

WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE: Family Systems
COURSE NUMBER: PSY 319

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on how families function as a system; aspects of assessment and treatment are also considered.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:

The student will demonstrate an understanding of theoretical frameworks for family systems.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Identify key family theorists, such as:

- Minuchin
- Haley
- Bradshaw
- Bowen

GOAL B:

The student will demonstrate an understanding of families as a system.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Identify functioning styles common to many families.

GOAL C:

The student will demonstrate an understanding of assessment procedures used with families.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- C-1 Identify assessment procedures such as interviews and various needs based assessment scales and genograms.
- C-2 Recognize various family strength scales used to determine family functioning style.
- C-3 Define the various types of support available for families such as informational, emotional or kinship.
- C-4 Identify various social support scales used to determine existing and potential sources of support for families.
- C-5 Demonstrate understanding of how family systems interact with community systems and society at large.

GOAL D:

The student will demonstrate an understanding of strategies for helping families.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- D-1 Identify various models for helping and empowering families.
- D-2 Compare and contrast the concepts of each model.

GOAL E:

The student will use appropriate written and oral communication skills.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- E-1 Communicate information orally in a logical and grammatical manner.
- E-2 Present written information using standard APA style.