

# **COU501 Clinical Assessment in Counselling**

**Level:** 5

**Credit Units:** 5 Credit Units

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Presentation Pattern:** EVERY JULY

## **Synopsis:**

This course is designed to provide a theoretical and practical introduction on the following topics:

- Purposes, principles and processes of clinical assessment
- Professional issues of assessment
- Clinical assessment and initial intake
- Mental status examination
- Working with client resistance
- Role of diagnosis in assessment
- DSM-5 diagnostic criteria relating to anxiety, depression and other commonly encountered disorders
- Role of case conceptualization in assessment
- Case conceptualization: Biopsychosocial approach
- Case conceptualization: Cognitive-behavioural approach
- Case conceptualization: Solution-focused approach

## **Topics:**

- Assessment in counselling
- Basic assessment principles
- Communicating results
- Initial assessment in counselling
- Appraisal of personality
- Assessment and diagnosis
- Using assessment in counselling
- Ethical and legal issues in assessment
- Issues related to assessment with diverse populations
- Case conceptualizations: an overview
- Assessment and diagnostic formulations
- Explanations and clinical and cultural formulations
- Treatment planning and treatment formulations
- Biopsychosocial case conceptualizations
- Cognitive-behavioural case conceptualizations
- Brief dynamic case conceptualizations
- Solution-focused case conceptualizations

## **Textbooks:**

: The First Interview (Fourth Edition) (Paperbag Edition: 9781462529834) 4 Guilford Publication, Inc, New York

ISBN-13: 9781462515554-AA

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New York  
ISBN-13: 9781462515554

Sperry, L & Sperry: Case Conceptualization: Mastering this Competency with Ease and Confidence  
(Core Competencies in Psychotherapy Series (1st edition) Taylor & Francis  
ISBN-13: 9781136273209

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### Learning Outcome:

- Discuss the purposes, nature and process of assessment in counselling.
- Examine the basic principles of assessment.
- Appraise the implications of ethical and legal issues in assessment.
- Propose guidelines for the selection, administration, scoring and interpretation of assessment results.
- Assemble and organise test results meaningfully.
- Evaluate the implications of ethical and legal issues in assessment.

### Assessment Strategies:

Continuous Assessment Component	Weightage (%)
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	25
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	25
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>50</b>

Examinable Component	Weightage (%)
Written Exam	50
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>50</b>

**Weightage Total** **100**