Professional Orientation to Counseling  
(PSY 6329) 

Fall 2019  Wednesday 2pm–5pm  A 219

Instructor: Dr. Drew Curtis
Office: A204D  Phone: 325-486-6932  Email: drew.curtis@angelo.edu
Office Hours: M 11-12, T 12-2, W 9:30-12; F: 8:30-1 or by appt.

Required Text:


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)/


Recommended Text:


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: Upon completion of this course, you should:
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

Course Policies, Procedures and Format

Professionalism
Students are expected to strive for professionalism in and outside of the class. Students should strive for professionalism defined by Competency Benchmarks in Professional Psychology:
1. Integrity
2. Deportment
3. Accountability
4. Concern for the welfare of others
5. Professional identity

Readings
It is expected that each student will have the required reading completed before the class during which we will discuss the material (see course schedule). 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!

Policies/Expectations
1. Read the syllabus thoroughly. If anything is unclear, then read the syllabus. If you still have concerns, then contact the professor.
2. 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.
3. Distracting or disrespectful students will be asked to leave the class (this includes use of cell phones and other electronic devices).
4. 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.
5. Students will be expected to access their email and Blackboard online classroom on a regular basis for announcements, course materials, assignments, and grades.
6. The instructor reserves the right to use plagiarism prevention software.

Class Sessions
- The majority of the class will be lecture and discussion.
- Class attendance is mandatory. This is a graduate level class and as such, it is expected that you will attend each class and contribute to class discussions and group activities. In order to have meaningful class discussions you must come to class having read the assigned material.
- 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 welcome! (Please be respectful.)

*DISCLAIMER: 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.
**Grades**

**Reading Reactions/Professionalism/Participation**
Class attendance is required to be successful in this course. Students will prepare, each week, a response of discussion questions/reactions based on their readings. These questions/responses are meant to help you prepare for class discussions and as such you should read assigned readings prior to class. Discussions may be based upon reading or homework assignments. Thus, failure to do these assignments will negatively impact your participation grade. Participation will be graded for 12 class periods; there are 16 classes total in the semester. Participation will not be evaluated in the first class and your lowest participation grade will be dropped. Thus, if you miss more than one class you will receive a 0 for the class and it will count in your grade for the semester.

Grades will be assigned as excellent (10 pts), adequate (7 pts), inadequate (4 pts), or fail (0 pts). To receive an ‘excellent’ you must be present for the entire class, complete the reaction form with meaningful reactions, and participate fully in all in-class activities (meaning that you volunteer for role-plays and demonstrations), including providing your fellow classmates with appropriate, meaningful feedback. Some in-class activities will be based on knowledge or competency. In order to receive an ‘excellent’ on those days you must successfully and accurately complete the activity. If you are absent or if you refuse to participate in the in-class activities, you will automatically receive a ‘fail’ for the day (0pts.).

**Hot Topics Presentation**
You will identify, research, and present on a current topic (popular or controversial) in Counseling. The topic must something identified within the last 18-24 months. Your presentation will identify the area, discuss the research, present criticisms and arguments, and your own thoughts. You will bring a handout for each of your peers. Your presentations will be 30-40 minutes in length. You will work in groups of 3-4 and be graded as a group.

**Professionalism Paper**
You will write an 8-10 page paper over your personal and professional identity regarding Counseling Psychology. You will be expected to address aspects of the profession’s history, values, professionalism, ethics, science, and cultural perspectives while discussing your integrated view of your own values and personal history. You must also explicitly address professionalism, indicating what it means for you personally and professionally.

