

# Transdisciplinary Seminar in Intellectual and other Developmental Disabilities Studies

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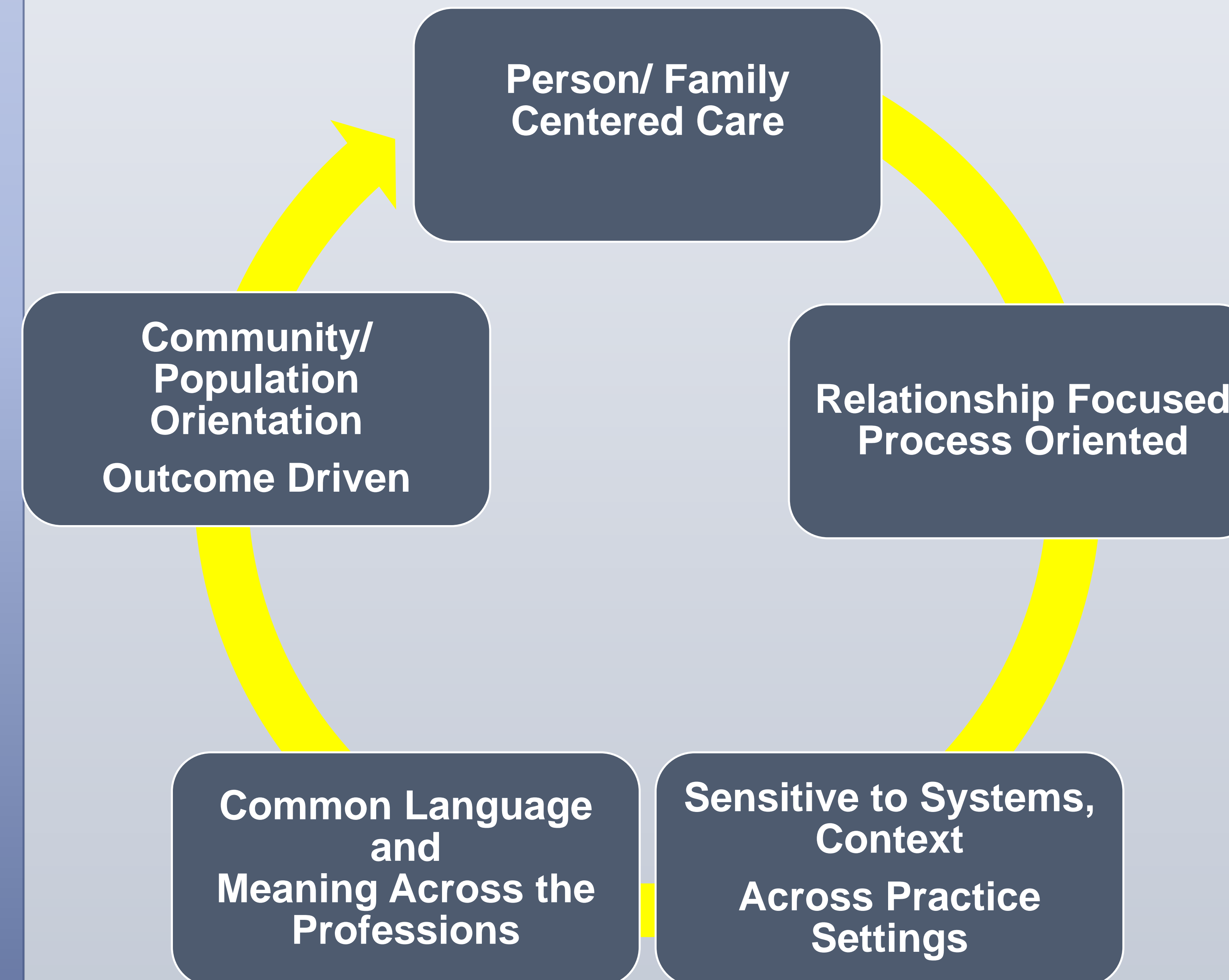
## Background

- Advances in health care and human services make it impractical for any individual practitioner to have the necessary knowledge and skill set to provide optimal services and care coordination. Therefore transdisciplinary, interprofessional collaboration and teamwork is required to optimize care. Students entering the health and human services profession require knowledge, skills and the disposition to work across disciplines.
- To meet this need we developed the first seminar offered at California State University Sacramento in conjunction with Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at the University of California Davis MIND Institute.
- Students worked in teams to ask questions, analyze research, and complete a project with *translational* application. Selected topics were driven by consumers.
  - Students studied the four competency domains:
    1. Values/ ethics for interprofessional practice
    2. Role and responsibilities across disciplines
    3. Interprofessional communication
    4. Teams and Teamwork
- **The students projects were reviewed by families and consumers for relevancy and accuracy.**
- The evaluation from both consumers and students indicated the positive value of transdisciplinary work.
- In addition each student made a unique contribution to the community and to disabilities studies.

