be able to choose from a variety of questions.

D) Formal paper: 10-15 pages (submission for publication encouraged and supported)

E) Complete a 3 hour community action project. Instructor approval of project required. Write a reaction paper describing your experience and what you learned/contributed, you may be asked to share about your experience in class.

#### Grading

All grading on individual assignments will be Pass/Fail. When assignments are completed students receive credit. It is my assumption that all students will earn an A in this class. As

responsible graduate students who have helped shaped content and requirements of this elective course, you will be individually responsible for determining the quality of your work and participation. However, if I feel that your work does not reflect graduate level work, I will have a discussion and planning meeting with you to assist you in meeting the requirements.

Any work not completed must be made up in some manner. Students successfully completing all aspects of the course will receive an A grade. If any portion of the course is incomplete the student may negotiate the possibility of receiving a B grade. If the student has not completed the requirements of the course as they individually agreed to complete, an Incomplete grade will be assigned until work is completed or a B grade is negotiated. College policy gives one year from the date of the class to finish incomplete work. An Incomplete grade converts to an F after one year.

Course Attendance: No more than one absence is acceptable. If you miss more than once class meeting, you will receive a reduced grade unless you complete significant make-up work (e.g. 15 page paper). If you have dire circumstances that require missing more than one course, such as hospitalization, please see me to discuss options.

### **Students with Disabilities**

The Student Support Services Office, located in the Templeton Student Center, is a resource for students with disabilities. A variety of services are available through this office according to the particular needs of each student. Students interested in such services may contact Student Support Services at 503-768-7191. This contact is the necessary first step for receiving appropriate accommodations and support services. Please inform me if you need accommodations in class.

### **Class Schedule**

May 6: Introduction to Feminist Multicultural Counseling, syllabus negotiation, student topic choices.  
May 13:  
May 20:  
June 3  
June 10  
June 17  
June 24