

I. Brief Focused Research Paper (10% of your grade)

The body of knowledge in community mental health is made up of ideas based on research as well as on ideas based primarily on clinical wisdom. Evidence for a number of major assertions is lacking. Students need to learn how to evaluate evidence presented in the text as well as in their readings. The purpose of these reaction papers is to have students critically read the studies upon which we base our interventions. The goal is to learn to separate evidence from opinion and to think of alternative explanations of the actual evidence that is presented to them. Think of a focused question you want to know more about. (Ex: Are there personality or demographic variables that would help determine what type of homeless person would benefit from low-income housing). Read text and look up the literature re: this question. Weigh the evidence. Select three articles and present the evidence. Make sure articles are focused on your question.

Select three articles related to community mental health and write a two-page critique of each article.

Introduction Articles

- A. State your question – importance and reason for question
- B. Turn in a copy of the article.

1. Purpose of the study – Theoretical Issues in your own words
2. Method used – briefly
3. Outcome in your own words – analyze the table. Are the conclusions reflected in the tables?
4. Alternative explanation of the findings
5. Ramification of the findings
6. In one final section compare the three articles and give your conclusions.

SUMMARY

one page

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