COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES
This course provides an overview of key theoretical aspects for the major counseling/psychotherapeutic paradigms. The goal of this course is to introduce students to these different schools of thought and provide them with the opportunity to critically examine and reflect on both the theoretical and technical (i.e., specific treatment interventions) differences between various approaches. Differences in theory and practice among different psychotherapy paradigms will be highlighted by the use of case studies. Students will also begin to critically evaluate their own values, biases, and personal preferences in relation to these various theoretical approaches.

Course Director: Dr. Jennifer Lewin
Office: rm. 251 Behavioural Sciences Building (BSB)
Office hours: By appointment
Email: jlewin@yorku.ca
Course Website: moodle.yorku.ca

Accessing the course website:
You will need a Passport York account to access the course website. Go to “moodle.yorku.ca” and type in your username and password information (Passport York account information) in the top right hand side of the page. After entering this information, your list of courses that use moodle will appear, click on “HH/PSYC4061M - Abnormal Psychology (Winter 2013-2014)”.

How to reach your instructor:
The preferred method for contacting me is via email (jlewin@yorku.ca) otherwise scheduling a meeting time that is mutually acceptable for both you and me can be arranged. I am on campus on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

Prerequisites: Introduction to Psychology (psyc1010), Statistical Methods I or equivalent), Personality (psyc2130), and Abnormal Psychology (psyc3140). All students must be in an Honours program and have completed 81 credits.

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COURSE FORMAT AND EVALUATION
Course evaluation will consist of two tests, one class presentation, a paper (loosely) based on the presentation, and student participation which involves regular attendance, participation, and playing the role of “discussant” for one class presentation (other than your own presentation topic).

Evaluation:
1) Test 1                                          25%
2) Class Presentation                                                               20%
3) Paper (due two weeks after presentation)     20%
4) Test 2                                          25%
5) Student Participation [class participation (5%) & “discussant” for student presentation (5%)]   10%

GRADING SCHEME
A+  90 to 100%    Exceptional
A   80 to 89%     Excellent
B+  75 to 79%     Very Good
B   70 to 74%     Good
C+  65 to 69%     Competent
C   60 to 64%     Fairly Competent
D+  55 to 59%     Passing
D   50 to 54%     Marginally Passing
E   45 to 49%     Marginally Failing
F   45 or below   Failing
TEST 1

**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2014  
**Worth:** 25% of final grade

Test 1 will consist of multiple-choice questions, fill in the blank, and long answer questions that will be based on short case studies. Test 1 will be based on material presented in class, including videos and demonstrations, and all textbook readings. Further information regarding Test 1 will be discussed in class closer to the test date.

CLASS PRESENTATION

**Presentation length:** 30 minutes  
**Discussion post-presentation:** 15 minutes  
**Group size:** 2 to 3 people  
**Presentation article due:** in class, 1 week before presentation  
**Discussants:** 2 people per presentation* (explained under class participation)  
**Worth:** 20% of final grade

The list below provides the topics and dates from which to choose your class presentation. The course director will lecture on the same topic for 45 minutes. As such, each group will need to discuss and coordinate with the course director regarding the content of their presentation. Class presentations will be 30 minutes in length – this is a strict guideline as there will be two presentations per week. You will be given a two-minute warning and you will be cut off at one hour to move onto a 15-minute discussion period where students will be able to ask questions. Class presentations will be a group effort, with groups consisting of a maximum of 3 people. Short excerpts of video material or other visual aids may be used if applicable to your topic and if they add value to your presentation.

As part of the evaluation of your presentation, each group will be asked to provide one article to all class members one week before your presentation that will provide students with some background information and will help to orient them to your topic. In addition to the hard copy that will be handed out to each student in class, group members must email me the article for posting on the course website for students that are absent from class. The article that you choose will be evaluated in terms of the appropriateness and relevance to your presentation. Additionally, the coherence or integration of your article into your presentation will be assessed. Also, on the day of your presentation, you need to provide classmates (and course director) with a handout of your slides. Please note that information from the article you provide and your slides will also be testing material for Test 2. Further guidelines regarding presentations will be discussed in class. Class presentations will be worth 20% of your final grade.
The following are the presentation topics and dates (they are also located in the lecture schedule).

February 25  Existential Therapy  
Group Therapy

March 4  Adlerian Therapy  
Dialectical Behaviour Therapy

March 11  Feminist Therapy  
Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing Therapy (EMDR)

March 18  Narrative Therapy  
Interpersonal Therapy

March 25  Family Systems Therapy  
Motivational Interviewing

PAPER

Due: 2 weeks after your class presentation  
Length: 2000 to 3000 words (8 to 10 typed, double spaced pages)  
Worth: 20% of final grade  
APA format required

*There will be a 2.5% deduction for each day the paper is handed in after the set deadline.

