



ADVANCED STANDING COURSE REQUIREMENTS

(Graduate level courses)

- ❖ Students who have completed the Master of Social Work (MSW) program at McGill, and successfully completed the exact five MSW courses indicated below, are entitled to have this coursework recognized for the M.Sc.(A) Couple and Family Therapy program;
- ❖ Consideration of advanced standing courses will be made in accordance with McGill policy and procedures (please visit the McGill e-Calendar for more information: [https://www.mcgill.ca/study/2020-2021/university\\_regulations\\_and\\_resources/graduate/gps\\_gi\\_program\\_reqs](https://www.mcgill.ca/study/2020-2021/university_regulations_and_resources/graduate/gps_gi_program_reqs);
- ❖ Students are eligible to apply for both their Couple and Family Therapist permit (OTSTCFQ) and Psychotherapist permit (OPQ) upon graduation, and as such the program curriculum is highly prescribed and is intended to be followed accordingly;
- ❖ Only in exceptional cases will advanced standing be considered for courses completed outside of the MSW program;
- ❖ Please be advised that a course equivalency approval by McGill does not ensure recognition by either the OTSTCFQ or OPQ; it is the responsibility of the individual student to ensure that they complete all necessary requirements in order to apply for professional membership upon graduation.

✓	<b>SWRK 622 Understanding and Assessing Families (3 credits)</b>
	Competencies and foundational knowledge needed to understand and assess family dynamics from a systemic point of view
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systemic Theory in family therapy</li> <li>• Recent theoretical and empirical advancements in family assessment from a systemic perspective</li> <li>• Resolution of developmental tasks along the family life cycle</li> <li>• Inclusion of children in the evaluation for custody and access</li> <li>• Systemic models of family assessment</li> </ul>
	Family developmental and systemic applications, with attention to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heterogeneity and diversity of the post-modern family</li> <li>• Integrating contextual, gender, cultural and relational perspectives through the evaluation process</li> </ul>
	<b>3 hours</b> on Systemic Theory in family therapy
	<b>9 hours</b> on theoretical and empirical advancements in family assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From a Systemic perspective, including integrative assessment methods and systemic diagnostics (e.g. McMaster Modal of Family Functioning)</li> </ul>
	<b>9 hours</b> on Systemic family development across the lifespan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attachment theory and genogram construction as a diagnostic tool</li> <li>• Issues regarding the inclusion of children in the evaluation for custody and access</li> </ul>
	<b>9 hours</b> on Systemic Models of family assessment, with attention to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heterogeneity and diversity of the post-modern family</li> <li>• Integrating contextual, gender, cultural and relational perspectives through the evaluation process</li> </ul>
	<b>9 hours</b> on basic skills in Systemic Models in information gathering, and common factors in couple and family therapy that run across the below theoretical frameworks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement</li> <li>• Therapist attributes</li> <li>• Structure</li> <li>• Communication skills and alliance building</li> <li>• Expectancy factors (placebo effect)</li> <li>• Developing a formulation of the challenges faced by a family presenting for therapy</li> </ul>
	<b>45 hours</b> towards the systemic models and communication theories

✓	<b>SWRK 610 Family Treatment (3 credits)</b>
	The goal of this course is to introduce students to the major models of family therapy from the foundational to the post-modern
	The course will be divided into four distinct sections to provide a foundational introduction to four core theoretical approaches to family therapy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systemic Family Therapy</li> <li>• Emotionally Focused Family Therapy</li> <li>• Attachment Focused Family Therapy</li> <li>• Cognitive Behavioural Family Therapy</li> </ul>
	Models will be presented integrating the following into family treatment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender</li> <li>• Race</li> <li>• Poverty and social class</li> <li>• Multiculturalism</li> </ul>
	<b>3 hours</b> focused on a historical overview of the field that will integrate early Systemic Models of research and practice perspectives
	<b>9 hours</b> focused on providing students with a foundational understanding of the key theoretical tenets of Systemic Family Therapy (Systemic Models and Communication)
	<b>9 hours</b> focused on providing students with a foundational understanding of the key theoretical tenets of Emotionally Focused Therapy for Families (Humanistic)
	<b>9 hours</b> focused on providing students with a foundational understanding of the key theoretical tenets of Attachment Focused Family Therapy (Psychodynamic)
	<b>9 hours</b> focused on providing students with a foundational understanding of the key theoretical tenets of Cognitive Behavioural Family Therapy (Cognitive Behavioural)
	Key approaches across theoretical orientations ( <b>Common Factors</b> ) will be explored to assist the student in the development of basic core psychotherapeutic skills and provide them with an understanding of the importance of common factors in family treatment such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication skills</li> <li>• Therapeutic alliance</li> <li>• Client/therapist characteristics</li> </ul>
	<b>Theoretical Models:</b> 12 hours systemic and communication theories, 9 hours humanistic, 9 hours psychodynamic, 9 hours cognitive behavioural, 6 hours common factors
	Evaluation of a person who is dealing with child custody and access issues Evaluation of a person who wishes to adopt a child

