COU 751-753 Counseling Practicum Peer Group

Houston Graduate School of Theology
COU 751–753 Counseling Practicum Peer Group
Spring 2015
Tuesday: 10:30 - 12:00 p.m., Tuesday: 5:30 - 7:00
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The mission of Houston Graduate School of Theology is empowering spiritual leadership through the intellectual, spiritual, and vocational development of men and women in order to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

I. Course Descriptions

COU 751 Counseling Practicum 1 One hundred fifty clock hours of supervised experience in counseling with an approved supervisor in an approved clinical or counseling center setting. The course includes meetings with a campus supervisor and peer group.

COU 752 Counseling Practicum 2 One hundred fifty clock hours of supervised experience in counseling with an approved supervisor in an approved clinical or counseling center setting. The course includes meetings with a campus supervisor and peer group.

COU 753 Marriage & Family Counseling Practicum 1 One hundred fifty clock hours of supervised experience in a clinical setting with clients; practicum to include work with family systems and the use of family therapy counseling approaches. The course includes meetings with a campus supervisor and peer group.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the practicum, the student will be able to:

A. Develop a professional perspective and theoretical orientation aligned with client and facility needs.
B. Adhere to and comply with facility policy.
C. Understand and utilize on site instruction, training, and information to assist with providing counseling to the population served.

Upon completion of the Peer Group classroom requirement, the student will be able to:

A. Present clinical cases in a case conference format.
B. Be competent in relationship building within the expose the peer-to-peer supervision model.
C. Articulate matters of ethical, moral, and spiritual concerns as they apply to the practicum experience.
D. Provide professional peer emotional support during practicum experience.
E. Review documentation issues, legal and practice issues as per the rules of the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors.
F. Integrate theories, experiences, and scripture to form a theological model of the counseling process and spiritual care in later life.

III. Texts

Required Textbooks:


Legal documents: (LPC track students) Download and print from the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors web page:
- Title 22, Texas Administrative Code, Part 30, Chapter 681: Rules relating to the licensing and regulation of professional counselors, Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors, effective September 1, 2010.
- Occupations Code, Chapter 503. Licensed Professional Counselors.

Legal documents: (LMFT track students) Download and print from the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists web page:
- Title 22, Texas Administrative Code, Part 35, chapter 801: Licensure and Regulation of Marriage and Family Therapists, Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists, effective April 27, 2003

Assignments

1. Weekly case presentation (written and oral)
2. Peer Group attendance and Participation
3. Review per practicum supervisor

4. A critical book review of *The Counseling Practicum and Internship Manual: A Resource for Graduate Counseling Students*. Please do not write a summary of the book, but a critical review informed by the content you have learned throughout your Master’s program and the application of such in your completion of at least one half of a practicum experience. Due at MIDTERM.

5. Compilation of 15 complete case write-ups (template provided in class)

V. Grading Scale: PASS - FAIL

VI. Policies
A. Regular attendance and submission of assignments on due dates in syllabus is expected. Each student must talk to the instructor about circumstances affecting his or her ability to attend class and complete assignments. Attendance is required at scheduled classes and at the scheduled start time. The student could fail for the class for excessive tardiness. More than five absences equals a fail.
B. Work is expected on the due date. Students should expect a grade reduction of up to one letter grade on late papers.

C. Turnitin.com
1. All written assignments are subject to required submission to www.turnitin.com to check for originality and style. The assignments that are required for submission will be described in the syllabus.
2. Students will create an account at www.turnitin.com. After doing so, the student will join the course page with the code and password supplied by the instructor. A list of assignments and due dates will be available on the course page.
3. Students will submit assignments by the due date and time, but they will still submit the assignments in a hard copy format.

D. Electronic Equipment Usage in Classrooms
It is expected that students will use technology (cell phones, laptop computers, iPads, etc.) during classes only for the purposes of class work. Therefore, students should turn off cell phones and refrain from texting and using laptop computers during classes except for the purposes of taking notes or doing research specifically authorized by the course instructor. Students who have emergency needs not covered by this policy must ask for an exception from the course instructor.

