

Orientation to Community and Agency Counseling
COU 600-001 Fall 2007
Tuesday 6:15 – 9:00

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jacqueline Smith, Ed.D., LPCC

EMAIL ADDRESS: smithjac@nku.edu

OFFICE LOCATION: BEP 203F

HOURS: As posted and by Appointment

TELEPHONE: Office: 572-6149

Secretary: 572-5604

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will explore the historical, philosophical, societal, cultural, economic, and political dimensions of and current trends in the community mental health movement and the ethical, professional, and legal issues related to the counseling profession.

OBJECTIVES: Students will be able to:

- 1) Understand the historical, philosophical, societal, cultural, economic, and political dimensions of community counseling: CACREP CC A.1.; C.1.
- 2) Comprehend the professional roles and functions of counselors in various practice settings and the relationships between community counselors and other therapeutic professionals CACREP CC C.1., 2.
- 3) Identify the professional organizations of the counseling profession: CACREP CC A.1.; C.1.
- 4) Describe the professional credentialing process and the effects of public policy on these issues; CACREP CC A.2
- 5) Understand the typical characteristics of individuals and communities served by a variety of institutions and agencies that offer community counseling services CACREP K.1.b
- 6) Apply strategies for community needs assessment to design, implement, and evaluate community counseling interventions, programs, and systems: CACREP CC B.3
- 7) Comprehend the polices, laws, and other issues relevant to community counseling: CACREP CC A.3., A.4.; B.2
- 8) Identify the ethical and legal considerations specifically related to the practice of community counseling: CACREP CC A.3., A.4.; B.2.
- 9) Understand the role of diversity and equity issues in community counseling: CACREP CC A.5
- 10) Develop their professional identity as professional counselors: CACREP CC A.1.; C.1.
- 11) Understand the role of advocacy and social change within the context of community counseling. CACREP CC B.4.; C.3., 6.
- 12) Demonstrate technological competence, computer literacy, and the use the editorial style (APA) accepted by the social and behavioral sciences to present written material in the field CACREP K. 1. C.

4 REQUIRED TEXTS:

- ¹⁾ Gerig, M. S. (2007). Foundations for Mental Health and Community Counseling: An Introduction to the Profession. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, Inc.
- ²⁾ Lewis, J., Lewis, M., Daniels, J., & D'Andrea, M. (2003). Community Counseling: Empowerment strategies for a diverse society, 3rd ed. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.
- ³⁾ Mastering APA Style : Student's Workbook and Training Guide **plus**
- ⁴⁾ The Publication Manual of the APA, 5th ed.

COURSE ORGANIZATION, ASSIGNMENTS, AND SCHEDULE:

All requirements must be met in order to receive a passing grade in this course. In addition, all work submitted must reflect the student's own individual work. Any academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism will result in either a failing grade in the course, a failing grade on the assignment, or other stipulations, which are up to the instructor based on the nature of the case.

The work you will do in this course is subject to the Student Honor Code. The Honor Code is a commitment to the highest degree of ethical integrity in academic conduct, a commitment that, individually and collectively, the students of Northern Kentucky University will not lie, cheat, or plagiarize to gain an academic advantage over fellow students or avoid academic requirements. A copy of the Code may be found in the NKU Student Handbook and at the Dean of Students' page on the NKU website at <http://www.nku.edu/~deanstudents/>.

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments, auxiliary aids or services) for this course must register with the Disability Services Office. Please contact the Disability Service Office immediately in the University Center, Suite 320 or call 859-572-6373 for more information. Verification of your disability is required in the Disability Services Office for you to receive reasonable academic accommodations. Visit the Disability Services website at www.nku.edu/~disability/.

Attendance: Attendance is a very important part of this course because there may be material presented in class that will not be found in your textbook. Lectures may be supplemented with class discussion, videos, and guest speaker presentations. Students are expected to attend every class, arrive promptly, and be prepared to participate in class discussions and activities. Rare absences do not require explanations, but you will be responsible for arranging to get any assignments, handouts, or class notes. As a courtesy to your classmates, PLEASE MUTE OR TURN OFF ALL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES DURING CLASS. If you absolutely **must** take a call, please leave the classroom.

