PSY 781: Community Interventions

Spring 2017

Professor: Charlene Baker, Ph.D. Office: 405 Sakamaki
Time/Day: M/9:30-12:00p Telephone: 956-5669
Place: ART 137 E-mail: bakercha@hawaii.edu
Office Hours: by appointment

Purpose

This seminar is intended to provide a systematic study of the design and implementation of community interventions. The major objective of the course is to increase students’ knowledge of approaches used to develop intervention programs and to conduct intervention research. The course will offer students the opportunity to: 1) examine different methodological approaches to intervention development; 2) become familiar with different types of intervention strategies and how these fit within an ecological framework; 3) discuss approaches for monitoring interventions for effectiveness; 4) discuss ethical dilemmas in designing interventions; 5) assess the cost effectiveness of interventions; and 6) discuss strategies to increase the sustainability of interventions. Students will also have the opportunity to present their own research as it relates to these topics.

Format

The format of this seminar will consist of class discussions. Each class session will involve interactive discussions of the assigned readings. In addition, students should be prepared to discuss some of their own experiences/projects and how these relate to the topics of intervention development, implementation, and evaluation.

Requirements

Students will complete 2 take-home essay exams to demonstrate their mastery of the course material. The exams will require students to integrate, examine, and critique existing literature on community interventions rather than simply memorize course content. Exams MUST be typed. Additionally, students will be required to make a 30 minute presentation on an intervention of their choice.

Take-home exams and the presentation will be weighted equally at 30% each. Class attendance is mandatory and will be worth 10% of the final grade. Students are allowed to miss one course without penalty.
Required Readings for the Course (subject to change)

Week 1 (January 9): Introduction to Seminar

Week 2 (January 23): Overview of Community Interventions


Week 3 (January 30): Before Developing and Implementing Intervention Strategies: Building Capacity and Conducting an Ecological Assessment


Week 4 (February 6): Culturally Grounded Intervention Strategies.


Week 5 (February 13): Individual-Level Interventions


Week 6 (February 20): Family-Level Interventions


**MID-TERM EXAM QUESTIONS WILL BE HANDED OUT IN CLASS.**

**Week 7 (February 27): Systems/Organizational/Community-Level Interventions**


**Week 8 (March 6): MID-TERM EXAM DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS**

**Societal Interventions (policy-related)**


Week 9 (March 13): Interventions at Multiple Levels of the Social Ecology


Week 10 (March 20): Monitoring Interventions for Effectiveness


Week 11: Spring Break

Week 12 (April 3): Ethics of Community Interventions


**Week 13 (April 10): Cost-Effectiveness of Interventions**


**Week 14 (April 17): Disseminating and Sustaining Interventions – Transferring Innovations**


**Week 15 (April 24):**

Presentations
Week 16 (May 1):

Presentations

Wrap-up

FINAL EXAM QUESTIONS WILL BE HANDED OUT IN CLASS.

FINAL EXAM DUE May 8th AT 3:00 PM.