E. Incompletes
In cases of extenuating circumstances, and at the discretion of the instructor, a student may request and apply for an extension on all required assignments, which are not completed by the end of the semester or term, subject to a 5-point grade reduction on the final grade of each assignment. If an extension is granted, the instructor will record a grade of “I” (Incomplete) and set an extension of time, not to exceed thirty calendar days from the end of the class, within which to complete the work. Additional extensions may be granted only by the Academic Dean.
or Associate Dean and only after a student has petitioned the Dean in writing. If the course work is not completed within the extended time allotment, the grade of “I” will be converted to the grade earned by the student up to that point. The student is responsible to ensure that all necessary paperwork is submitted to the registrar’s office by the deadline published in the school calendar.

**F. Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is presenting the work of another person as one’s own without giving proper credit for the use of the information. Students must not quote books, articles, essays, or Internet sites without giving proper credit to the author(s). Students should guard against plagiarism by crediting the original author through use of proper citations. Internet plagiarism is a particularly easy and tempting form of intellectual theft. Cutting and pasting sentences and paragraphs from the Internet without citations is plagiarism. Failure to cite Internet sources is plagiarism. Any student who is found guilty of plagiarism is subject to a range of consequences as outlined below.

1. If a faculty member suspects plagiarism, the instructor will investigate. If suspicions are confirmed, the faculty member will present the evidence to the appropriate Associate Dean as a record of the offense. If the Associate Dean concurs with the allegations, the following procedures should be implemented as applicable:
   2. The faculty member may discuss the offense with the student following consultation with the Associate Dean, but the student will meet with the Associate Dean.

For a first offense, the faculty member, in consultation with the Associate Dean, may give opportunity for a rewrite of the assignment or may assign a grade of zero for the plagiarized assignment.

1. For a particularly egregious case of plagiarism on a major assignment, the consequences could result in automatic failure of the course.
2. The student may appeal the above-mentioned decisions of the faculty member in writing to the Academic Dean.
3. The second confirmed offense will result in expulsion from school. The student will be notified by a letter from the Academic Dean. His or her only opportunity for appeal will be to the President in writing. The President’s decision will be final.

**G. Library Usage**

A student’s ability to get the most out of library resources will enhance the possibility of earning a high grade in this class. Therefore, students should consider using, in addition to the HGST library, one or more of the following libraries.

1. *Houston Public Library*— Any resident of Texas can obtain a free Houston Public Library card. Library cardholders have access to all of the books in the library system as well as the use of free interlibrary loans, meaning that HPL cardholders can borrow almost any book available. Cardholders can use the library’s website, www.houstonlibrary.org, to search the catalog and manage interlibrary loans. The website also contains links to WorldCat and other online databases that will enhance your research. The HPL location that is closest to HGST, the Collier
Regional Branch (832-393-1740), is located at 6200 Pinemont, which is less than three miles from campus. A better option would be the newly expanded and renovated Central Library (832-393-1313), which is located downtown at 500 McKinney. In addition, HPL has many other locations. The HGST library can give you an application for an HPL library card, or you can print the application form from their website.

2. *Fondren Library at Rice University*— The Fondren Library (713-348-5113) is located at 6100 Main. Please visit www.rice.edu/fondren for more information. The procedure for borrowing books at the Fondren Library is, first, go to the online catalog [www.rice.edu/fondren] to search for available books; second, go to the HGST library and fill out a form, signed by HGST library personnel, to take with you to the Fondren Library for each book; third, retrieve the book(s) yourself; fourth, take the book(s) and the signed form to the circulation desk to complete checkout (return the yellow copy to the HGST library; when the book(s) are returned to the Fondren Library, they will indicate so on the pink and gold copies; return the pink copy to the HGST Library and keep the gold copy for your records).

3. Lanier Theological Library is a new resource for scholarly theological research in the Houston area. The library is open to the public, Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, and Tuesday, 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM. The library is a research library with no circulation privileges. Nonetheless, students should consider Lanier Library to be a valuable research option. The catalog of Lanier Library is available online: [http://alexandria.lanierlibrary.net/](http://alexandria.lanierlibrary.net/).

4. *Cardinal Beran Library at St Mary’s Seminary*—the home of an extensive theological library, St Mary’s Seminary (713-686-4345) is located at 9845 Memorial Drive, only 4.6 miles from HGST. For more information, please visit [http://beran.stthom.edu](http://beran.stthom.edu). The Doherty Library on the main campus of University of St Thomas is also an option.

