

SS6404: MASTER'S INTEGRATIVE PROJECT IN CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE

Effective Term

Summer Term 2026

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Master's Integrative Project in Clinical Mental Health Practice

Subject Code

SS - Social and Behavioural Sciences

Course Number

6404

Academic Unit

Social and Behavioural Sciences (SS)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to help students consolidate their learning from integrating practice with knowledge and to reflect on the ethical aspects of their work so as to become reflective professionals with evidence-based practice competence. It seeks to train students to pursue a practice-oriented topic in the fields of clinical mental health practice and develop their ability in integrating relevant knowledge from evidence-based practices in clinical mental health practice in Hong Kong.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Able to pursue a practice-oriented topic in the field of clinical mental health practice, with relevant theories and methods, and reflective discussion on the values, ethical and practice aspects of their work	20	x	x	
2	Examine the applicability of clinical mental health practice in the local context of Hong Kong and the effectiveness of clinical mental health practice employed	30		x	
3	Ethically examine culturally relevant clinical mental health practice in their pathways to become reflective practitioners with practice competence	20		x	x
4	Able to integrate, systematically and critically, what for the student has been some of the dominant themes and interest areas in their studies, with information they have gathered from the field, and show elements of becoming ethically-oriented practitioners being competent, reflective and good in professional practice.	30	x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Workshops	Workshops will be provided to equip students' ability and skills in knowledge-practice integration in clinical mental health practice. Suggested themes include reflective learning through professional practice, and constructing local knowledge and practice in the Chinese contexts, just to name a few.	1, 2, 3, 4
2	Group Supervision	Students will be supervised by an academic staff (the supervisor). Group supervision will be provided to facilitate their preparation of the presentation and papers.	1, 2, 3, 4
3	Presentation Seminar	Students are required to present a practice-oriented topic along with relevant data on surveys, intervention experiences, and case studies etc. Supervisor and other students will give constructive feedbacks to the students for further improvement in the integrative paper.	1, 2, 3, 4

4	Group Integrative Paper	Students are required to put their analyses of the chosen topic into an Integrative Paper of 4,000 words (with 5% deviation only). The paper should contain: 1. Different theoretical approaches and practice of the selected topic; 2. Literature review and updated research findings related to the topic; 3. Ethical and practical issues involved in applying the selected theories and models in direct practice; 4. Innovative ways on how the selected social sciences theories and intervention model be applied in the local context.	1, 2, 3, 4	
5	Student Consultant	Student group consultation is arranged to facilitate interactions and exchanges among students and respective teacher for depth learning.	1, 2, 3, 4	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("-" for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Group Presentation	1, 2, 3, 4	30	-	No
2	Group Integrative Paper	1, 2, 3, 4	60	-	No

3	Preparation for and participation in group supervision sessions and presentation seminars	1, 2, 3, 4	10	The 3rd assessment task of "Preparation for and participation in group supervision sessions and presentation seminars" is a formative assessment. Thus, AI is allowed. Additionally, the use of AI in this assessment task can facilitate students' participation in brainstorming and discussing the projects with each other.	Yes
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Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Additional Information for ATs**AT1: Group Presentation (30%)**

Students are required to form groups, with each group consisting of about 4 students. Each group of students is required to present a practice-oriented topic along with relevant data on intervention experiences or case studies. The presentation should integrate relevant theories, methods, and skills in clinical mental health practice. The purpose of this presentation is to showcase students' understanding of clinical mental health practice, its practical application, and its ethical considerations. Additionally, students are required to sustain and defend the arguments while engaging in ethical discussions related to clinical mental health practice.

AT2: Group Integrative Paper (60%)

Each group of students is required to submit an integrative paper with length 4,000 words, which is normally, but not restricted to, composed of literature review, reflective understanding on a clinical mental health practice related issue, methods of data collection and analysis, results, discussion, and references. Originality is important. Students are to demonstrate the following attainments in their work:

- 1) A critical review of relevant literature; an understanding of the concepts/theories applicable to the chosen clinical mental health practice related issue; intensive inquiry into the chosen issue.
- 2) Appropriate methods and procedures were chosen to carry out the critical review and reflection on the chosen issue; sensitivity to methodological issues is demonstrated.
- 3) The use of appropriate theoretical framework to analyze data and evaluate the chosen issue related to clinical mental health practice.
- 4) A clear understanding of the findings and an appreciation of the limitations of the chosen issue; sensitivity to cross-cultural issues is demonstrated.

AT3: Preparation for and Participation in Group Supervision Sessions and Presentation Seminars (10%)

Students are expected to have actively participated by raising questions, and contributing to reflective discussion during the course and after the presentations of their classmates, preparing themselves well, sharing their reflections/opinions and/or participating in class.

