

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING PRACTICUM

HDCO 571-01

Spring 2008

Instructor: Mark D. Nelson, EdD, LCPC, NCSC, ACS
Time: Tuesday 2:10 – 4:00
Place: HH 114
Office: Herrick 305
Phone: 994-3810
E-mail: markn@montana.edu

Method of Instruction: Lecture, discussion, and supervised practical application

Description:

Prerequisite: HDCO 521 and consent of instructor.

This course will consist of a supervised experience in counseling. The student in consultation with the practicum supervisor will be assigned to a designated practicum site.

Goal:

The goal of the counseling practicum is to assist the student in learning how to facilitate the growth of another person/s in a counseling relationship. An emphasis is placed on students to develop their own style of counseling.

Objectives:

1. Develop a level of self-awareness, which permits optimal use of one's own behavior in a counseling relationship.
2. Demonstrate skills for intake interviews, mental health history inventory, consultation, use of assessment instruments, treatment planning, and case management.
3. Apply knowledge and skills in supervised counseling relationships.
4. Evaluate the effectiveness of specific strategies and assess counselee's progress.
5. When appropriate, participate in the activities associated with a position as a professional counselor in a school setting.
6. Demonstrate the ability to select and implement theory-based strategies, which will facilitate the attainment of counselee goals.
7. Develop professional identity, demeanor, and responsibility.
8. Establish an awareness of ethical standards and principles with counselees, colleagues, and others.
9. Demonstrate an appreciation of one's own culture and the cultures of others in counseling and interpersonal relationships.

Course Content & Schedule:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	1/15	<i>Martin Luther King Day</i>	
2	1/22	Chap. 1	Development
3	1/29	Chap. 2	Counseling Process
4	2/5	Chap. 3	Innovation
5	2/12	Chap. 4	Play
6	2/19	Chap. 5	Brief
7	2/26	Chap. 6	REBT
8	3/4	Chap. 7	Exceptional Children
9	3/10-14	Spring Break – No Classes	
10	3/18	Chap. 8	Culture
11	3/25	Chap. 9	Special Needs
12	4/1	Chap. 10	At Risk
13	4/8	Chap. 11	Groups
14	4/15	Chap. 12	Curricula
15	4/22	Chap. 13	Parents
16	4/29	Chap. 14	Families

Required Readings:

Vernon, A. (2004). *Counseling children and adolescents*. (3rd ed.). Denver, CO: Love Publishing.

Requirements:

1. Accrue at least 200 hours of activities related to the provision of services at the practicum site:
 - ❖ A minimum of 40 hours must be accrued in direct service with counselees.
 - ❖ Remaining hours may be indirect counseling activities relevant to the practicum.
2. Maintain a log of all practicum activities (direct and indirect contact hours).
3. Meet regularly with university supervisor (site supervisor if applicable).
4. Record and review counseling sessions (a minimum of 3 video or audiotapes).
5. Participate in supervision meetings:
 - ❖ Individual supervision 1 hour each week - an audio or videotape is required for each session.
 - ❖ Group supervision 1.5 hours each week - case presentations, seminar, and discussion, please come prepared with case summaries, notes, and session tapes.
6. Typescripts of counseling sessions, readings, and written assessments may be assigned.
7. Maintain progress notes for each counselee seen each week - notes will be retained until the end of the semester and then destroyed.
8. Additional responsibilities will be determined on an individual basis.
9. Students are expected to practice within the Ethical Guidelines of the American School Counselor Association and the American Counseling Association. Failure to follow or practice within the profession's ethical guidelines provides cause for automatic removal from the counseling graduate program.
10. Students are **required** to have liability insurance before beginning their practicum.
11. Students should purchase 1 or 2 high quality VHS format videotapes and/or audiotapes.

Performance Evaluation Criteria and Procedures:

The assignment of a grade for each student will be the responsibility of the practicum instructor, although the instructor may ask for input from the site supervisor (if applicable). Successful fulfillment of the course requirements and completion of practicum objectives will determine the grade. Student progress will be evaluated at midterm and semester's end. Evaluation will consist of a written/oral assessment provided by the practicum instructor and shared individually with each student during individual supervision.