Readings: Students are expected to read the texts as assigned each week. Reading assignments may not directly parallel the lecture and exercises of the class. You will, however, be expected to read the texts as assigned each week. On occasion, there may well be discrepancies between the content of the class discussion and the material presented in the texts. You are, however, expected to read the texts as assigned each week and apply evaluative, critical analysis.

On-line Assignments: All assignments posted on Blackboard will be due by midnight on the class day indicated on the syllabus. The purpose of these assignments

is to introduce students to some of the responsibilities of being a member of the counseling profession and facilitate the development of their professional identity as professional counselors. The format of the assignments will vary with each topic.

Writing Competency Activity: The Community Counseling Program requires that all term papers and essays conform to the most current edition of APA style of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Therefore, students will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and typographic arrangement and display particularly with regard to title page, page numbering, margins, and spacing according to the *APA Publication Manual, 5th ed.* and their readiness to prepare writing assignments. You will be required to complete the learning exercises and integrative exercised and practice tests in the workbook outside of class at your own pace. You will be given class time to take the mastery test. You ***must*** earn at least an **80%** on the mastery test before you can turn in your term paper.

Term Paper: Students will be assigned a topic to explore the influence of various trends or events in the counseling profession. References must include recent (2000 or later) scholarly journals. Empirical studies, literature reviews, and theoretical articles are all acceptable. The paper should be 8-10 pages in length and must be typed and carefully checked for spelling, grammatical, and structural errors according to the manuscript guidelines set forth by the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th ed.)*. The class will be divided into “roundtable” discussion groups where students will discuss their topics and its effect on the current practice of mental health and community counseling. In this way you will have the opportunity to learn something from each other’s findings. Be sure to prepare an outline for discussion. Further instructions will be explained in class. Grading will be based on the content, clarity, and thoughtfulness of the paper, as well as adherence to APA format.

Comparative Interview Project: Using a list of questions as a guideline, students will interview a professional in a related behavioral/mental health discipline and a licensed community or mental health counselor. Students will be prepared to discuss the similarities and differences among the professions. Further instructions including the format of the project will be explained in class.

Comprehensive Community Counseling Agency Project: Students will work in small groups to develop and present to the class a comprehensive mental health agency for an assigned target population using the multifaceted community counseling model. The presentation should be approximately 30 minutes in length and should include a ‘brochure’ handout describing the agency, the use of Powerpoint, and any other instructional aids. Further instructions including the format of the project will be explained in class. Grading will be based on the thoroughness of the conceptualization of the community counseling model and presentation.

Tests: There will be a midterm and a final exam. Both exams are in class, closed book, and a combination of objective and short answer items. The exams will represent a sampling rather than an extensive covering of the material. In studying for the exams, you should review class notes, readings, classroom discussions, and any handouts or reserved reading material assigned. If you are absent on a test date, it is **your responsibility** to meet with the instructor to determine *when and/or if* you can make-up the test. To encourage participation in professional conferences, **extra credit** will be

October 16	Fall Break - University Open NO CLASSES		
October 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Comprehensive Community Counseling Model – Direct & Social Change • APA test 		Chapter 4 & 5
October 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APA test • The Comprehensive Community Counseling Model – Advocacy Lecture 		Chapter 6 & 7
November 6	On-line assignment due by 9:00 p.m.		"
November 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APA test • Appraisal, Diversity, & Ethics Lecture • In-class exercise 	Chapter 7, 8 & 9	
November 20	On-line assignment due by 9:00 p.m.	"	
November 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed-Care & Future Trends Lecture • All Papers due; Small group discussions 	Chapters 10, 11 & 12	
December 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Agency Projects 		
December 11	FINAL EXAM		

* When necessary, changes may be made to assignments, requirements, schedule, or methods of grading to meet the needs/demands of the class as deemed necessary by the instructor. Students will be informed in writing of any changes and the reason for such changes.