- You will be expected to write an 8-10 page paper (text; not including title page and references).
- Within your paper you must include at least 10 references other than your textbooks (from scholarly journals or books).
- ASU Library link to search from articles: [http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/](http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/)
- Papers will be due before the date listed on the syllabus schedule and submitted before class time through BlackBoard. Check the syllabus schedule for paper due date.
- Be sure to submit all documents as a word document file, any other files that cannot be opened will not be read and will be assigned a grade of ZERO points.
- APA style
- No late assignments will be accepted and no make-up assignments will be given. Any form of Plagiarism (see Academic Dishonesty Policies) will receive a zero.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APA format (grammar, cover page, reference page, structure, formatting)</th>
<th>10 pts.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 references</td>
<td>10 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Content (addressing the disorder in a coherent manner)</td>
<td>50 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integration and synthesis of articles</td>
<td>30 pts.</td>
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Total = 100pts.

**Exam**
There will be 1 final, comprehensive exam given at the end of the course. The final exam will consist of true/false and multiple choice questions that will cover material from lectures, readings, activities, and class discussions from the entire semester.

**Make up policy for exams:** Make up exams will **ONLY** be allowed for emergency situations (in other words, a doctor’s appointment is not an emergency). It is the student’s responsibility (BY EMAIL WHEN POSSIBLE) 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.

### Course Point Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Final Grades:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Reactions/Participation (10):</td>
<td>50 pts. (5 pts. each)</td>
<td>A = 450-500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>50 pts.</td>
<td>B = 400-449</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionalism Paper</td>
<td>100 pts.</td>
<td>C = 350-399</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>200 pts.</td>
<td>F = &lt; 349</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points Possible</strong></td>
<td><strong>500 pts.</strong></td>
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**Tentative Schedule**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/28</td>
<td>Introduction/ Becoming a helper</td>
<td>M.S. Counseling Psychology Handbook Graduate Studies and Research Catalog</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/4</td>
<td>American Psychological Association</td>
<td>BB readings</td>
<td>RR1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/11</td>
<td>Historical Overview of the Counseling Psychology</td>
<td>B &amp; B: 1, 5, &amp; 6</td>
<td>RR2</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>Current Issues in Counseling Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/25</td>
<td>Being a Therapist</td>
<td>K: 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>RR3</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/2</td>
<td>Personal and Professional Identity</td>
<td>K: 3-5</td>
<td>RR4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/9</td>
<td>Licensure &amp; Regulation</td>
<td>TSEBPC &amp; TSBEP</td>
<td>RR5</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>Ethics and Legal Issues</td>
<td>APA &amp; ACA Ethics Codes</td>
<td>RR6</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/23</td>
<td>Helping or Harming?</td>
<td>L &amp; O: 1-4</td>
<td>RR7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/30</td>
<td>Scientist Practitioner and Evidence-Based Practice</td>
<td>L &amp; O:6  Lilienfeld article</td>
<td>RR8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/6</td>
<td>Difficult Topics and Deception in Psychotherapy</td>
<td>K: 10 &amp; 11  Article: Curtis &amp; Hart</td>
<td>RR9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/13</td>
<td>Technology and Practice</td>
<td>BB Readings</td>
<td>RR10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20</td>
<td>Practicum</td>
<td>BB Readings and Practicum Handbook</td>
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<td>11/27</td>
<td><strong>Fall Holiday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/2</td>
<td>Professional Development, Burnout and Impairment, &amp; Self-Care</td>
<td>K: 6-9; 12-13   BB Readings</td>
<td></td>
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<td>12/11</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM (Wednesday, Dec. 11th 3:30p.m.-5:30p.m.)</strong></td>
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* Please note that this syllabus is subject to change throughout the semester.
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
Academic honesty is expected on all work. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their online experiences. 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, Sociology, and Social Work adheres to the academic honesty statement as set forth in the Angelo State University Student Handbook (2011-2012) [http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/17358-university-honor-code](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/17358-university-honor-code). 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
1. “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.”

2. 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.

Tutoring:
The ASU Tutor Center is located in the Library C301 (3rd floor). Tutoring is free to all ASU students.

Withdrawals:
Please review withdrawal policies: [http://www.angelo.edu/services/registraros_office/withdrawals_refunds.php](http://www.angelo.edu/services/registraros_office/withdrawals_refunds.php)