



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

**MH342**

**CURRENT AND EMERGING ISSUES IN  
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CARE**

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

<b>Unit code</b>	MH342								
<b>Unit name</b>	Current and Emerging Issues in Community Mental Health Care								
<b>Associated higher education awards</b>	Bachelor of Applied Social Science								
<b>Duration</b>	One semester								
<b>Level</b>	Advanced								
<b>Core/Elective</b>	Elective Required for Community Mental Health specialisation								
<b>Weighting</b>	Unit credit points: 10 Course credit points: 240								
<b>Student workload</b>	<p><i>Face-to-face on site</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Contact hours</td> <td>39 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reading, study, and preparation</td> <td>59 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assignment preparation</td> <td>52 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>150 hours</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.</p>	Contact hours	39 hours	Reading, study, and preparation	59 hours	Assignment preparation	52 hours	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150 hours</b>
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150 hours</b>								
<b>Delivery mode</b>	Face-to-face on site								
<b>Prerequisites/ Corequisites/ Restrictions</b>	<i>Prerequisite</i> MH241 Skills and Practices for Community Mental Health Care								
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>Community mental health care typically faces numerous challenges and issues as it engages with its various stakeholders. As well as an understanding of the underpinning theories and skills of community mental health care, those who work in this area must also have some awareness of the kinds of issues faced.</p> <p>This unit, therefore, examines several specific areas of community mental health that are commonly encountered when working in this sector and also addresses some of the issues faced by those with lived experience of mental health issues in dealing with the broader health system. In addition, the unit also serves to give the student an insight into the breadth and diversity of the community mental health sector and provides opportunity for students to reflect on these issues in terms of personal relevance and from a Christian perspective.</p>								
<b>Prescribed text(s)</b>	<p>Byrne, G., &amp; Neville, C. (2010). <i>Community mental health for older people</i>. Chatswood, NSW, Australia: Churchill Livingstone.</p> <p>Ritter, L., &amp; Lampkin, S. (2012). <i>Community mental health</i>. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning.</p>								
<b>Recommended readings</b>	<p><b>Books</b></p> <p>Meadows, G., Farhall, J., Fossey, E., Grigg, M., McDermott, F., &amp; Singh, B. (2012). <i>Mental health in Australia: Collaborative community practice</i> (3rd ed.). Melbourne, VIC, Australia: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Rosenberg, J., &amp; Rosenberg, S. (2013). <i>Community mental health: Challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> century</i>. New York, NY: Routledge.</p>								

	<p>Scheid, T., &amp; Brown, T. (Eds.). (2010). <i>A handbook for the study of mental health: Social contexts, theories, and systems</i> (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Segal, D. (2011). <i>Aging and mental health</i>. West Sussex, UK: Wiley.</p> <p>Shannon, S. (2013). <i>Mental health for the whole child: Moving young clients from disease and disorder to balance and wellness</i>. New York, NY: Norton.</p> <p>Thornicroft, G., Szukler, G., Mueser, K.T., &amp; Drake, R.E. (Eds.). (2011). <i>Oxford textbook of community mental health</i>. UK: Oxford University Press.</p> <p><b>Journal Articles</b></p> <p>Chenven, M. (2010). <i>Community systems of care for children's mental health</i>. Retrieved from: <a href="http://www.childpsych.theclinics.com">http://www.childpsych.theclinics.com</a></p> <p><b>Journals</b></p> <p><i>Community Mental Health Journal</i></p> <p><i>Journal of Child and Adolescent Mental Health</i></p> <p><i>Journal of Mental Health</i></p> <p><i>Journal of Poverty and Social Justice</i></p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011 (NIV 2011) or The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV).</p> <p>These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at <a href="http://www.biblegateway.com">http://www.biblegateway.com</a>. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
<b>Specialist resource requirements</b>	Nil
<b>Content</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The challenge of understanding mental health and mental illness</li> <li>2. Lifespan mental health issues: children, adolescents and adults</li> <li>3. Children of parents with a mental illness; families and carers</li> <li>4. Environmental mental health issues: poverty and homelessness; discrimination</li> <li>5. Substance abuse and mental health issues</li> <li>6. Trauma and mental health issues</li> <li>7. The challenges of medications</li> <li>8. Barriers to care-power relationships, navigating the medical system</li> <li>9. Legislation and policy frameworks</li> <li>10. Moving towards prevention and resilience</li> <li>11. Engaging with mental health issues from ethical and Christian perspectives</li> </ol>
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have demonstrated that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. examined major mental health issues and different understandings of causation;</li> <li>2. understood and described the ways of working with people in recovery in these areas of community mental health;</li> <li>3. reflected on issues regarding mental health that are personally relevant;</li> <li>4. articulated and evaluated the challenges faced by people in recovery;</li> <li>5. reflected on and engaged with issues relevant to community mental health from ethical and Christian perspectives; and</li> <li>6. communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammars, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing, and presentation.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Assessment tasks</b></p>	<p><b>Task 1: On-line Reflective Journal</b></p> <p>Post four journal entries outlining the theoretical and professional learning you have gained from four of the topics covered in this unit so far.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 1,600 words (4 x 400 words)</p> <p>Weighting: 30%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-3, 6</p> <p>Assessed: Week 7</p> <p><b>Task 2: Group Seminar and Paper</b></p> <p>Prepare and deliver a group seminar exploring one topic of the course, including a description of the topic and ways of responding and working with a consumer that would be appropriate to this topic.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: Seminar - 20 minutes; Paper - 1,000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 30%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-3, 5, 6</p> <p>Assessed: Week 10</p> <p><b>Task 3: Research Paper</b></p> <p>Examine the following in reference to one topic discussed in this unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• current understandings;</li> <li>• appropriate practices and ways of working with consumers; and</li> <li>• personal and professional application.</li> </ul> <p>Evaluate this topic in light of <i>shalomic</i> principles and ethical considerations.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 2,000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 40%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-6</p> <p>Assessed: Week 13</p>
<p><b>Unit summary</b></p>	<p>In this unit, students will explore some of the key issues encountered in community mental health care and evaluate these from both the perspective of the theory and practice of community mental health and a <i>shalomic</i> Christian worldview.</p>