✓	<b>SWRK 623 Couple Therapy (3 credits):</b>
	The goal of this course is to introduce students to the major models of couple therapy through a triadic perspective
	The course will be divided into four core theoretical approaches to couple therapy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Integrated Systemic Therapy for Couples</li> <li>○ Emotionally Focused Therapy for Couples</li> <li>○ Mentalizing Based Couple Therapy</li> <li>○ Cognitive Behavioural Marital Therapy</li> </ul>
	<b>9 hours</b> will focus on key approaches to cross theoretical orientations (common factors) in couple treatment will be explored to assist the student in the development of basic core psychotherapeutic skills and provide them with an understanding of the importance of common factors such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Communication skills</li> <li>● Therapeutic alliance</li> <li>● Client/therapist characteristics</li> </ul>
	Models in couple treatment will be presented integrating the lens of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Gender</li> <li>● Race</li> <li>● Poverty and social class</li> <li>● Multiculturalism</li> </ul>
	<b>3 hours</b> will provide students with a historical overview of the field including a focus on the common factors that underlie all couple therapy interventions
	<b>9 hours</b> will provide students with a foundational understanding of the key theoretical tenets of Integrated Systemic Therapy for Couples (Systemic)
	<b>9 hours</b> will provide students with a foundational understanding of the key theoretical tenets of Emotionally Focused Therapy for Couples (Humanistic)
	<b>9 hours</b> will provide students with a foundational understanding of the key theoretical tenets of Mentalizing Based Couple Therapy (Psychodynamic)
	<b>9 hours</b> will provide students with a foundational understanding of the key theoretical tenets of Cognitive Behavioural Marital Therapy (Cognitive Behavioural)
	Evaluation of a person who is dealing with child custody and access issues Evaluation of a person who wishes to adopt a child
	Topics include: value issues; origins of intimate conflict; characteristics of troubled couples; presenting couple complaints; separation; treatment techniques; alliances, coalitions; hierarchies; third party positioning; neutrality; secrets; counsellor symmetry; and power/resistance
	36 hours on systemic models and communication theories 9 hours on common factors

✓	<b>SWRK 630 Adult Mental Health (3 credits):</b>
	The objective of this course will be to familiarize students with theories of psychopathology including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic systems</li> <li>• Life cycles and associated issues</li> <li>• History of the study of psychopathology</li> <li>• Treatment of mental illness</li> </ul>
	Emphasis will be placed on understanding abnormal behaviour in adults: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anxiety and posttraumatic stress disorders</li> <li>• Substance abuse</li> <li>• Psychotic disorders</li> <li>• Affective disorders and somatization disorders</li> </ul>
	This course will provide students with a foundation in the area of mental health and mental illness with an emphasis on assessment, classification and treatment planning
	<b>9 hours</b> will focus on introducing students to theories of psychopathology including introduction to and critiques of diagnostic systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders – DSM</li> <li>• International Classification of Diseases – ICD</li> <li>• Subsequent revisions</li> </ul>
	<b>18 hours</b> will focus on introducing students to a broad range of manifestations of abnormal behaviour in adults (e.g. anxiety and posttraumatic stress disorders, substance abuse, psychotic disorders and affective disorders and somatization disorders)
	<b>9 hours</b> will focus on the impact of trauma on mental health
	<b>9 hours</b> will focus on current approaches to treatment with a specific emphasis on biomedical considerations in treatment planning and implementation
	Throughout the course students will be introduced to etiological theories in the development of mental health disturbances with an emphasis on understanding the role and limitations of psychosocial treatments available to the social work practitioner, including psychotherapy
	Evaluation of a person with a mental or neuropsychological disorder with a diagnosis or a professional assessment

**Students can select 1 complementary course from the following list:**

- EDPC 503 Human Sexuality: Professionals (3 cr)
- SWRK 621 Seminar on Trauma and Resilience (3 cr)
- SWRK 628 Violence against Women (3 cr)
- SWRK 635 Advanced Clinical Seminar: Use of Self (3 cr)
- SWRK 655 Seminar on Aging (3 cr)
- SWRK 657 Seminar in Mental Health (3 cr)
- SWRK 668 Living with Illness, Loss and Bereavement (3 cr)
- SWRK 669 Disability and Rehabilitation (3 cr)
- SWRK 670 Seminar in Caregiving (3 cr)