COURSE SYLLABUS  
Southeast Missouri State University

Department of Communication Disorders  
Course No.  CD626

Title of Course: Counseling Individuals with Communication Disorders and their Caregivers  
New:  2001

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

Study of counseling for individuals with communication disorders and their caregivers. Counseling systems and techniques for specific communication disorders are emphasized. (3).

II. Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing or consent of the instructor.

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course:

A. To analyze the psychological ramifications and social dynamics of communication disorders on individuals who demonstrate those disorders and their caregivers.

B. To demonstrate appropriate interviewing techniques during the assessment and treatment of persons with communication disorders.

C. To incorporate individual and group counseling techniques during the treatment of persons with communication disorders.

D. To apply individual and group counseling principles to cooperative assessment and treatment of persons with communication disorders and their families in interdisciplinary treatment models in professional medical practice settings.

IV. Expectations of Students:

Students will be expected to assimilate and demonstrate an understanding of the information in class discussion, on activities designed to develop counseling skills, and on examinations designed to test knowledge of counseling techniques and their application to persons with communication disorders and their caregivers.

V. Course Outline:

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<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>No. Of Class Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Unit 1</td>
<td>Prevalent counseling theories and practices; the use of power in the therapeutic relationship; Egan’s Three-Stage Skilled-Helper Model; contrast between counseling in psychology and counseling in communication disorders.</td>
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Unit 2 The use of power in the therapeutic relationship; the use of positive power; analysis and description of the concept of power, dynamics at the onset of the therapeutic relationship, the power struggle in on-going therapy; dealing with shame, guilt, denial
and grief.

Unit 3  Effective interviewing techniques for application in evaluating persons with communication disorders and their caregivers.

Unit 4  Effective interviewing techniques for application in treating persons with communication disorders and their caregivers in individual and group interventions; establishing and conducting support groups.

Unit 5  Psychological considerations for adolescents, adults and their caregivers with various communication disorders: aphasia, traumatic brain injury, stuttering, language disorders, voice disorders, hearing impairment, swallowing disorders, head and neck cancers, progressive neurological communication disorders.

Unit 6  Psychological considerations for children and their caregivers with various communication disorders: traumatic brain injury, stuttering, language disorders, voice disorders, hearing impairment, swallowing disorders, developmental and neurological disorders.

VI. Textbook(s) and/or Other Required Materials or Equipment:


**Other Selected Readings and/or Materials or Equipment:** (placed on reserve)


**Supplementary Materials:**
To be provided by the instructor: audio and video samples of various disorders of communication and counseling sessions related to discussing results of assessments, providing counseling to individuals with communication disorders and their families, and worksheets for use in class for decision–making in case studies presented for class discussion.

**VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:**

A. Students will be evaluated on the basis of their performance on written examination (objective and essay). Two major examinations of equal weight and several short exercises regarding decision making in case studies will be given (50% of the final grade).

B. Students will be evaluated on the basis of their ability to demonstrate different types of counseling techniques and to plan appropriate group intervention strategies for individuals with communication disorders and their caregivers (20% of the final grade).

C. Students will be evaluated on the basis of their ability to analyze the group dynamics and individual needs of persons with communication disorders and their caregivers observed in live and videotaped sessions of support groups and group therapy sessions (10% of the final grade).

D. Students will be evaluated on the basis of their ability to formulate appropriate interview questions to gain essential information during an assessment and during counseling sessions with individuals who demonstrate communication disorders and their caregivers (20% of the final grade).