

**Contact information (this will not appear on your coded pages)**

Name: Julia W. Buckey, Ph.D., ACSW

Exact course section number: SOW6914 – 09Summer\_CM80

## Syllabus Summer/2009

### Instructor Contact

Instructor	Julia W. Buckey, Ph.D., ACSW
Office	Bldg. 150, Room 308A
Office Hours	Wednesdays, 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm (Alternate Office Hours or Appointments upon Request)
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### Course Information

Course Name	Integrative Research Project in Clinical Practice
Course ID & Section	SOW 6914.CM80
Credit Hours	2.0
Semester/Year	Summer / 2009
Location	Wednesdays, 6:00 – 8:50 pm, Bldg 140, Room 311

### Course Description

Culminating research project demonstrating an understanding of research skills needed for conducting community-based clinical research and empirical research reviews. This course provides you with an opportunity to apply research skills and to evaluate research, demonstrating critical thinking skills within the context of community-based clinical practice. You will select one of two course projects for completion: a research project, taking it from problem identification through a final report, or an in-depth review of the empirical literature on a specific topic in the clinical practice of social work.

### Course Learning Objectives

By the end of the term, you will be able to:

1. Integrate empirical and philosophical knowledge within the social work profession through the study and examination of a community-based clinical practice issue. This will be evaluated based on class discussions, on-line assignments, and both your oral and written project reports.
2. Identify and analyze the interplay of policy, theory, practice, research, and values in professional social work through a self-selected research project, or an empirical review of the literature in a specific area of social work practice. This will be evaluated based on the final project report.
3. Apply the research process and design in completing a research project that will address an aspect of the clinical practice of social work, to include the selection and application of an appropriate form of statistical analysis and the use of computerized data analysis (SPSS) needed to execute research investigations or critical analysis of empirical research. This will be evaluated based on the final project report.
4. Demonstrate your understanding of the impact of diversity issues, e.g., ethnicity, gender, gay/lesbian, disability, and social and/or economic justice, on conducting and reporting research. This will be evaluated based on your completion of the IRB CITI training and the final project report.
5. Apply the principles inherent in the protection of human subjects. This will be evaluated based on completion of the IRB CITI human participant protections education training and the final project report.
6. Critically evaluate research studies of relevance to social work practice and pertinent to making decisions about applying and delivering community-based clinical practice in therapeutic and preventive programs. This will be evaluated based on the literature reviews conducted as a component of the research study or the empirical literature review.
7. Identify, describe, and analyze research findings into a self-contained, integrated research report or identify, describe, and assess the state of the empirical literature in a specific area of social work practice. This will be evaluated based on the final paper submission.

### Required Texts

1. Lomand, T.C. (2007). *Social Science Research* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Glendale, CA: Pyczak Publishing.
2. Orcher, L.T. (2005). *Conducting research: Social and behavioral science methods*. Glendale, CA: Pyczak Publishing.

### Recommended Texts

Royse, D., Thyer, B.A., Padgett, D.K., & Logan, T.K. (2010). *Program evaluation: An introduction* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson Brooks/Cole.

Strunk, W., Jr., & White, E. B. (1999). *Elements of style* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: Longram Publishers.

**Note:** In addition to the *APA Manual* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), Strunk & White (2000) text will be the standard for grading all written class submissions.

*Texts may be purchased online directly from the publishers:*

*<http://www.pyrczak.com> or other online booksellers. Texts are also available in the UCF Daytona Bookstore.*

## Supplemental Texts

*American Psychological Association publication manual* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). (2004). Washington, DC: Author.

Cronk, B.C. (2006). *How to use SPSS: A step-by-step guide to analysis and interpretation* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Glendale, CA: Pyrczak Publishing.

Galvan, J.L. (2006). *Writing literature reviews: A guide for students of the social and behavioral sciences* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Glendale, CA: Pyrczak Publishing.

Norusis, M. (2008). *SPSS 16.0 guide to data analysis*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Publishing.

## Library Resources

To access the Library's resources from off-campus, use the EZProxy login, which is found on many of the Library's webpages, including the "Ask a Librarian" page. Enter your activated Library ID number in the EZProxy login box, and then enter your Password. Click "Yes" to accept the Security Alerts. You will then be redirected to the Library's homepage to begin your search. For questions about using EZProxy access, stop at the Library Reference Desk at either the UCF Daytona or Main Campus. Or, contact the Ask a Librarian Reference Service at 407-823-2562 or toll-free at 1-866-271-7589.

