

**PSYCHOLOGY 381: Psychology of Interviewing
Spring 2016 – 3 credit hours (CRN: 33643)**

Class Meetings: Tues & Thurs 11:00-12:15pm in **TBD**

Instructor: Julia Kim-Cohen, PhD

juliakim@uic.edu

Office: BSB 2056B

*Office hours: Tues 10:00-11:00am (by appointment)

Teaching Assistant: Michael Keutmann, MA, MEd

mkeutm2@uic.edu

Office: BSB 3019

*Office hours: by appointment

*Office Hours are by appointment only. We are happy to meet with you during the times listed above, but you must email us first to schedule an appointment.

Prerequisites: To be enrolled in and receive credit for PSCH381, you must be a Psychology major who has earned a C or better in PSCH242 (Research Methods) and either PSCH210 (Personality), PSCH231 (Community), or PSCH312 (Social).

Course objectives: This course has two related goals. The first is for students to develop a knowledge base about major theories and research that inform clinical interviewing. The second is for students to develop interview skills through practice interviews with each other and with community volunteers.

Class Format: Lectures, discussion, role-plays, and video. In the second half of the semester, we will spend the bulk of our time preparing for practice interviews, conducting interviews, and supervision.

Textbook (Required): *Clinical Interviewing, 5th Edition* by John & Rita Sommers-Flanagan (Wiley). Available at the UIC bookstore and elsewhere. (4th Edition is fine; the accompanying DVD is not required.)

Course Requirements & Grading:

Final grades in this course will be given based on a **maximum total of 450 points:**

1. **PARTICIPATION (100 points):** This grade will be comprised of different scores – classroom attendance (20 – 1 point per class attended, up to 20), Culture Presentations and role-play participation (20), showing up for BOTH your practice interviews (5), your volunteers showing up to be interviewed for BOTH interviews (5), and performance during 2 practice Clinical Interviews (50).
2. **WEEKLY JOURNAL ENTRIES (50 points):** Your journey toward becoming a clinician or mental health profession often involves personal growth. You will be required to submit 10 brief (1-2 page) journal entries (each worth 5 points) reflecting on various topics discussed in class. Journal entries may be submitted at any time, but 5 must be submitted before and 5 after the midterm exam. Please bring your journal entries to class. We ask that you be open and reflective, **focusing on the learning process** you are experiencing.

3. **EXAMS (200 points):** The Midterm and Final exams are each worth 100 points. Details regarding the format of the exams will be provided in class.
4. **WRITTEN INTERVIEW REPORT (100 points):** You will write an intake report on the practice interview you conduct.

Final grades will be determined by total points as follows:

- A: 405 – 450
- B: 360 – 404
- C: 315 – 359
- D: 270 – 314
- F: less than 270

In the event of partial points, I will round up final grades if the decimal point is .5 or higher. If the decimal is anything lower than .5, I will round the final grade down (e.g., .499 is rounded down). Absolutely no exceptions will be made to these policies.

Policies & Procedures:

- **Attendance policy:** Attendance in class is essential. Not only will attendance directly impact your participation grade, it will impact how much you learn and get out of the class. Your absence will also affect the experience of your classmates with whom you will do role plays, so please make every effort to attend. Attendance will be taken each day. Anyone who arrives more than 10 minutes late to class will be marked absent.
- **Class participation:** This course will consist of active discussion and multiple role plays. Students must read assigned material before class in order to be prepared. Students will also be expected to participate in the role plays, alternating as mock interviewer, interviewee, and observer.
- **Lecture slides:** PDF copies of lecture slides will be posted on Blackboard after each class. However, please keep in mind that lecture slides will not be an adequate substitute for attending class, paying attention, and taking notes.
- **Correspondence:** Students often ask how they should address me; you may address me as “Dr. Kim-Cohen” or “Professor Kim-Cohen.” I typically respond to student emails within 12 hours (a bit longer over weekends).
- **Electronic devices:** Laptops, tablets, smart phones, etc. are not allowed in class. Any violation of this policy will be considered unprofessional and will affect your evaluation. Please come prepared to take notes by hand. A recent experiment showed that taking notes by hand resulted in better long-term learning compared to taking notes on a laptop (see: <http://www.psychologicalscience.org/index.php/news/releases/take-notes-by-hand-for-better-long-term-comprehension.html>.)
- **Cheating & plagiarism: Plagiarism occurs when you use someone else's text or ideas in your writing without citing that person as a reference.** If a student is caught cheating on an exam or plagiarizing on a paper, that student will automatically receive an F for the course and the appropriate authorities within the university will be notified. Please be sure to review the UIC Department of Student Judicial Affairs (<http://www.uic.edu/depts/sja/integrit.htm>) for more information about the violation of Academic Integrity and its consequences.

