

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Department of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Studies
Fall 2014
HPER-R 560: Professional Development in Therapeutic Recreation
3 Credit Hours

INSTRUCTOR & COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor Information

Dr. Jennifer Piatt, CTRS
HPER 145
Office: (812) 855-7819
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:30 am to noon or by appointment
jenpiatt@indiana.edu

Course Information

Class Days and Times: Wednesdays 6:00 – 8:30 pm
**This course is using Adobe Connect to meet and will not be meeting in a physical classroom

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to advance the student's knowledge of issues and concerns that influence the provision of therapeutic recreation services. This course will require the student to critically examine and discuss issues impacting the profession of therapeutic recreation in order to develop a sound, practical philosophy.

PURPOSE

Students of this course will be exposed to the scope of different issues currently influencing the delivery of recreation therapy services as well as historical trends. The primary focus will be on how to address these issues and trends to advance the field.

WHY DO I NEED A COURSE ON RESEARCH AND EVALUATION??

You can think of almost everything in this course as helping you to answer the following question: ***What do I believe to be the most pertinent issues and concerns within advanced clinical practice in recreational therapy?***

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Austin, D. (2010). *Lessons Learned: An open letter to recreational therapy students and practitioners*. Urbana, IL: Sagamore.

*Additional readings posted throughout the semester in OnCourse.

METHOD OF DELIVERY

This course will incorporate lecture, multimedia, guest speakers, class and group discussions, and readings, to facilitate an understanding of the RT process as master clinicians.

COURSE GOAL

Students will be able to develop a foundational knowledge of current professional issues in the field of recreational therapy.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Articulate philosophical views of recreational therapy.
2. Identify current professional issues that directly impact the delivery of service.
3. Increase knowledge of current professional practices by understanding historical trends.
4. Acquire knowledge of the connection between current issues and advancing the profession.

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR DISTANCE LEARNERS

A wealth of information regarding distance education can be found at:

http://www.hper.indiana.edu/de/pdf/de_student_primer.pdf

First of all, do not feel intimidated by the technology used to deliver the course. It is part of the digital competencies which we all have to develop to be effective professionals, especially as future clinicians. The OnCourse technology tools have many “Help” features that I have found very beneficial.

Explore OnCourse by taking the Online Tutorial (access it from the OnCourse welcome screen) as well as clicking on the other buttons at the top of the screen to lead you to information about the course.

I also ask (even expect!) those students who are more experienced and comfortable with online learning and these tools to give suggestions and positive feedback to those who are less experienced so we develop a supportive climate in our On-line Learning Community.

This is my first time teaching this course using Adobe Connect. Therefore, I encourage you to communicate with me if you are having difficulty accessing different components of the class, and especially if you have any suggestions for the class in general. The best way to communicate with me is through my campus email at jenpiatt@indiana.edu.

COURSE REQUIREMENT/ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING

Each one of the following assignments will be explained in detail during class. A complete overview of each assignment is also posted on OnCourse for you to download and print.

Assignment	Points	Description
Class Contribution	25	Weekly, various topics via Adobe Connect will be presented where you will have the opportunity to discuss in small groups, ask questions, and present opinions. Active engagement weekly is expected. If you are not able to attend class live and watch the lectures recorded, you are required to post two comments and at least one question in the forum section no later than 7 days after the class session occurs that relates to the class lecture and discussion.
Professional Interview	50	After interviewing a Recreation Therapist of your choice, you will complete the interview question guideline provided by the instructor. This will allow you to become aware of what professionals view as the important issues, as well as help you determine a topic for your own issues paper
Licensure Project	125	Collectively as a group, we will be working with the Licensure Task Force of the Recreational Therapists of Indiana to research and examine how licensure impacts health care delivery of the clients we work with. Students will prepare legislative documents to help facilitate the licensure of recreational therapy.
Presentation	50	With 2-3 other classmates you will be responsible for co-facilitating a class discussion with the instructor. If you are unable to present during class time, please meet with the instructor individually to discuss options of how to record presentations and post for class.
Exams (2 @ 75 points)	150	Exams will be multiple choice and will cover class discussions, readings as well as class notes.
TOTAL	400	

The following grading scale will be used in this course:

Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A+	97%	C+	77%
A	93%	C	73%
A-	90%	C-	70%
B+	87%	D+	67%
B	83%	D	63%
B-	80%	D-	60%
		F	59% & Below

COURSE POLICIES

- Assumptions. My goal for you is to walk away from this class with a solid knowledge on the professional issues in the recreational therapy profession, therefore I assume: (a) you will complete all of the readings by the date indicated on the course schedule; (b) you are prepared for discussion because you have completed the readings on time (c) I will not cover all of the material in the readings that you will be responsible for on both class discussions and examinations.
- Office hours. I enjoy meeting with students outside of the classroom and I encourage you to utilize my office hours to help with clarification on assignments, or answer questions. If you would like to talk with me, please see/phone me during office hours. If my scheduled office hour days and times do not work for you, please contact me and we can schedule an alternative time. **Please email me directly at jenpiatt@indiana.edu rather than through the message center in OnCourse.**
 - I ask you be very selective when emailing me and keep emails to 1) emergencies; 2) pending questions that cannot wait until class; 3) setting up an appointment; or 4) answering an email from me.
 - If you do have a question, I prefer you try to problem solve on your own by first consulting the documentation for this class (syllabus, assignment overviews, etc.), and/or discussing your question with another class member before emailing me.
 - **Please note: I typically check email Monday - Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.**
- Class Participation: Effective participation and contribution goes beyond just showing up for class, regardless of the method taking the course. It provides students with the opportunity to examine and discuss topics applicable to the course. Participation is expected from all students, regardless if it is during class time, or online through Oncourse discussion.
- Oncourse: This course will be using Oncourse to communicate with students as well as post important documents associated with this class (announcements, assignments, exam reviews, class notes, etc.). It is your responsibility to check Oncourse on a weekly basis.
- Adobe Connect: We will be meeting each week online via Adobe Connect. There is a posted URL in Oncourse. Go to this site each week at the start of class. In addition, you will want to have a headset so that you can eliminate background noise when class is meeting.
- Writing Requirements: The School of Public Health follows the APA guidelines for writing. I recommend that you use Purdue's OWL at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/> as a guideline when writing papers. All written assignments must be typed in 12 point font with 1 inch margins. Please proof your writing for grammar and content. Points will be deducted from assignments if the paper is messy, or contains several spelling and grammatical errors. All papers must be turned in directly to the instructor, unless it is noted on the assignment to be turned in via OnCourse. **Emailed assignments will not be accepted (unless there is some type of technical issue with OnCourse).**
- Late Assignments: **Late assignments will not be accepted unless there is a death in the family or a medical emergency and documentation is provided to the instructor.** (This includes ALL assignments, so please plan accordingly). When submitting assignments to Oncourse, please double check that the assignment was accepted and posted before logging out. If an assignment is not posted by the due date, it will be considered late.