5. *Library of the Presbytery of the New Covenant* – as an HGST student you have borrowing privileges at this library located at 1110 Lovett Blvd, Houston. To search their online catalog, go to [http://www.pbyofnewcovenant.org/cgi-bin/rqm/rqm.cgi](http://www.pbyofnewcovenant.org/cgi-bin/rqm/rqm.cgi).

6. Other options include Harris County Public Library (www.hcpl.net) and the libraries at the University of Houston and Houston Baptist University.

**VII. Notes for Writing Assignments**

A. Writing assignments, for MAC students, should conform to APA standards, especially for guidelines on submission of academic papers. (See Purdue OWL: APA Formatting and Style Guide @owl.english.purdue.edu/OWL/resource/560/01/).

B. The student should utilize 12-point Times New Roman font throughout. The instructor prefers that the student not use presentation or report binders or folders. He prefers submission of papers with staples or binder clips.

C. Critical or formal writing differs from colloquial writing or spoken English at several points. The student should note the following guidelines for critical writing. The instructor expects students to follow these guidelines strictly. Failure to do so will be penalized.
1. Avoid 1st or 2nd person references (“I,” “we,” or “you”). Keep the written projects objective and professional.
2. Never use contractions.
3. Avoid passive voice construction (i.e. The student should write “God chose Joshua” rather than “Joshua was chosen by God.”). Some exceptions are necessary, but limiting the use of passive voice is a good policy.
4. Be sure that number and tense always agree (i.e., Do not write in one place that “Brueggemann argues . . .” and at another place “Brueggemann argued . . .”). Subject-verb agreement is imperative.
5. Spellcheck! Spellcheck! Spellcheck! Dr. Terrill does not tolerate misspelled words. Failure to spellcheck will result in a substantive reduction on the grade for written assignments.
6. Grammar check works as well!
7. All pronouns should have clear antecedents. Avoiding “it is” and “there is” in the paper removes much of the ambiguity of pronoun usage.
8. Sentence fragments are unacceptable. Every sentence must have a subject and a predicate.

VIII. Bibliography

General

*The Counseling Experience: A Theoretical and Practical Approach* by Michael E. Cavanagh and Justin E. Levitov

*Boundaries: When to say Yes, When to Say No, To Take Control of Your Life* by Henry Cloud and John Townsend

*The Complete Adult Psychotherapy Treatment Planner, 2nd edition* by Arthur E. Jongsma and L. Mark Peterson

*Integrative Psychotherapy* by M. McMinn and C. Campbell

Diagnosis and Treatment

*Quick Reference to the Diagnostic Criteria for the DSM V.* Vital if you have to do four-axis diagnosis, has GAF scale.

Anger

*The Angry Heart: Overcoming Borderline and Addictive Disorders* by Joseph Santoro and Ronald Cohen – good resource for step by step journey and good insight into borderline issues. Has good exercises that you can adapt to your client.

Personality Disorders

*I Hate You Don’t Leave Me: Understanding The Borderline Personality* by Jerold J Kreisman and Hal Straus - great overview of borderlines clients

*Skills Training Manual for Treating Borderline Personality Disorder* by Marsh M. Lineham - very useful handouts, Dialectical Behavior Therapy

Stress Management and Pain Management
The Relaxation and Stress Reduction Workbook, 5th edition by Martha Davis, Elizabeth Robbins Eshelman, and Matthew McKay – very popular stress book with a variety of cognitive behavioral coping techniques
Managing Your Pain before it Manages You by Margaret A. Caudill – very popular book for chronic pain management. You may adapt topics to use in psychoeducational group therapy.

**Marriage and Domestic Abuse**
Battered into Submission: The Tragedy of Wife Abuse in the Christian Home by James Alsdurf and Phyllis Alsdurf - a surprising (for most) description of domestic abuse in the church
Keeping the Faith: Guidance for Christian Women Facing Abuse by Marie Fortune – a hopeful walk of recovery
Power/submission in marriage: (1) The Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood: www.cbmw.org; (2) Christians for Biblical Equality www.cbeinternational.org - deals with the issues of power, submission, head of house, etc.

**Sexual Abuse**

**Grief**

**Interpersonal Relationships**
I’m OK You’re OK by Thomas Harris - an overview of transactional analysis, useful format for working with clients with their interpersonal problems

**Websites**
Mental Health Association of Greater Houston : www.mhahouston.org - Resource center