- **Writing support:** I encourage you to schedule an appointment for individual writing tutoring at the UIC Writing Center: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/engl/writing/>. It's free and anonymous; you will rarely have such an opportunity to get help with your writing after you graduate so take advantage of this great resource.
- **Students with disabilities:** I will work with any student to make reasonable accommodations, but requests should be made **during the first week of class**. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be registered with the UIC Disability Resource Center (<http://drc.uic.edu/students/>). Please contact ODS at (312) 413-2103 or drc@uic.edu.

Course Schedule

(Please note: changes to the schedule will be announced in class & on BB)

Week	Date		Topic	Reading
1	JAN 12	Tues	Introduction, overview, syllabus	
	JAN 14	Thurs	Introduction to Clinical Interviewing	Ch. 1
2	JAN 19	Tues	Foundations & Preparations	Ch. 2
	JAN 21	Thurs	Basic Attending, Listening, & Action Skills: Attending Behavior & Silence	Ch. 3
3	JAN 26	Tues	Basic Attending, Listening, & Action Skills: Paraphrasing 1	Ch. 3
	JAN 28	Thurs	Basic Attending, Listening, & Action Skills: Paraphrasing 2	Ch. 3
4*	FEB 2	Tues	Basic Attending, Listening & Action Skills: Reflection of Feeling 1	Ch. 3
	FEB 4	Thurs	Basic Attending, Listening & Action Skills: Reflection of Feeling 2	Ch. 3
5	FEB 9	Tues	Basic Attending, Listening & Action Skills: Validation, Interpretation, Immediacy	Ch. 3
	FEB 11	Thurs	Directives: Questions 1	Ch. 4
6	FEB 16	Tues	Directives: Questions 2	Ch. 4
	FEB 18	Thurs	Directives: Giving Advice	Ch. 4
7	FEB 23	Tues	Directives: Psychoeducation, Approval-Disapproval & Self-Disclosure	Ch. 4
	FEB 25	Thurs	Evidence-based Relationships 1	Ch. 5
8	MAR 1	Tues	Evidence-based Relationships 2	Ch. 5
	MAR 3	Thurs	Midterm Exam Review	
9	MAR 8	Tues	Midterm Exam	
	MAR 10	Thurs	Practice Practice Interview Day	

10	MAR 15	Tues	Exam Review; Mental Status Exam 1	Ch. 8
	MAR 17	Thurs	Mental Status Exam 2	Ch. 8
	MAR 22	Tues	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS MEETINGS	
	MAR 24	Thurs		
11	MAR 29	Tues	Intake Interview	Ch. 7
	MAR 31	Thurs	Practice Interviews 1 (no class)	
12	APR 5	Tues	Lessons Learned from Practice Interviews	
	APR 7	Thurs	Practice Interviews 2 (no class)	
13	APR 12	Tues	Review of Interviews & Group Supervision	Bring DVDs to class
	APR 14	Thurs	Report Writing	Ch. 7
14	APR 19	Tues	Suicide Assessment	Ch. 9
	APR 21	Thurs	Young Clients	Ch. 13
	APR 22	FRI	Final Report DUE Today by 10PM via SafeAssign	
15	APR 26	Tues	Final Exam Review	
	APR 28	Thurs	Final Exam	

***Culture presentations** will begin on the 4th week of the semester.
Reminder: There is no final exam during exam week for this course.