Instructor: Steffany J. Homolka, Ph.D.
Office: 204H, Academic Building
Office Hours: M 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm, WF 10:00 am – 12:30 pm, Th. 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Email: steffany.homolka@angelo.edu
Phone: 325-942-6167

Course Prerequisite: None

Required Text:
Selections from Norton, D. J. (2009). The realities of outpatient mental health practice. (To be provided on Blackboard)
Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors (TSEBPC), Title 22, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 681: https://www.dshs.texas.gov/counselor/lpc_rules09(2)/
Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists Rulebook:

Course Description: An introduction to the counseling profession including specialty areas. This course introduces students to the role and function of counselors and related professions in various areas of practice. The history of counseling, professional goals and objectives, ethical standards, legal issues, professional trends, professional associations, credentialing, and the academic preparation of counselors are covered.

Course Objectives:
1. Gain factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
2. Develop specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in counseling
3. Learn to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)

Student Learning Outcomes:
By the end of the semester you should be able to:
1. Articulate a knowledge of historical and contemporary theories of counseling, including the role and function of counselors
2. Demonstrate a knowledge of therapeutic factors and mechanisms of change in counseling
3. Identify appropriate goals for counseling in a variety of settings with different clients
Policies/Expectations
- Read the syllabus thoroughly. If anything is unclear, then read the syllabus. If you still have concerns, then contact the professor.
- Students are expected to take responsibility for their success in class. You are encouraged to be active participants in the education process by asking questions and being alert in class.
- Distracting or disrespectful students will be asked to leave the class (this includes use of cell phones and other electronic devices). Please be respectful of others in all ways.
- If you have any concerns related to this class, you are encouraged to speak with your instructor in a timely manner. As a general rule, you should raise any issues within one week of receiving a grade or completing a given project.
- Students will be expected to access their email and Blackboard online classroom on a regular basis for announcements, course materials, assignments, and grades.
- The instructor reserves the right to use plagiarism prevention software.

Class Sessions
- The majority of the class will be discussion-based with some lecture.
- You MUST take your own notes in class in order to pass.
- Media presentations and demonstrations may be used to help illustrate the concepts being discussed.
- Classes may include discussions, group projects, films, and activities.
- Questions and comments are always encouraged.
- This class examines a variety of cultural and personal issues and may expose students to ideas and material that they may find disagreeable. If students are unable or unwilling to tolerate other perspectives or their own value systems in the context of the class, then they are encouraged to speak with the instructor regarding their concerns and may wish to reconsider their enrollment in the course. Should you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions at any time during the semester, please feel free to contact me.

Communication
- Email is the best way to contact your instructor.
- All emails should include the course title or number in the subject line.
- All emails should include your first and last name.

Course Requirements:
Readings: Read all of the assigned material before their assigned class, during which we will discuss the material. In order to have meaningful class discussions you must come to class having read the assigned material. Some material in the text may be challenging upon first read, but lectures and discussions will be easier and more advantageous if you have read the assigned reading. If I feel the class is not keeping up with the reading, I will have the option to start giving quizzes at any time during any class. Just remember that reading prior to class is really to your benefit.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance and graduate-level participation in discussion and other course-related activities is mandatory.
**Response Notes:** Throughout the semester you will be required to turn in brief, informal comments and questions in response to the readings. The purpose of these response notes is to (a) prepare you for class discussion and exams, (b) demonstrate that you read the material, (c) engage your interest regarding the readings, and (d) take attendance. Notes should be approximately 1 page, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font. They should reference each reading. The note should include any questions the student may still have based on the readings, information they found interesting or helpful within the readings, and any other applicable comments.

**Mandated Reporter Training:** Students will be required to participate in mandated reporter training. Further details will be provided in class.

**Exams:** There will be a take-home essay midterm paired with a multiple-choice, in-class exam. The final will consist of a take-home essay exam paired with a small group oral exam. Further details will be provided in class regarding the oral exam. All essays must be submitted via BlackBoard. Students are NOT allowed to communicate with one another regarding the essays but they may use their notes and class notes. All essays must be the original work of each individual student. To do well on these exams you will need to think critically about the course material and be able to integrate material across multiple topics. Exams will cover material from lectures, readings, activities, and class discussions.

