Course Prefix and Number: HUMS 340
Course Title: Working with Families
Number of: Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0
Catalog Description: Examination of family function and assessment using the major models, theories and perspectives of family and family therapy. Students will learn how to apply those theories and perspectives to assess families in conjunction with other assessment tools such as ecomaps and genograms. Prerequisites: HUMS 105 or instructor’s permission. Offered Spring.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): HUMS 105 or instructor’s permission.

Text(s): Most recent editions of the following:


Textbooks listed are not necessarily the textbook(s) used in the course. Textbooks should have a practice component, as well as theory. Textbooks should include information about psychotropic medications and DSM.

Course Objectives: 

- To explore, analyze and compare family theory and theories of intervention.
- To demonstrate the proper use of tools for assessment of family functioning and dynamics (such as ecomaps and genograms).

Measurable Learning Outcomes: 

- Create and interpret a three-generation genogram.
- Create and interpret an ecomap.
- Understand the professional issues and ethics related to working with families.
- Explain the major theories and perspectives of family and properly apply family theories of intervention.
- Understand one’s own family, as a prerequisite to being able to work with and understand client families, using the tools and theories developed in the class.
Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

Note: This class will emphasize writing in the APA format and students are expected to improve their research and writing skills.

- Professional issues and ethics in working with families
- Genograms
- Ecomaps
- Family sculpting
- Family life cycle
- Major family theories and perspectives:
  - Intergenerational and psychoanalytically based family theory and therapy
  - Experiential family theory and therapy
  - Structural family theory and therapy
  - Strategic family theory and therapy
  - Behavioral couples/family theory and therapy
  - Postmodern, social constructionism
  - Perspectives of family & family intervention models
  - Solution focused theory and therapy
  - Collaborative therapies

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 25

Library Resources:
Online databases are available at [http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp](http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp). You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Michael R. Perkins

Name ____________________________ Signature ____________________________

Date: April 21, 2006

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

Office of Academic Affairs
12/04