

Three Rivers Community College

Fall 2012

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HSE K181

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Office: 204C

Understanding Sexual Abuse

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce the student to the problem of sexual abuse, the assault, the psychology of the offender, the impact on the victim and provide a preliminary orientation to sex offender and victim treatment.

***Required Readings on Reserve in the library**

Learning Outcomes

- . Enhanced understanding of child sexual abuse in our society;
- . Demonstrated understanding of the research and body of knowledge relating to child sexual abuse;
- . Knowledge of treatment and policy implications from State and Federal perspectives;
- . Demonstrated application of concepts and theories relative to an enhanced understanding of child sexual abuse;
- . Enhanced understanding of State and Federal legislation seeking to remove barriers to justice for sexually abused children;
- . Demonstrated understanding of the intervention processes of child protective services, the courts, law enforcement and treatment;
- . Demonstrated ability to quantify and qualify the problem of child sexual abuse in our society;
- . Enhanced conceptual clarity relative to child sexual abuse.

Assignment #1:

Interview a professional that is actively involved in the provision of services, treatment, education, etc., of children in the community. These professionals (mandated reporters) may include: social workers, teachers, physicians, therapist, nurses, school bus drivers, day care providers, police, coaches, clergy, etc. Your report should be based on fact-finding questions, describing the work they do and how they deal with cases of suspected child abuse or neglect as a mandated reporter. The report should be no less than three (3) pages. **20 Percent of Final Grade. All assignments are mandatory and must be completed. Students will receive an "Incomplete" if all assignments are not completed.**

Due Date: _____

Assignment #2:

Journal Report. Each student is to read ten (10) articles from the "Reserved Readings" list in the Library and submit a one (1) page summary of the article or research study. **20 Percent of Final Grade.**

Due Date: _____

Assignment #3:

Mid-Term Examination **25 Percent of Final Grade**

Date: _____

Assignment #4:

A 10-12 page position paper on relevant issue relating to child sexual abuse. **25 Percent of Final Grade.**

Due Date: _____

Attendance and Classroom participation: **10 Percent of Final Grade.**

100 Percent of Evaluation for Final Grade

Policy Statements

Disability Policy:

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disability Act of 1992, Three Rivers Community College offers support services and reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. Disclosure is voluntary. Discuss with your Instructor if you want them to know of your specific needs. For more information, contact the Student Development Center.

Cellular Phones:

Texting is not allowed in class. Students are notified that cellular phones are allowed in class or in the Learning Resource Center only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the Instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

Course Content Overview

Below is a weekly overview of the course content for HSE K 181- Understanding Sexual Abuse, taught from the perspective of the child victim. Students will be required to reading selected articles that relate to these subject areas. During the course of the semester, the Instructor reserves the right to add additional articles to those on Reserve, however, students are not required to increase their journal assignment beyond the ten (10) articles. Some students appreciate the additional readings and may read all articles on reserve. This course will cover theory, direct practice, policy and laws, the criminal justice perspective, treatment, prevention, history of the problem, quantification and qualification of the problem, long-term and short term effects of the problem, contributions made by research and famous scholars, and many other areas that may be of interest as result of current events and cases.

<u>Content</u>	<u>Readings</u>
<u>Week 1:</u> What is child sexual abuse; Federal and State definitions Review of CT DCF Website, delivery of services, Child Abuse and Neglect: A Public Safety Issue Quantifying the Problem of Child Sexual Abuse National and State Statistics	Readings on Reserve, Handouts
Week 2: Types of Child Maltreatment; case studies .Physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, other Child sexual abuse research studies	Readings on Reserve; Handouts
Week 3: Theoretical Framework for Understanding child sexual abuse . Social Systems Theory . Cognitive Behavioral Theory • Case studies examined and discussed in small groups	Readings on Reserve

- Films or documentaries

Week 4: The Incestuous Family

Theoretical Framework of Social Systems Theory

- .The Father
- . The Daughter
- . The Mother
- . Other Siblings
- . The Extended Family

Current research studies involving incest and the non-perpetrating parent, criminal justice issues and role of various professional agencies

Week 5: The Role of Child Protective Services and Other Professionals in Community

The Investigation and Intervention, treatment, etc.

Multi-disciplinary Teams

Role of police, schools, medical personnel, clinicians/therapists, courts and prosecutors in

Child sexual abuse cases

Readings in Library

Weeks 6-7 Mandated Reporters

- . Federal and State Laws
- . History of Mandated Reporting
- . The Battered Child Syndrome (Charles Kempe, MD)

Reserved articles

- . Review of Federal laws passed by Congress, beginning in 1974.

- . Megan Laws

- .N.J. Case

- .Federal Law

- . Various State laws (CT's Megan Law and the CT and Alaska case before the Supreme Court and the implications resulting from ruling)

. Review of CT Registry of Sex Offenders

Week 8-9: Long-term and Short-term Effects of Child Sexual Abuse

.Research on topic

. Treatment Options

. Review of the Internalization Model of Treatment for Victims of Child Sexual Abuse and Physical Abuse

*Handouts and additional readings on Reserve in Library

Week 10: The Courts and Child Sexual Abuse

. CT Statutes

. Federal Laws

. Supreme Court decisions

Week 11: Treatment options and Considerations for Offenders

. History of Treatment s for Offenders Reserved Articles in Library

. What We Know About Treating Sexual Offenders and When We Knew It

. Monitoring Sex Offender Upon Release into Communities Reserved Readings

Week 12-13: Preventing Child Sexual Abuse: Community Strategies

. Review of the literature on subject

Week 14: Gender Differences of Sex Offenders

Child Sexual Abuse Crosses all Lines

Week 15: Treatment and Hope for Victims

Readings and handouts

Week 16: “ What Do We Know About Child Sexual Abuse and When Did We Know It”