Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy

I. STANDARDIZED COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is designed as an advanced clinical selective for graduate students in the Steve Hicks School of Social Work who wish to increase knowledge and skills for practice in cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT). Students will learn the theoretical and practical foundations of CBT. Students will learn other theories relevant to CBT as well as the CBT practice model. Students will learn how to apply relevant theories and the CBT practice model to client case conceptualization, treatment planning, and intervention. Students will learn the foundational skills, techniques, and structure of delivery of CBT and how to incorporate them with other models of social work practice.

II. STANDARDIZED COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, students will:
1. Demonstrate the ability to articulate specific cognitive behavioral and interpersonal theories of behavior and behavior change relevant to the CBT practice model.
2. Demonstrate basic competency in applying relevant empirically supported theories and the CBT practice model to the processes of client engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation.
3. Demonstrate basic competency in the process of cognitive behavioral case formulation.
4. Demonstrate the ability to structure the course of treatment and individual therapy sessions in a manner consistent with the CBT practice model.
5. Identify the need for and appropriately adapt CBT approaches for use with individuals from diverse social, gender, age, ethnic, and other cultural groups, at risk groups, and other groups with diverse life experiences.
6. Demonstrate awareness of the impact of values conflicts and ethical dilemmas related to the therapeutic process.
7. Demonstrate an ability to integrate the CBT orientation with other models of social work practice.

III. TEACHING METHODS
Teaching methods will include lecture, group discussion, group exercises, audio-visual materials, role play, video and live demonstration, and written assignments.

IV. REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS

Additional required readings will be made available either in class or on Canvas.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS
- Reading assignments should be completed prior to class and will provide the basis for discussion. Students are encouraged to ask questions and make comments during lectures. Students’ questions and comments provide the instructor an important assessment tool for whether readings are being completed outside of class.
- Each student will submit several brief assignments throughout the course of the semester. Details of the assignments will be given on a separate handout.

VI. GRADES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94.0 and Above</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90.0 to 93.999</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87.0 to 89.999</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84.0 to 86.999</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80.0 to 83.999</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77.0 to 79.999</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74.0 to 76.999</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70.0 to 73.999</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67.0 to 69.999</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64.0 to 66.999</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60.0 to 63.999</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60.0</td>
<td>F</td>
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VII. CLASS POLICIES

**Attendance**

Class attendance is required to complete all of the assignments. Students may miss no more than two (2) class sessions. Students who fail to attend class on a regular basis (missing more than 2 classes without a valid excuse, e.g., medical documentation) will receive one course grade lower than their final grade when points are totaled. Students who miss more than three unexcused classes may receive two grades lower than their final grade. Students who leave at the mid-point break of the class will be counted as attending ½ of the only class. Students who are one or two points below the cut-off for a letter grade may receive the higher grade at the end of the semester based on class participation. If a student cannot attend a class, they should notify the instructor ahead of time. In the case of an absence due to a documented and unforeseen emergency, the instructor will assist the student in getting caught up with the missed class.

As graduate-level social work students, it is expected that you will be able to participate on a deeper level in class discussions, taking healthy risks to work outside of your comfort zone. In order to receive the highest level of participation points, healthy risk taking for increasing self-awareness and professional growth must be demonstrated. Participation points will be determined
by attendance, level of interest, respect for others’ learning needs and contributions to classroom discussions and activities. Being prepared for class by reading assigned material is part of this professional expectation as well. There will be the possibility of in-class activities throughout the semester that will gauge your preparedness for class.

**Late Assignments**
Assignments are due by 5:30 p.m. on the dates indicated in the course syllabus. Please discuss with the instructor if any challenges arise which may interfere with that schedule.

**Student Concerns**
Students who would like to discuss a concern with either the professor or the teaching assistant related to the class should make an appointment at a time mutually convenient.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Values Exercise</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9/15/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shame Attacking Exercise</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9/29/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with Instructor</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Schedule on 10/6/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mindfulness Demonstration</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10/13/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10/20/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBT Role Play</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>11/3/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBT Skills Assignment</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>11/17/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance:**
- 0 to 1 missed class: 15 points
- 1½ -2 missed classes: 10 points
- More than 2 missed classes: 0 points

**Grading Scale:**
- 141-150 (94%-100%) = A
- 135-140.999 (90%-93%) = A
- 130-134.999 (87%-89%) = B+
- 126-129.999 (84%-86%) = B
- 120-125.999 (80%-83%) = B
- 115-119.999 (77%-79%) = C+
- 111-114.999 (74%-76%) = C
- 105-110.999 (70%-73%) = C
- 100-104.999 (67%-69%)= D+
- 96-99.999 (64%-66%)= D
- 90-95.999 (60%-63%)= D
- 89 & below (59% & below) = F