**Note:** If you have not accessed UCF Library resources using the off-campus access with E-Z Proxy since April 27, 2009, effective that date the 4-digit password you will now use to log into the Library changed (you will now use the last four digits of your PIN). This reminder is also posted on the Library website.

As SOW 6914 is a research course, you will be using the Library extensively. Therefore, you should become familiar with several of the UCF Library Resources that support your work in this course:

1) The **Research Guides**, <http://library.ucf.edu/Reference/Guides/>, specialized by area topic, were developed by UCF Librarians. The Social Work guide provides a broad, extensive *beginning* source with which you should become

familiar. Please keep in mind that due to the variation in student research topics, this should be considered an initial, not necessarily a final, source guide.

This class has a unique set of Library Information tools developed specifically for SOW 6914. To access our Library reference section, please go to:

<http://libguides.lib.ucf.edu/SOW6914>

2) The **Ask a Librarian** feature, <http://library.ucf.edu/Ask/>, provides an extensive array of options for students seeking assistance, from on-line chat services to scheduling Research Consultations with a librarian specifically knowledgeable in your area. This section of the UCF Libraries may be more helpful during summer term, when the UCF Daytona Library is on abbreviated hours. Please check the UCF Daytona Library webpage for further information on summer Library Hours: <http://library.ucf.edu/BranchCampuses/Daytona/default.asp>

The Main Library hours are posted on the Main Campus Library webpage:

<http://library.ucf.edu/>

3) **Info-Lit (Learning) Modules:** Relatively new to the UCF Library, these Info-Lit Modules have been developed by the Library's Distance Learning Librarians, in conjunction with faculty input, to aid students in becoming more proficient in their use of course resources. The Info-Lit Modules can be found at:

<http://library.ucf.edu/Reference/Instruction/Default.asp>

There are three new Modules on effectively searching Google Scholar, recognizing a research study, and focusing an information search, all of which should be of assistance to you during this course. Other modules include recognizing plagiarism, structuring your research, and writing and citing APA appropriately. One exception? Citations using MLA style!

Please contact the Library, at either the UCF Daytona or Main UCF Library, with any questions or concerns you may have.

## Assignment(s) Overview

**1) On-Line Week Modules (25 points total).** There are five (5) Modules assigned for completion during each on-line week of the course. Each Module, worth **5 points**, is designed to provide practical experience for the tasks you will complete during SOW 6914. As our class meets on Wednesdays, Modules will be due no later than 6:00 p.m. on the Sunday following the on-line Wednesday class date (see Course Schedule).

### Module(s) Overview:

**Module 1, Human Participant Protections Education.** You will be completing the UCF Institutional Review Board (IRB) CITI web-based training before you, as a UCF student, can be involved in **ANY** research project. (If you

are a student who is working on any related agency or field placement research project that is being conducted either as a part of this class or by persons in your field placement, this training is **REQUIRED.**) **Note: No UCF student nor Faculty member can conduct research while at UCF without having completed, i.e., passed, this training.**

Please print out two (2) copies of your completion document; submit one hard-copy to me (print and bring to class, or scan and e-mail to me). You may also submit a hard copy to Ms. Griggers' office, Room 204, COHPA Administration, by logging in the date/time of your submission on the log sheet for this course. (Remember, the COHPA office closes on Friday after 12 noon.) Keep the second copy for your records.

**Modules 2 – 5 (to be submitted through Turnitin.com):** In addition to an article review, you will also complete several exercises, some of which are selected from the assigned chapters of the Orcher and Royse et al. texts. We will also use these exercise responses to guide class discussions and Discussion postings. Together, these assignments should aid you in formulating and developing your overall project.

**2) Research/Empirical Research Review Paper (60 points):** Course completion of a quantitative or a qualitative research project or an empirical research topic review will include the following project phases, depending on which project you choose:

**Research Paper:**

- Formulate a research problem related to community based clinical practice with individuals, families, groups, or the environment.
- Operationalize the problem.
- Collect and analyze the project data.
- Complete and submit the final report of the project.

