COURSE DESCRIPTION
This class presents the latest skills and techniques for handling real crisis situations. Specifically, it presents a six-step model for dealing with people in crisis: Defining the Problem, Ensuring Client Safety, Providing Support, Examining Alternatives, Making Plans, and Obtaining Commitment. Using this model, the class will then build specific strategies for handling a myriad of different crisis situations - in many cases providing the dialogue that you might use as a nurse, minister, police officer, counselor, or other practitioner. At the end of this course, you will have developed skills and strategies that you can take out of the classroom and into your respective profession of choice.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
At the completion of this course, students are responsible for:
1) An increased knowledge of handling crisis situations
2) An increased understanding of the current initiatives in the field of trauma and crises and the ability to translate this to your professional field of choice.

REQUIRED READING
2) Throughout the course you may also be required to read numerous journal articles, for which you will be responsible. **Most** will be provided to you, others you will be expected to retrieve. This will be mandatory and if I believe students are not retrieving the articles, there will be quizzes on the material. The articles that are provided will be posted on sakai, if you do not have a NetID and are unfamiliar with sakai, please address this, as this is a hybrid class.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
1) Attendance & Participation
Participation and attendance are required and mandatory since this is a hybrid class. There are no excusable absences. Every missed in-class session will result in a deduction of 10 points off your final grade. We meet every other Tuesday from 3-5:40, and the “off” Tuesday is the “online” day. Roll will be taken during each in-class session since there are only 8 class meetings. You are expected to have the material read for the respective class. Failing to provide sufficient answers to posed questions will result in a score of zero for that day’s participation. Students are expected to fully participate in the lectures and will be called on regularly. Exams will ONLY be rescheduled for an emergency and ONLY with appropriate documentation.

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss a class please use the university absence reporting website https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/ to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. This system was never meant to replace department or instructor policies on absences and make-up work. Please note that my policy is that no missed class is excused, and it will result in a 10 point deduction.

2) Reading Material
Readings are assigned for every Tuesday, regardless of whether we meet on that Tuesday or if it is our “online” day. The class that we meet at will then cover the material from the week before and that particular day. If participation and feedback on readings suffers, pop quizzes will be given sporadically.

3) Newspaper Article Review/Presentation
The first grade will be a write-up and presentation of a newspaper article dealing with an issue pertinent to crisis intervention. This article can range anywhere in the topic of how to handle crisis situations, crisis training and specific situations, for example, PTSD, Suicide, Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Addiction, Depression, Unexpected Death, Violence in the Workplace or School or Natural Disasters. If someone presents a newspaper article on something before you, please refrain from choosing the same article. Hard copy newspaper articles can be searched, as well as outlets like the New York Times and the Washington Post, which would allow you to search by key word. NO WIKIPEDIA. The article should be attached to a 1 page type-written summation. Students should outline the problem or topic in the article and depending on the content, they should offer suggestions, opinions or remedies- DO NOT SIMPLY REGURGITATE THE ARTICLE. The class should also pay attention to grammar, spelling and content, as this contributes to your grade. A sign-up sheet will be provided early in the semester and late assignments will not be accepted. Presentation of this newspaper article and your opinions and suggestions are expected to last FIVE MINUTES. Time yourself prior. Also, once a day is chosen, it cannot be changed. Write down your date, if you miss it for any reason you will receive a zero for that grade.

4) Final Exam and Midterm Exam
The exams will be multiple choice or essay, depending on the size of the class. You will know this within the first two weeks of class. The final exam is not cumulative.

COURSE GRADING
Newspaper Article 20%
Midterm Exam 40%
Final Exam 40% http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/

GRADING SCALE
A 100--90
B+ 89-- 86
B 85-- 80
C+ 79-- 76
C 75-- 70
D 69-- 60
F 59 and below

DISABILITY OFFICE
Students with disabilities are responsible for having the appropriate documentation from the disability office, and providing it to the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Full disability policies and procedures are at: http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations must follow the procedures outlined at: http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/request.html

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and any violation will be reported to the Dean of Students. No excuse will ever be tolerated for academic dishonesty, but it is even more important that students understand the repercussions of this unethical behavior. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, the fabrication or invention of information used in an assignment, plagiarism, facilitating the academic dishonesty of others or denying access to materials and resources.

General Academic Integrity Link:
http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/

Take a 20 minute interactive-tutorial on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:
http://www.scc.rutgers.edu/douglass/sal/plagiarism/intro.html

FALL 2012--COURSE SCHEDULE
This calendar of events is subject to change based on the completion of course material and student progress. Additionally, some readings may change and if so, you will be provided notice.

9/04/2012 IN CLASS DAY
Introduction
Presentation of the syllabus, readings, and requirements.
Opening Discussion on Chapter 1- Approaching Crisis Intervention
Sign-up for newspaper presentation
9/11/12 ONLINE DAY
Chapter 2- Culturally Effective Helping

9/18/12 IN CLASS DAY
Chapter 3- The Intervention and Assessment Models (so we will cover chapters 2 & 3, the same goes for each subsequent in class day)

9/25/12 ONLINE DAY
Chapter 4- Tools of the Trade

10/2/12 IN CLASS DAY
Chapter 5-Crisis Case Handling & Chapter 6-Telephone and Online Crisis Counseling

10/9/12 ONLINE DAY
Chapter 7-Postraumatic Stress Disorder

10/16/12 MIDTERM EXAM- IN CLASS

10/23/12 ONLINE DAY
Chapter 8-Crisis of Lethality

10/30/12 IN CLASS DAY
Chapter 9-Sexual Assault

11/6/12 ONLINE DAY
Chapter 10- Partner Violence

11/13/12 IN CLASS DAY
Chapter 11- Chemical Dependency

11/20/12 ONLINE DAY
Chapter 12- Personal Loss

11/27/12 IN CLASS DAY
Chapter 13- Crisis in Schools

12/4/12 ONLINE DAY
Chapter 17- Disaster Response

12/11/12 FINAL EXAM- IN CLASS (I need to check this and confirm that WMC classes conform to this schedule)