**Use of the Canvas Website**
Web-based, password-protected class sites using Canvas software are available for all accredited
courses taught at The University of Texas. Syllabi, handouts, assignments and other resources are types of information that may be available within these sites. Site activities could include exchanging email, engaging in class discussions and chats, and exchanging files. In addition, class e-mail rosters will be a component of the sites. Students who do not want their names included in these electronic class rosters must restrict their directory information in the Office of the Registrar or online. For information on restricting directory information see: https://registrar.utexas.edu/schedules/199/print/front#P97_11126

This class will utilize Canvas for the distribution of class readings and any other written or presentation materials, and recording of student grades. Links to online course meetings are available via the Canvas course website. Assignments may be submitted via Canvas. The primary mode of communication for this course will be email via the Canvas course website. Note below (in University Policies) that email is an official form of communication for The University of Texas at Austin and students are strongly encouraged to check their email daily.

VIII. UNIVERSITY POLICIES

COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION. The University’s policies and practices related to the pandemic may be accessed at: https://protect.utexas.edu/

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HONOR CODE. The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

DOCUMENTED DISABILITY STATEMENT. Any student who requires special accommodations must obtain a letter that documents the disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement (471-6259 voice or 471-4641 TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing). A student should present the letter to the professor at the beginning of the semester so that needed accommodations can be discussed and followed. The student should remind the professor of any testing accommodations no later than five business days before an exam. For more information, visit: http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND CIVILITY IN THE CLASSROOM. The professor expects students to act as professionals in class. This means students should arrive on time for class, be prepared to participate in the class discussion, and show respect for one another’s opinions. A course brings together a group of diverse individuals with various backgrounds. Students are influenced and shaped by such factors as race, ethnicity, gender, sex, physical abilities, religious and political beliefs, national origins, and sexual orientations, among others. We expect to learn from each other in an atmosphere of positive engagement and mutual respect. This atmosphere includes working intentionally to recognize and dismantle racism, sexism, heterosexism, and ableism in the classroom. Social Work also deals with complex and controversial issues. These issues may be challenging and uncomfortable, and it would be impossible to offer a substantive classroom experience that did not include potentially difficult conversations relating to challenging issues. In this environment, we will be exposed to diverse ideas and opinions, and sometimes we will not agree with the ideas expressed by others.
Nevertheless, the professor requires that students engage one another with civility, respect, and professionalism.

**UNANTICIPATED DISTRESS.** Students may experience unexpected and/or distressing reactions to course readings, videos, conversations, and assignments. If so, students are encouraged to inform the professor. The professor can be responsive and supportive regarding students’ participation in course assignments and activities, but students are responsible for communicating clearly what kind of support is desired. If counseling is needed, students may contact a service provider of their choosing, including the UT Counseling Center at 512-471-3515 or online at [https://cmhc.utexas.edu/](https://cmhc.utexas.edu/).

**POLICY ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION.** Public social networks are not private. Even when open only to approved or invited members, users cannot be certain that privacy will exist among the general membership of sites. If social work students choose to participate in such forums, please assume that anything posted can be seen, read, and critiqued. What is said, posted, linked to, commented on, uploaded, subscribed to, etc., can be accessed and archived, posing potential harm to professional reputations and prospective careers.

Social work students who use social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) and other forms of electronic communication (e.g. blogs) must be mindful of how their communication may be perceived by clients, colleagues, faculty, and others. Social work students are expected to make every effort to minimize material which could be considered inappropriate for a professional social worker in training. Because of this, social work students are advised to manage security settings at their most private levels and avoid posting information/photos or using any language that could jeopardize their professional image.

Students are asked to consider the amount of personal information posted on these sites and are obliged to block any client access to involvement in the students’ social networks. Client material should not be referred to in any form of electronic media, including *any* information that might lead to the identification of a client or compromise client confidentiality in *any* way. Additionally, students must critically evaluate any material that is posted regarding community agencies and professional relationships, as certain material could violate the standards set by the School of Social Work, the Texas Code of Conduct for Social Workers, and/or the NASW Code of Ethics.

Social work students should consider that they will be representing professional social work practice as well as The University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work program while in the classroom, the university community, and the broader area communities.

**POLICY ON SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY.** Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information, the student may refer to the Web Site of the Student Judicial Services, Office of the Dean of Students: [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/).