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1. Group Presentation (Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

1. Ability in integrating relevant theories, methods, and skills in clinical mental health practice.
2. Ability in understanding of clinical mental health practice, its practical application, and its ethical considerations.
3. Ability in sustaining and defending the arguments while engaging in ethical discussions related to clinical mental health practice.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of achievement of the criteria

Good

(B+, B, B-) Good evidence of achievement of the criteria

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Fair evidence of achievement of the criteria

Marginal

(D) Limited evidence of achievement of the criteria

Failure

(F) Insufficient evidence of achievement of the criteria

Assessment Task

2. Group Integrative Paper (Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

1. Ability in critically reviewing of relevant literature, understanding of the concepts/theories applicable to the chosen clinical mental health practice issue and intensive inquiry into the chosen issue.
2. Ability in choosing appropriate methods and procedures to carry out the critical review and reflection on the chosen issue, and demonstrating sensitivity to methodological issues.
3. Ability in using appropriate theoretical framework to analyze data and evaluate the chosen issue related to clinical mental health practice.
4. Ability in understanding of the findings, appreciating the limitations of the chosen issue, and demonstrating sensitivity to cross-cultural issues.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of achievement of the criteria

Good

(B+, B, B-) Good evidence of achievement of the criteria

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Fair evidence of achievement of the criteria

Marginal

(D) Limited evidence of achievement of the criteria

Failure

(F) Insufficient evidence of achievement of the criteria

Assessment Task

3. Preparation for and participation in group supervision sessions and presentation seminars (Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

1. Active participation in response to lecturers and student presentations.
2. The number of reflection completed and the depth of reflection.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of achievement of the criteria

Good

(B+, B, B-) Good evidence of achievement of the criteria

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Fair evidence of achievement of the criteria

Marginal

(D) Limited evidence of achievement of the criteria

Failure

(F) Insufficient evidence of achievement of the criteria

Assessment Task

1. Group Presentation (Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

1. Ability in integrating relevant theories, methods, and skills in clinical mental health practice.
2. Ability in understanding of clinical mental health practice, its practical application, and its ethical considerations.
3. Ability in sustaining and defending the arguments while engaging in ethical discussions related to clinical mental health practice.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of achievement of the criteria

Good

(B+, B) Good evidence of achievement of the criteria

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Fair evidence of achievement of the criteria

Failure

(F) Limited evidence of achievement of the criteria

Assessment Task

2. Group Integrative Paper (Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

1. Ability in critically reviewing of relevant literature, understanding of the concepts/theories applicable to the chosen clinical mental health practice issue and intensive inquiry into the chosen issue.
2. Ability in choosing appropriate methods and procedures to carry out the critical review and reflection on the chosen issue, and demonstrating sensitivity to methodological issues.

3. Ability in using appropriate theoretical framework to analyze data and evaluate the chosen issue related to clinical mental health practice.
4. Ability in understanding of the findings, appreciating the limitations of the chosen issue, and demonstrating sensitivity to cross-cultural issues.

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Assessment Task

3. Preparation for and participation in group supervision sessions and presentation seminars (Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

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1. Active participation in response to lecturers and student presentations.
2. The number of reflection completed and the depth of reflection.

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(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of achievement of the criteria

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(B+, B) Good evidence of achievement of the criteria

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Fair evidence of achievement of the criteria

Failure

(F) Limited evidence of achievement of the criteria

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

1.1 Evidence-based clinical mental health practice

Nature and principles of evidence-based clinical mental health practice; practice knowledge through systematic literature review; design and conducting practice evaluation; pre- and post-intervention evaluation design in clinical mental health practice.

1.2 Reflective learning through professional practice

Develop an inquiry from practice; reflective discussion on use of knowledge, values, ethics and philosophy in clinical mental health practice; collaboration to induce changes; reflection journal in clinical mental health practice.

1.3 Constructing local knowledge in the Chinese contexts

Cultural sensitivity in the Chinese contexts; indigenization of clinical mental health practice; explorations and reflective discussion on culturally-relevant practice; social sciences knowledge building.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). Research design: Qualitative, Quantitative & Mixed Approaches (5th eds.). Los Angeles: SAGE.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	American Psychological Association (2020). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association: The Official Guide to APA Style (7th ed.). Washington, DC: APA.
2	Creswell, J. W. (2018). Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing among Five Approaches (4th eds.). Los Angeles: SAGE.
3	Islam, R. M., Khan, N. A., & Baikady, R. (2022). Principles of social research methodology. Springer Nature Singapore.
4	Campbell, A., Taylor, B. J., & McGlade, A. (2017). Research design in social work: Qualitative and quantitative methods. Thousand Oaks.