*For the Research Paper.* Your project must be broad enough to examine the issue from both a theoretical and an empirical perspective. Your final report will be 20-30 pages in length.

**Empirical Research Review**

- Identify and assess the empirical research literature in an area of clinical social work practice with individuals, families, groups or the environment.
- Select, review, and analyze the empirical literature on a topic of your choice.

- Complete and submit a final review and analysis of the literature on your chosen topic.

*For the Empirical Research Review:* Your topic must assess the empirical literature efficacy of social work practice/service delivery. Your final report will be 20-pages in length.

All papers will be written in APA style (see Recommended and supplemental Texts and individual paper guidelines). Points will be deducted for failure to adhere to APA format and style.

At the time of your final paper submissions, you will identify a potential journal to which you'll submit your paper for review. Therefore, **you will submit a copy of your selected journal's "Guide to Authors" with your final paper.**

The deadline for submissions of **outlines** for the Research Proposal ("Introduction/Problem Statement", "Literature Review", and "Theory" sections) or the Research Review Paper ("Introduction/Problem Overview", "Method" and "Analysis of Empirical Literature" with 3-5 citations) is **June 17, 2009**. The review of the **draft** of research projects or empirical review papers (review by colleagues) will be completed by **July 22, 2009**, and your **final draft** is due on **7/29/09**. Your **final research report** is due on **August 5, 2009**.

**3) Research Proposal Outline (5 points):** You will prepare a 2-page outline delineating the content of your proposed course paper. Guidelines will be distributed/posted during **Week 2** of the course.

**4) Reviewer "Coach" (5 points):** You will serve as an "editorial reviewer" and oral presentation "coach" for one of your classmates. Guidelines for this activity will be distributed/posted during **Week 4** of the course.

**5) Oral Presentation (5 points):** You will deliver in class a 10-15 minute oral summary of your research project. Guidelines for this assignment will be distributed/posted during **Week 7** of the course.

### **Missed Assignments/Make-Ups/Extra Credit**

**Completing and Submitting Assignments:** All assignments are due on the scheduled date unless you have extenuating circumstances that prevent you from meeting the deadline. In those cases, please speak with me directly to make arrangements for submitting those assignments. Note: I will need documentation of any **extraordinary circumstances**, which include student hospitalization or serious illness, a death in the family, or a car accident. All late assignments not due to such extraordinary circumstances and/or those assignments where you have not provided documentation are subject to a **10-point deduction** for each week the assignment is late.

## Evaluation and Grading

Letter Grade	Points
A	95 – 100 points
A-	90 – 94 points
B+	87 – 89 points
B	84 – 86 points
B-	80 – 83 points
C+	77 – 79 points
C	74 – 76 points
C-	70 – 73 points
D+	67 – 69 points
D	64 – 66 points
D-	60 – 63 points
F	59 and below

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Modules (Total of 5)	25%
Research Project (Final Paper)	60%
Research Proposal	5%
Oral Presentation	5%
Reviewer Coach	5%
Total	100%

## Attendance Policy

Three (3) absences **regardless of the reasons** will result in the lowering of the course grade by one letter grade. The only exception will be a **documented extraordinary circumstance** (student hospitalization, death in family, serious illness, car accident, etc.) and you have provided me written documentation of those circumstances.

Please see additional School of Social Work policies on attendance in the MSW handbook.

This mixed-mode course (M-course) emphasizes acquisition and demonstration of research practice skills and techniques. Preparation and participation in on-line week assignments is **absolutely** essential to successful course completion. Therefore, your attendance in all face-to-face classes, and your full participation in all online activities, i.e., assignments and/or Discussions that are considered similar to attendance in face-to-face classes, will enhance your learning in this course.

**Attendance during Finals Week:** It is university policy that all classes **MUST** meet for either a final exam or a class session. As this course requires a final course paper in lieu of an exam, your final project paper is due during Finals Week, or on our last on-line meeting date, **August 5, 2009**.

### Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" (or zero points) for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course). You may be subject to referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. Please see the [UCF Golden Rule](#) for further information.

### Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. If you feel you need additional accommodations for this course, please contact me at the beginning of the semester to discuss any needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until you and I have discussed your request for accommodations. Please note: students needing accommodations must be registered with [Student Disability Services](#), Bldg. 140, (386) 506-4024, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations.