

Genogram Construction & Presentation **BMFT 601: Pre-Internship**

TASK: Your task is to construct a 3-generational (as far back as your great-grandparents) extended family genogram according to the guidelines in *Genograms: Assessment and Intervention* by McGoldrick, Gerson, and Shellenberger. Both the genogram and the presentation must be of professional quality.

AUDIENCE: Your audience for this task consists of your peers/colleagues.

FORMAT: The genogram may be drawn on a large posterboard or constructed using a computer program such as Microsoft Publisher and presented to the class using PowerPoint. Whatever its form, the genogram must be neat and easy to read. It is recommended that you be creative with color and symbols to represent some of the necessary information. A 10-15 minute presentation will be given to the class to share what you have learned about your family. The presentation should be well organized and professional. The following aspects of the 3-generational family should be discussed in the presentation:

- Family structure – household composition, sibling constellation, unusual family configurations
- Life cycle fit
- Pattern repetition across generations - patterns of functioning and relationships and repeated structural patterns
- Life events and family functioning - coincidences of life events, impact of life events, anniversary reactions, social, economic, political events
- Relational patterns and triangles
- Family balance and imbalance - family structure, roles, level and style of functioning, resources

In addition to the above areas of family functioning, you should also briefly address how constructing the genogram has impacted you personally and what you have learned about yourself and your family through the process.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION:

- Neatness – 1 point
- Overall quality of presentation – 2 points
- Discussion of six areas – 5 points
- Self-reflection – 2 points

DUE DATE: All students should bring their genograms to class on October 12, ready to present. Presentations will take place during class on October 12 and 19.