APPLICATION FOR NEW COURSE

1. Submitted by College of  College of Social Work  Date 10/15/03

Department/Division offering course

2. Proposed designation and Bulletin description of this course

   a. Prefix and Number  SW 774  
   b. Title*  Mental Health Research Methods
   *NOTE: If the title is longer than 24 characters (including spaces), write
   A sensible title (not exceeding 24 characters) for use on transcripts

   c. Lecture/Discussion hours per week  3  
   d. Laboratory hours per week

   e. Studio hours per week

   f. Credits  3

3. Course description

   This course will explore the principles and procedures that govern mental health
   research by examining the different ways researchers study mental health phenomena.
   In this course, students will learn the skills to engage in the scientific investi-
   gation of significant mental health problems, and dissemination strategies utilized
   to transfer empirical findings into mental health practice and policy development.
   This course emphasizes aspects of methodological design essential for conducting
   meta-analysis, treatment, prevention and epidemiological research that may be outsid
   the scope of a general research course.

4. Prerequisites (if any) 
   Admission to the doctoral program or consent of the instructor

5. To be cross-listed as

   Prefix and Number
   Signature, Chairman, cross-listing department
   (semester and year)

6. Course to be offered
   □ Fall  □ Spring  □ Summer

7. Will the course be offered each year?
   (Explain if not annually)

   □ Yes  □ No

8. Why is this course needed?

   This course is one of only two advanced research courses being offered in the
   doctoral program, and the only one that focuses on methodological issues and
   strategies in clinical research.

9. By whom will the course be taught?
   Ginny Sprang, Ph.D.

   Are facilities for teaching the course now available?
   If not, what plans have been made for providing them?

   □ Yes  □ No

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10. What enrollment may be reasonably anticipated? 10

11. Will this course serve students in the Department primarily?  
   Will it be of service to a significant number of students outside the Department?  
   If so, explain.
   □ Yes □ No
   □ Yes □ No

Will the course serve as a University Studies Program course?  
If yes, under what Area?  
□ Yes □ No

12. Check the category most applicable to this course
   □ traditional; offered in corresponding departments elsewhere;
   □ relatively new, now being widely established
   □ not yet to be found in many (or any) other universities

13. Is this course applicable to the requirements for at least one degree or certificate at the University of Kentucky?  
   □ Yes □ No

14. Is this course part of a proposed new program:  
   If yes, which?  
   □ Yes □ No

15. Will adding this course change the degree requirements in one or more programs?*  
   If yes, explain the change(s) below  
   □ Yes □ No

16. Attach a list of the major teaching objectives of the proposed course and outline and/or reference list to be used.  
   *See Attachment Sheet

17. If the course is a 100-200 level course, please submit evidence (e.g., correspondence) that the Community College System has been consulted.  
   N/A

18. Within the Department, who should be contacted for further information about the proposed course?  
   Name  Ginny Sprang, Ph.D.  
   Phone Extension 257-2743

*NOTE: Approval of this course will constitute approval of the program change unless other program modifications are proposed.
1. Assist the student in achieving terminological, conceptual and methodological clarity in the study of mental health problems of adults and children.

2. Provide the student with a model for critically analyzing and evaluating the major mental health research studies of the past decade.

3. Increase the student’s familiarity with significant empirical accomplishments in the field of mental health, and the methodological and practice implications of these works.

4. Explore the sources of artifact and bias that threaten the validity and utility of a study and provide students with the opportunity to develop methodological solutions to address these issues.

5. Compare and contrast methodological models used in mental health research.

6. Provide an overview of the ethical guidelines and codes that govern mental health research conduct, including a discussion of special topics such as scientific misconduct, competency and authorship.

7. Challenge the student to develop dissemination protocols that facilitate the integration of practice, policy-making and research.
APPLICATION FOR NEW COURSE

Signatures of Approval:

Department Chair

[Signature]

Dean of the College

Date

[10/26/03]

Date of Notice to the Faculty

*Undergraduate Council

Date

*University Studies

Date

*Graduate Council

Date

*Academic Council for the Medical Center

Date

*Senate Council (Chair)

Date of Notice to University Senate

*If applicable, as provided by the Rules of the University Senate

ACTION OTHER THAN APPROVAL
SW77 Mental Health Research

Ginny Sprang, Ph.D.
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College of Social Work
College of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry
657 Patterson Office Tower

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Clinic phone- 543-0078
Home phone- 272-0297
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Course Description

This course will explore the principles and procedures that govern mental health research by examining the different ways researchers study mental health phenomenon. In this course, students will learn the skills to engage in the scientific investigation of significant mental health problems, and dissemination strategies utilized to transfer empirical findings into mental health practice and policy development. This course emphasizes aspects of methodological design essential for conducting meta-analysis, treatment, prevention and epidemiological research that may be outside the scope of a general research course.

Course Objectives

This course is designed to:

1. Assist the student in achieving terminological, conceptual and methodological clarity in the study of mental health problems of adults and children.
2. Provide the student with a model for critically analyzing and evaluating the major mental health research studies of the past decade.
3. Increase the student’s familiarity with significant empirical accomplishments in the field of mental health, and the methodological and practice implications of these works.
4. Explore the sources of artifact and bias that threaten the validity and utility of a study and provide students with the opportunity to develop methodological solutions to address these issues.
5. Compare and contrast methodological models used in mental health research.
6. Provide an overview of the ethical guidelines and codes that govern mental health research conduct, including a discussion of special topics such as scientific misconduct, competency and authorship.
7. Challenge the student to develop dissemination protocols that facilitate the integration of practice, policy-making and research.
Outline of Course Content

I. Basic Concepts and Underpinnings of Mental Health Research
II. Methodological Principles and Practices of specific types of Mental Health Research
III. Methodological Development – Part 1 & 2
IV. Critically Analyzing Mental Health Research
V. Ethical Principles and Practice
VI. Developing Dissemination Protocols

Text:


Additional Readings

Additional topic related readings will be made available to students prior to each session for use in class and for outside readings and assignments.

Course Work

There are three major assignments in this course; an Analysis Paper, a Model Development Exercise and a Dissemination Project. Each assignment is due on the date specified in class, unless other arrangements are made. Late papers are accepted, but subject to a 3% per day point reduction, unless a waiver has been granted. Students accrue points, which are summed to obtain the final course grade. The point value of each assignment is listed below, along with the point distribution for each letter grade.

Meta-Analysis Paper- 80 points
Model Development Exercise- 100 points
Dissemination Project- 100 points
Participation- 20 points

Point Distribution

270 –300 points = A
240 –269 points = B
210- 239 points = C
< 210 points = E
SW 795 Supplemental Readings


Dr. Jeannine Blackwell  
Dean, Graduate School  
University of Kentucky  
Campus 0027

Dear Dr. Blackwell,

I am enclosing an application along with a syllabus for a new course, SW 774. This proposed course will be an elective for students in our Ph.D. program. Kindly take the necessary steps to have it approved by the Graduate Council and the University Senate. I will be glad to provide more information, if needed.

Thanking you,

Sincerely,

(Surjit Singh. Dhooper) Ph.D.  
Professor & Director of Graduate Studies

Enclosures: As above