



2025

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11/02/2025

Section 1: Introduction and Justification

Section 2: Course Description and Objectives

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Section 4: Assessment and Evaluation

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SOCW 5300 - Assessment and Psychopathology

Credit: 3 Hours

Prerequisites: Admission to the MSW Program; SOCW 5000, SOCW 5100,
SOCW 5200; Pre/Corequisites: SOCW 5402, 5501

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course prepares students for application of knowledge in assessment and diagnosis in their upcoming advanced year including the application of assessment knowledge and skills in planning practical and effective treatment strategies.

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues involved in defining both mental health and mental disorders, including etiology, risk and resiliency factors, and cultural/social factors.
2. Use standard diagnostic tools, such as the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders V* to identify major medical and mental conditions while demonstrating an understanding of the impact of such conditions on individual, family and community functioning.
3. Identify and differentiate the signs and symptoms of mental health disorders and a range of conditions that can affect functioning and development.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical issues, assessment and diagnosis of health and mental health conditions.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

American Psychiatric Association (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental*

disorders-5, Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association.

Pomeroy, E., (2015). *The Clinical Assessment Workbook: Balancing Strengths and Differential Diagnosis 2nd Edition*. Belmont, CA , Brooks/ Cole.

ASSIGNMENTS

Midterm

Final Exam

Biopsychosocial Assessments (2)

Seminar Outline/Calendar

Week	Content	Assignments Due
Week 1	Orientation to Course Defining Assessment and Diagnosis Overview of DSM V Ethical Concerns	
Week 2	Completing a Biopsychosocial Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Areas for assessment• Application of DSM V• Cultural Considerations	
Week	Neurodevelopmental disorders	

Week 13	Substance related and addictive disorders	
Week	Personality disorders; Gender dysphoria	Diagnoses #1-40

Week 15	Feeding, eating, and elimination disorders; Sexual dysfunction disorders; Paraphilic disorders; Sleep wake disorders; Conduct Disorders		
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