

Mental Health Issues

Week 16 Deadlines

- A completed discussion must be submitted in the Dropbox as a Rich Text Format (RTF), Word (DOC or DOCX), or Portable Document File (PDF) by 11:59pm Friday.
- A summary of your submission must be posted in a discussion forum by 11:59pm Friday
- A response to at least one other person's discussion must be posted by 11:59pm Sunday

Dropbox Submission Requirements

- Complete the Mental Health Issues Tutorial posted in Week 16 of the Weekly Schedule.
- Rich Text Format (RTF), Word (DOC or DOCX), or Portable Document File (PDF)
- Minimum of 500 words (not including citations or instructions).
- Must include 2-3 sources (textbook should be 1 source + 2 others) and use APA style citations.

Instructions

There are many different controversies that usually arise when discussing mental illness, such as:

1. Is mental illness real?
2. Can mental illness be successfully cured?
3. Are these illnesses being over-diagnosed and/or over medicated?
4. Are people with mental illness dangerous?
5. Should children be given psychotropic medications, such as Ritalin or Prozac?

These questions share one thing in common, and that is they are all a product of the stigma that is associated with mental illness in the United States. For this discussion you will explore the stigma of mental illness and debunk its myths and misperceptions.

Dropbox Submission Questions

For our final discussion you are expected to do some research on three of these posted questions. Remember that I am looking for your demonstrated critical thinking skills so at a minimum you should cite at least 2-3 sources for each answer. Be sure that each source is carefully vetted for potential bias and authority. Also personal opinions can be included however they do not constitute critical thinking unless your opinions are supported by objective evidence.

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Discussion Post

Although you were asked to do research on 3 questions, pick the one question that you found most interesting or were most surprised by, and then only post it into the discussion forum. You'll see in this discussion forum each of the posted questions you had to choose from. Copy and paste your answer as a reply to the question you answered (this should make sense when you go to the forum and see the examples).

Discussion Response

You are expected to choose one of the other questions that you did research on and get engaged in that discussion as well, responding to other student(s) posts(s). Here are some ways in which you might demonstrate engagement and remember that these are not “yes or no” questions:

- If you agree with their answer, provide concrete examples that you found to support their answer.
- If you disagree, provide alternate perspectives.
- If their answer raises other questions for you, ask them but most importantly do further research.
- If their answer is not supported clearly, provide clarification or additional research for them.

These are just a couple of ways to demonstrate critical thinking, to help you get focused.

APA Format

Students are expected to submit original work, which means that no more than 10% of the project should be quoted (or copied) material. In addition students are expected to use APA in-text citations as well as provide an APA Reference Page at the end. Information about APA format and plagiarism are posted in the Weekly Schedule. Failure to appropriately cite sources in this project may lead to an automatic ZERO score.

Tips to Maximize Points

Apply concepts and theories. Anytime you are asked to post an analysis you will be scored on your demonstrated understanding of the concepts you've learned as they relate to the topics you are discussing. Therefore to maximize points you should discuss concepts that were presented in the lesson(s) and apply them clearly when answering posted discussion questions. You are not expected to apply all of the concepts but you will be scored on how well you explain the ones that you do choose to apply in this project.

Stay actively engaged. You should be sure to pick topics that you find interesting because you will feel compelled to engage in discussion with your group. If you are regularly participating in the process you will be creating opportunities to earn points by applying the concepts and theories you are learning about. There is no formula for how many times you have to post, however you are expected to post a minimum of 2 times.

Pay attention to project deadlines. If you miss a deadline you will not receive credit for that requirement.

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Penalties

Students will receive no credit for the following actions:

- Did not use APA citations = no credit
- Cannot open submission in the Dropbox = no credit
- Submission is less than 500 words (citations and instructions not included) = no credit
- Plagiarism = no credit and reported to the Dean
- More than 20% quoted information = no credit
- Did not use APA in-text or full citations = -5 points
- No submission in the Dropbox = -5 points
- Late submission in the Dropbox = -3 points
- Exceeds the 10% quotation maximum = -1 point per percentage, up to 20%.