- **Exams: No make-up exams will be given unless there is a death in the family or medical emergency and documentation is provided to the instructor.** Exams (both in and out of class) are to be completed independently with no help from peers or other classmates. The exams will be posted.
- **Incompletes:** will be considered (by instructor) only on receipt of a written request from the student and only in compliance with university guidelines for use of Incompletes
- **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:** This course takes academic honesty seriously. Indiana University policies on academic misconduct as presented in the most current Code of Student Ethics will be followed (available on line at <http://www.indiana.edu/~code/code/index.shtml>). It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes plagiarism and academic misconduct. You can find this information at the above site for academic misconduct and plagiarism.
- **Turnitin:** You will have the opportunity to submit papers to turnitin to ascertain that you have not plagiarized prior to submitting the assignment for a grade. Plagiarism is grounds for failing the project or class, dependent on several factors. Please use turnitin as a learning tool.
- **Accommodations for students with disabilities:** Indiana University seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you need special accommodations, please inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester and present documentation from the Office of Disabled Student Services, Franklin Hall, Room 096 (855-7578).
- **Religious Observation:** In accordance with the Office of the Dean of Faculties, any student who wishes to receive an excused absence from class must submit a request form available from the Dean of Faculties for each day to be absent. This form must be presented to the course professor by the end of the second week of the semester. A separate form must be submitted for each day. The form must be signed by the instructor, a copy retained by instructor, and original returned to the student. You can download the request form at: http://www.indiana.edu/~deanfac/download/rel_obs.html#holreq.
- **Drop/Withdrawal Dates for Semester: Please check the University Schedule for last day to drop or withdrawal from this course.**
- **Copy Assignments.** Make a copy of all assignments for yourself before handing them in. Keep your graded papers until you receive your final grade. You should also keep track of all of your grades throughout the semester so that your final grade will come as no surprise.
- **Graded Assignments:** Points earned on graded assignments will be recorded on a regular basis in the gradebook in Oncourse. Please check the grade book regularly so that you are aware of your grade in this class and can use my feedback to help clarify questions about the content covered. Students have one (1) week from the time a grade or absence is posted on Oncourse in which to raise a question with Dr. Piatt in regards to the assigned grade.
- **Course Evaluations:** It is the policy of SPH to evaluate all courses taught through the School. Final course evaluations will be conducted in a manner that maintains the integrity of the process and guarantees the anonymity of evaluators.
- Finally, this syllabus has been created as a guide for our class and is as accurate as possible. However, all information is subject to change, as class needs change. Any changes will be discussed during class session and will be documented in writing.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Wk	Date	Topic(s)	Due
1	8/27	Session Topics: Introduction of student, course overview Issues and Trends in Healthcare Reading Due: Kovar Ch. 1	
2	9/3	Session Topics: Issues and Trends in RT – Class does not meet live; online activity Reading Due: Stumbo Ch. 2: Online Reading 1	
3	9/10	Session Topic: Recreational Therapy in Public Health Recreational Therapy in Global Health Reading Due: Online Reading 2 & 3: Start reading Austin	Professional Interview Presentations Start
4	9/17	Session Topic: International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health: The role of RT Reading Due: Online Reading 4	
5	9/24	Session Topic: NCTRC Specialization: Certification Towards Licensure Reading Due: Stumbo Ch 18; Online Reading 5	
6	10/1	Session Topics: Reforming RT Education; Reimbursement of RT Reading Due:	Licensure Documents #1
7	10/8	Session Topics: Conceptual Models of RT: Midterm Review Reading Due: Stumbo Ch. 14; Online Reading 6	
8	10/15	Exam 1	Exam 1
9	10/22	Session Topics: Health Care Accreditation & Reform; The Impact of Public Policy Reading Due: Kovar Ch. 14; Online Reading 7	
10	10/29	Session Topics: Evidence-Based Practice and Measuring Clinical Outcomes Reading Due: Online Reading 8	
11	11/5	Session Topics: RT in Traditional and Non-Traditional Health Care Settings Reading Due: Online Reading 9	
12	11/12	Session Topics: Service Delivery Models in RT: Addressing Current and Future Trends Reading Due: Online Reading 10	
13	11/19	Exam 2	Exam 2
14	12/3	Session Topics: Licensure of RT Discussion of Austin Text	
15	12/10	Session Topics: Presentation to RTI of Licensure Documents	Licensure Documents #2
16	12/17	No Final Exam	