## Interprofessional Education

“When students from two or more professions learn about, from and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes” (WHO,2010)

### Interprofessional Competencies



The students completed projects ranging from end-of-life preparation in rural areas to training for advance practice nurses in assessment of the aging person with disabilities

#### Reference

Interprofessional Education Collaborative Expert Panel. (2011). Core competencies for interprofessional collaborative practice: Report of an expert panel. Washington, D.C.: Interprofessional Education Collaborative

## Student Projects

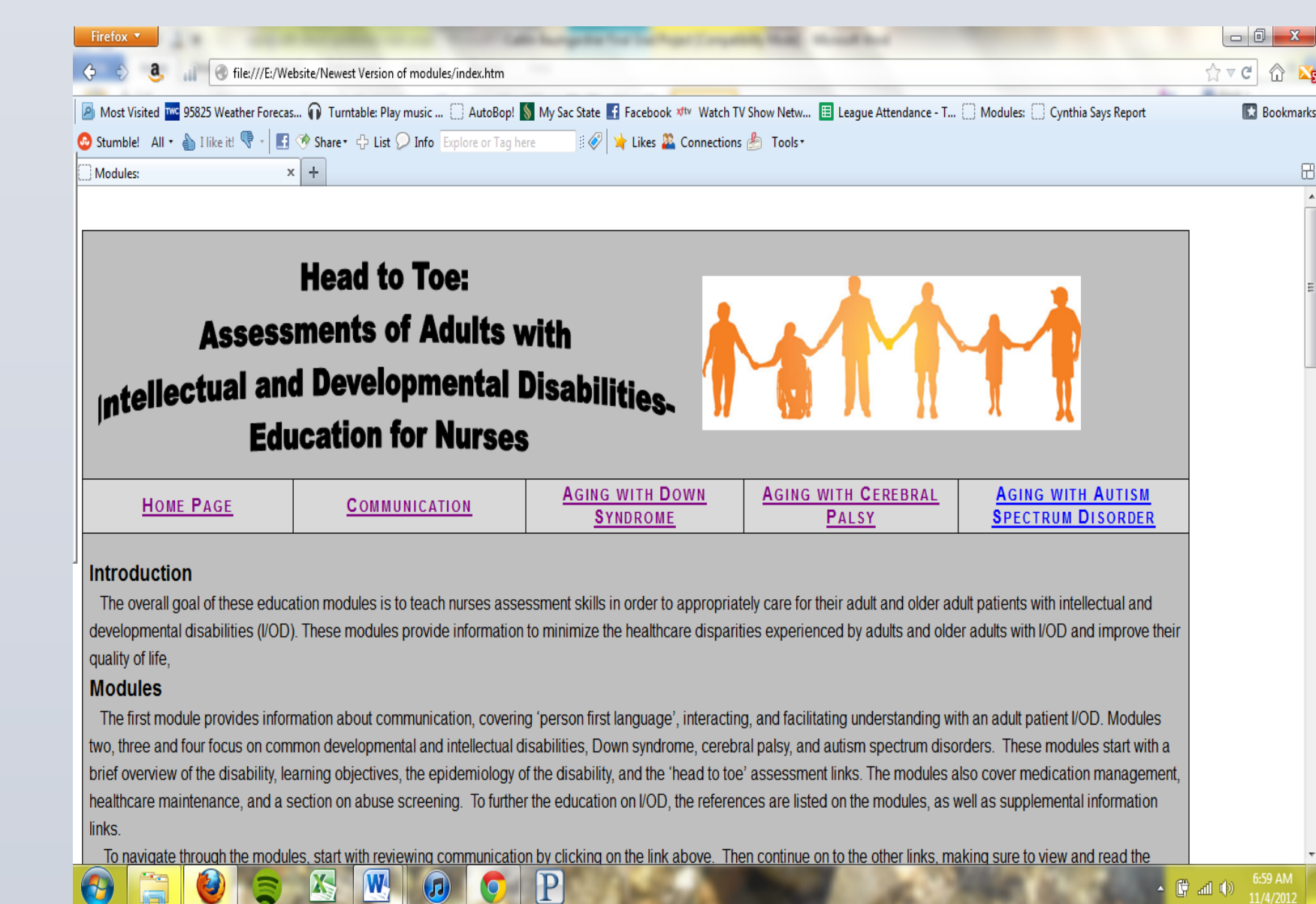
*Social Work:* End of life planning in rural communities for persons with developmental disabilities

- Develop family centered tool kit in consultation with rural health services and consumers

*Speech and Language:* Established a traumatic brain injury resource web site for families

- Held support groups for families with children who experienced recent traumatic brain injury

*Nursing:* Developed an online education course to teach nurses about assessment and common conditions of aging for persons with developmental disabilities



*Gerontology:* Created an online course for families and professionals about medication management to address polypharmacy and complicated medication management for aging in persons with developmental disabilities.

- Course is also used to educate in-home support personnel to reduce medication errors

*Kinesiology:* Conducted gait and balance studies to determine functioning across the life span for individuals with Fragile X and older fragile X permutation carriers with FXTAS