Students will have seven days to work on the take-home essays exams. Make up exams for the multiple-choice and small group oral exams will only be allowed for emergency situations. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the professor within 24 hours to reschedule. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the exam. Make up exams will be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor and will be scheduled as quickly as possible. Make-up exams will cover the same material, but are in a format of the instructor’s choice, such as ORAL or comprehensive fill in the blank/essay exams. Unless the student can provide reasonable evidence that it was impossible to complete a take-home essay exam within the seven days provided all students, take-home essay exams will not be accepted late and students will not be given an opportunity to make up such exams.

**Grade Points Distribution:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Response Notes</td>
<td>10 ea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandated Reporter Training</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Take-Home Essay Exam</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm MC Exam</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Take-Home Essay Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Small Group Oral Exam</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Possible Points:</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Support
Throughout the semester I am available to meet with students for both further exploration of the class’ topics and academic support for those who may struggle with the class’ requirements or topics. If there is a particular professional development topic not covered in class that interests you, please let me know. I would be happy to help you further explore different professional development topics outside of class and may even consider incorporating such topics into the course. I encourage you to speak with me before or after class or set up a time to meet with me.

Students registered with the Office of Disability Services are especially encouraged to set up a time to meet with me so we can discuss any needs for additional individual arrangements.

Tutoring
The ASU Writing Center and ASU Tutor Center are available and I strongly encourage you to take advantage of these resources. These services are likely to increase students’ grades and future academic performance. The ASU Tutor Center (C301) and ASU Writing Center (C305; 942-2093) are located on the third floor of the ASU Library. Writing Center and Tutor Center can work with students in any discipline and at any skill level. Both centers are free to all ASU students.

Title IX
Angelo State University is committed to the safety and security off all students. If you or someone you know experience sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, stalking, or discrimination, you may contact ASU’s Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone at 325-486-6357.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.

Academic Honesty & Honor Code
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at: http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf. Academic honesty is expected on all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The Department of Psychology and Sociology adheres to the academic honesty statement as set forth in the Angelo State University Student Handbook (2017-2018) http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/. The University "faculty expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experience both in and out of the classroom setting and may initiate
disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials."

**Plagiarism**
Plagiarism at ASU is a serious topic. The Angelo State University’s Honor Code gives specific details on plagiarism and what it encompasses. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word for word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. We use the APA Style Manual of the American Psychological Association as a guide for all writing assignments. Quotes should be used sparingly. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Bb Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center [http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php](http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php).

**Students with Disabilities**
Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation. Educational access is the provision of classroom accommodations, auxiliary aids and services to ensure equal educational opportunities for all students regardless of their disability.

The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Office of Student Affairs, University Center, Room 112 at (325) 942-2047 or (325) 942-2211 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at studentservices@angelo.edu to begin the process. The Office of Student Affairs will establish the particular documentation requirements necessary for the various types of disabilities. Reasonable accommodations will be made for students determined to be disabled or who have documented disabilities.

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations and any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability must contact the Office of Student Affairs in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.
# Tentative Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Readings Due</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/28</td>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 9/11   | • Corey: Ch. 1 & 2  
         | • ACA Code of Ethics  
         | • TSEBPC: Subchapter C | • Response Note |
| 9/18   | • Corey: Ch. 3  
         | • TSEBPC: Subchapters D through J  
         | • TSEBP Rulebook: Sections 463.5; 463.8; 463.14; 465.2; 501.259 | • Response Note |
| 9/25   | • Corey: Ch. 4  
         | • L & O: Ch. 17 | • Response Note |
| 10/2   | • Corey: Ch. 5 & 6  
         | | • Response Note  
         | • Mandated Reporter Training |
| 10/9   | • Corey: Ch. 7 | • Response Note |
| 10/16  | • Corey: Ch. 8 & 9  
         | • L & O: Ch. 1, 2, 3, & 4 | • Response Note |
| 10/23  | • Corey: Ch. 10 | • Response Note  
         | • Take-Home Essay Exam  
         | • Brief In-Class MC Exam |
| 10/30  | • Corey: Ch. 11 & 12 | • Response Note |
| 11/6   | • Corey: Ch. 13  
         | • L & O: Ch. 8  
         | • Norton (selected readings, TBD) | • Response Note |
| 11/13  | • L & O: Ch. 6 & 7 | • Response Note |
| 11/20  | • L & O: Ch. 10, 13, & 14 | • Response Note |
| 11/27  | • Norton (selected readings, TBD) | • Response Note |
| 12/4   | • Norton (selected readings, TBD) | • Response Note |

**Tuesday, December 12, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm:** Take-Home Essay Exam and Small Group Oral Exam

* Please note that this syllabus is subject to change throughout the semester.