Your paper will be based on your presentation topic however I do not want a complete regurgitation of your presentation in written form. Instead, for your paper, I want you to address a current controversy on your topic and identify your stance on the issue, providing an in-depth critical analysis. In other words, I want you to take what is likely a small aspect of your presentation, and greatly expand and explore this particular issue. Overall your goal will be to provide a sensible and convincing position on a controversial or contentious issue regarding your presentation topic or conduct a critique of your therapy approach or topic. In this way, those of you in your group will not all be writing on the same issue and you will be able to put more energy into researching the particular issue you find most compelling about your topic. Each group member is expected to submit your own unique paper that is completed independently from other classmates two weeks after your presentation.

Papers are due in class, two weeks following your class presentation. Papers submitted after class will be considered late and will be penalized accordingly. The paper should be between 8 to 10 typewritten pages in length (i.e., 2000 to 2500 words, 12 point font, double-spaced, 1 inch margins), excluding the title page and reference page. You must cite and include a minimum of five peer-reviewed journal articles in your paper. Of course you can use more journal articles and you are free to use textbooks and other sources. Make sure that you cite your sources appropriately and your paper must follow APA style. I will post APA links on the course.
website. Greater detail regarding the evaluation process of your papers will be discussed in class. Your paper will be worth 20% of your final grade.

**STUDENT PARTICIPATION**

**Attendance and Class Participation:** 5%

**Discussant for class presentation:** 5%

Student participation will be examined in a number of ways in the course. Students will be marked on attendance, before and after the class break. Additionally, class discussion will be encouraged – sharing your opinions and reflections in class will really help you to engage with the class material and should hopefully lead to lively discussion. For each presentation, students will be providing one article; therefore, for those who are not presenting that week, you will have 2 articles to read before class. You are encouraged to have some questions prepared for student presentations based on the readings that they provide. Attendance and class participation are worth a total of 10% of your final grade.

**Discussant:** For each class presentation, two students who are not presenting on that day will act as “discussants”. Each discussant must hand in four discussion questions (two based on the article and two based on the presentation). Discussants will help to lead the discussion following the presentation, by noting points of interest and developing questions from the presentation and from the article assigned by the group. In addition, discussants are expected to provide a brief 1 page summary of the article indicating the strengths and weaknesses of the article. Further details and guidelines for discussants will be discussed in class. Your role as discussant is worth 5% of your final grade.

**TEST 2**

**Date:** During exam period (April 8 to 24, 2014)

**Worth:** 25% of final grade

Test 2 will consist of multiple-choice questions, fill in the blank, and long answer questions that will be based on short case studies. Test 2 will be based on material presented in class, including videos and demonstrations, and all readings from February 25 to April 1, 2014. Further information regarding Test 2 will be discussed in class closer to the test date. Please note: Tests are non-cumulative.

**SENATE POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offenses. Students are urged to read the section on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty in the Academic Calendar (www.arts.yorku.ca/honesty/index.html). Any case of suspected academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accord with the procedures and regulations set down by the University Senate. The definition of dishonesty and the penalties and procedures for judging cases are described in the Calendar.
**RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE POLICY**
York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs of all members of the community and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for in-class examinations pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first two weeks of class to schedule alternate arrangements. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods, students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form which can be obtained from the Registrar’s Office ([http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf)).

**LECTURE SCHEDULE**

**Lectures:** Tuesdays, 8:30am to 11:30am, HNE, room B10

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 7</td>
<td>Introduction/Psychoanalysis</td>
<td>Chapter 2 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>January 14</td>
<td>Psychoanalysis II</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<td>January 21</td>
<td>Client-Centred Therapy</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>January 28</td>
<td>Behavioural/Cognitive Behavioural</td>
<td>Chapters 9 &amp; 10</td>
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<td>February 4</td>
<td>Gestalt &amp; Emotion-Focused Therapy</td>
<td>Chapter 8 + article</td>
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<td>February 11</td>
<td><strong>TEST 1</strong> (based on all readings and class lectures)</td>
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<td>February 18</td>
<td><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong>Reading Week</strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong>*************</td>
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<td>February 25</td>
<td>Existential Therapy</td>
<td>Chapter 6 + 2 articles</td>
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<td><em>Existential presentation</em></td>
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<td>Group Therapy</td>
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<td><em>Group therapy presentation</em></td>
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<td>March 4</td>
<td>Adlerian Therapy</td>
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<td><em>Adlerian presentation</em></td>
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<td>Dialectical Behaviour Therapy</td>
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<td>March 11</td>
<td>Feminist Therapy</td>
<td>Chapter 12 + 2 articles</td>
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<td><em>Feminist therapy presentation</em></td>
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<td>EMDR Therapy</td>
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<td>March 18</td>
<td>Narrative Therapy</td>
<td>Chapter 13 (pg. 410 to 423) + 2 articles</td>
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<td><em>Narrative therapy presentation</em></td>
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<td>Interpersonal Therapy</td>
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<td><em>Interpersonal therapy presentation</em></td>
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<td>March 25</td>
<td>Family Systems Therapy</td>
<td>Chapter 14 + 2 articles</td>
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<td><em>Family Systems presentation</em></td>
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<td>Motivational Interviewing</td>
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<td><em>Motivational interviewing presentation</em></td>
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<td>April 1</td>
<td>Ethics &amp; course wrap up</td>
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<td>TEST 2</td>
<td>During exam period (April 8 to 24, 2014)</td>
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