**USE OF COURSE MATERIALS.** The materials used in this course, including, but not limited to exams, quizzes, and homework assignments, are copyright protected works. Any unauthorized duplication of the course materials is a violation of federal law and may result in disciplinary
action being taken against the student. Additionally, the sharing of course materials without the specific, express approval of the professor may be a violation of the University’s Student Honor Code and an act of academic dishonesty, which could result in further disciplinary action. This sharing includes, among other things, uploading class materials to websites for the purpose of distributing those materials to other current or future students.

CLASSROOM CONFIDENTIALITY. Information shared in class about agencies, clients, and personal matters is considered confidential per the NASW Code of Ethics on educational supervision and is protected by regulations of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as well. As such, sharing this information with individuals outside of the educational context is not permitted. Violations of confidentiality could result in actions taken according to the policies and procedure for review of academic performance located in sections 3.0, 3.1, and 3.2 of the Standards for Social Work Education.

USE OF E-MAIL FOR OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO STUDENTS. Email is recognized as an official mode of university correspondence; therefore, students are responsible for reading their email for university and course-related information and announcements. Students are responsible for keeping the university informed about a change of e-mail address. Students should check their e-mail regularly and frequently—daily, but at minimum twice a week—to stay current with university-related communications, some of which may be time-sensitive. Students can find UT Austin’s policies and instructions for updating their e-mail address at http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.php.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS. By UT Austin policy, students must notify the professor of a pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If the student must miss a class, examination, work assignment, or project in order to observe a religious holy day, the professor will give the student an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

TITLE IX REPORTING. In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the University of Texas at Austin is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discriminatory conduct on the basis of sex https://titleix.utexas.edu/. Faculty, field instructors, staff, and/or teaching assistants in their supervisory roles are mandated reporters of incidents of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, stalking, dating violence, or any other forms of sexual misconduct. Students who report such incidents will be informed of University resources. Incidents will be reported to the University’s Title IX Coordinator. Further information, including student resources related to Title IX, may also be found at https://titleix.utexas.edu/.

CAMPUS CARRY POLICY. The University’s policy on campus carry may be found here: https://campuscarry.utexas.edu.

SAFETY. As part of professional social work education, students may have assignments that involve working in agency settings and/or the community. As such, these assignments may present some risks. Sound choices and caution may lower risks inherent to the profession. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of and adhere to policies and practices related to agency and/or community safety. Students should notify the professor regarding any safety concerns.
BEHAVIOR CONCERNS and COVID-19 ADVICE LINE (BCCAL). If students have concerns about their behavioral health, or if they are concerned about the behavioral health of someone else, students may use the Behavior Concerns and COVID-19 Advice Line to discuss by phone their concerns. This service is provided through a partnership between the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit https://safety.utexas.edu/behavior-concerns-advice-line. The Behavior Concerns and COVID-19 Advice Line has been expanded to support The University of Texas at Austin community during the COVID-19 pandemic. By calling 512-232-5050 - Option 2 for COVID-19, students, faculty and staff can be assisted in English and Spanish with COVID-19 support.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION POLICY. Occupants of buildings on the UT Austin campus are required to evacuate and assemble outside when a fire alarm is activated or an announcement is made. Please be aware of the following policies regarding evacuation:

- Familiarize yourself with all exit doors in the classroom and the building. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.
- If you require assistance to evacuate, inform the professor in writing during the first week of class.
- In the event of an evacuation, follow the professor’s instructions.
- Do not re-enter a building unless you are given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, the UT Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services office.

IX. COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 25</td>
<td>Course Syllabus</td>
<td>Intro to Class Pair cohorts</td>
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<tr>
<td>[cohort A online, cohort B in-person]</td>
<td>Mindfulness based CBT - Kabat-Zinn</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ACT - Hayes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DBT - Linehan</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Sept. 8</td>
<td>Values</td>
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<tr>
<td>[cohort A in-person, cohort B online]</td>
<td>Values Sort Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Reading Material</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 27 [TBD]</td>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>Hayes &amp; Lillis, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Chapter 4 (p. 65-116) [book - notes separate]</td>
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<td>Nov. 3 [TBD]</td>
<td>DBT Create 4 groups for DBT Group Exercise Role Play Assignment due</td>
<td>Linehan, M. DBT Skills Training Manual Chapters 1 &amp; 3 (p. 3-60) [book]</td>
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<td>Nov. 10 [TBD]</td>
<td>DBT</td>
<td>Linehan, M. DBT skills Training Manual, Chapters 4 &amp; 5 (p. 61-105) [book]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING BREAK! NO CLASS</td>
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X. BIBLIOGRAPHY


