SYLLABUS
PSYCHOLOGY OF VIOLENCE, TRAUMA, AND ABUSE (PSY 6393)
FALL 2007

PROFESSOR: Linda Rubin, Ph.D.

OFFICE: CFO 809
940/898-2314
LRubin@mail.twu.edu

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday 10:00-12:30
Tuesday 4:00-5:00
Wednesday 10:00-12:30
Friday, by appointment

TEXTBOOKS:


Packets with additional selected readings will be provided at the beginning of the semester. See attached reading list.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will focus on the problems of trauma, violence, and abuse across the lifespan. An in-depth understanding of assessment, diagnostic, conceptual, and treatment issues associated with traumatic stress and trauma-based disorders will be explored. Prerequisites include graduate standing and permission of the instructor.

GRADING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>90%-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>80%-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>70%-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Questions</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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EXAMS will be taken home and completed as a typed document, with strict adherence to APA style. The exams are designed to have each student critically evaluate and develop the ideas and issues discussed in class. Exam questions will be provided approximately two weeks prior to the due date. Take home exams will be due on October 29th and December 3rd. All students are expected to submit take home exams on the scheduled dates. No late exams will be accepted. Exams that are not turned in by the deadline will receive a score of zero.
TERM PAPERS are to be written on a topic that is specifically related to the issues of violence and/or trauma-based psychological disorders. The topic is to be selected by the student and approved by the professor. Delimit your topic such that it can be adequately covered in a 15 page document (not including references). All students are expected to write their papers in strict APA style and in a manner consistent with the principles of academic honesty and the APA ethics code. All students will be expected to present the essence of their term papers to the class so that all members of the class can benefit from the research that each of you do on your specific areas of interest. All papers will be due on November 19\textsuperscript{th}. No late exams will be accepted. Exams that are not turned in by the deadline will receive a score of zero. The presentations are scheduled for November 26\textsuperscript{th} and December 3\textsuperscript{rd}.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS are to be typed and submitted each week based on the readings assigned for that week. Discussion questions are those designed to generate thoughtful, critical discussion in class. Discussion questions do not have yes/no or right/wrong answers. Discussion questions are due to me by 12:00 p.m. Friday for the next week's reading material. Please send discussions questions electronically. This requirement means that you will need to get the reading for each week done a bit in advance in order to meet the Friday deadline. No late discussion questions will be accepted. Discussion questions that are not turned in by the deadline will receive a score of zero.

Classroom Participation
All students are expected to contribute to class discussions in a manner consistent with a professional academic setting. Promptness is a professional responsibility; I will be at class on time and I expect you to be at class on time.

Sexual Harassment
As a professor at Texas Woman's University, I will make every effort to be sure that this classroom is free of any harassment which has the purpose of effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive learning environment. Further, I will be certain that each woman and man has an equal voice in this class, and that each voice is equally valued.

Disability Support Services
If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodations to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the office of Disability Support Services (CFO 106, 940-898-3835, dss@twu.edu) in order to obtain the required official notification of your accommodation needs. Please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss approved accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

Academic Dishonesty
Honesty in completing assignments is essential to the mission of the university and to the development of the personal integrity of the student. Cheating, plagiarism, or other kinds of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in appropriate sanctions that may include failing an assignment, failing the class, or being suspended or expelled. Suspected cases in this course may be reported to Student Life. The specific disciplinary process for academic dishonesty is found in the TWU Student Handbook. Tools to help you avoid plagiarism are available through the TWU Libraries’ “Quick Links” under “Research Help” (http://www.twu.edu/library/literacy/index.htm).
### CLASS SCHEDULE

**PSYCHOLOGY OF VIOLENCE, TRAUMA, AND ABUSE**  
**PSY 6393**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 27</td>
<td>Introduction to Traumatic Stress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 3</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 10</td>
<td>Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder/Violence</td>
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**Note:** For purposes of clarity, read Walker (1979) first; read controversies as a pair.

#### September 17  Domestic Violence/Battering/Stalking


September 24  Sexual Violence


Note: For purposes of clarity, I suggest reading Thornhill and Palmer before Lalumiere et al. and reading Archer and Vaughan last.

October 1 Perspectives on Batterers
Battering in Lesbian and Gay Relationships


Note: In order to fully understand the Harway and O’Neil (1999) model, read Chapters 2-6 in the order presented in the book.

October 8 Developmental Perspectives on Violence

Besharov, D. J. (2005). Overreporting and underreporting child abuse and neglect are twin


October 15 Incest


**October 22  Incest/Delayed Memory Debate**


**October 29  Midterm Take Home Exam Due**

**Treatment Issues**


**November 5  Conceptual and Special Issues in Traumatic Stress/Violence**


**November 12  Vicarious Traumatization**


Renzetti, C. M. (1993). Violence in lesbian relationships. In M. Hansen & M. Harway (Eds.), *Battering and family therapy: A feminist perspective* (pp.188-199). Newbury Park, CA:


