CPSY 503--Introduction to Professional Counseling--Spring 2007

Stella Beatriz Kerl-McClain, Ph. D. Office hours: Mon 1-2:15, Wed 4-5, Thurs 9:45-11:40 & other times before and after classes as needed.
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503-452-2814 (home) Please email me to make appointments for office hours! If I have no appointments scheduled during office hours, I may schedule meetings or other appointments during those times.

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“In order really to listen, there must be a capacity to hear through many wrappings, and only a mature listener, listening beyond the outer layers of the words that are spoken, is capable of this.” Douglas Steere

Catalog Description:
Basic theoretical assumptions of the counseling profession, with an overview of its historical roots, social, cultural contexts, types of practice, ethical principles, and professional orientation.

Textbooks:

Ethical Guidelines:
Students will obtain and bring a current copy of the ACA or AMFT Ethical Guidelines to class.

Learning Objectives:
Guided by the CACREP standards of learning about professional identity, this class will provide an understanding of:

- History and philosophy of the counseling profession
- Professional roles, functions, and relationships with other human service providers
- Professional organizations like ACA, divisions, functions, and services to members
- Professional credentialing, certification, licensure, accreditation practices, professional organizations, journals and effects on public policy
- The role of professional counselor in advocating on behalf of the profession
- Advocacy processes needed to address institutional and social barriers that impede access, equity, and success for clients
- Ethical standards of ACA and related entities, and applications of ethical and legal considerations in professional counseling
- The current modes and settings of the counseling practice
- How to be conversant about philosophical, ethical, and political issues regarding the role of counselors in various settings through both discussion and writing
- Researching information about counseling which includes the use of technological competence and computer literacy
Class Assignments:
1. Write a “position” paper describing your interest in the counseling profession include elements of how this has been informed by your gender and race as well as your cultural, political, philosophical, religious and social contexts. This should also include a description of your personal educational and professional goals. Suggested length: minimum of 5 pages (due September 24).

2. Class work creating a history of counseling timeline (during class on September 17).

3. Be prepared, after all assigned chapter readings (see schedule below) to bring 2 questions related to each reading written on a 3x5 card. Be prepared to be randomly selected for leading a small group discussion surrounding the chapters and the questions submitted (due September 17, 24 & October 1).

4. Final Assignment: Groups comprised of five students each will prepare a 30 minute power point presentation utilizing ideas from at least four different chapters from the text that have influenced your thinking around the counseling profession. Include elements of social, political, philosophical, religious, racial, gender and cultural impact. The presentation should integrate elements of our class discussions as well as any outside reading you select that might inform the presentation. For a 30 minute presentation this would be around 20 slides. Each group member must equally present part of the power point (due October 8).

Grading:
- Position Paper: 20 pts
- History Timeline (in class): 15
- Participation in class discussions: 20
- Final Assignment: 45

A: 100-90    B: 89-80    C: 79-70    D: 69-50    F: Below 50

Attendance: Attendance and active participation are critical to learning. One absence from class per semester for extenuating reasons is allowed, but make up activities will be expected as arranged with the instructor. More than one absence will invoke major additional requirements for makeup activities (i.e., 20 page paper) and may lead to a failure to complete requirements for credit.

Students are expected to read and abide by the ACA or AMFT guidelines. Failure to follow guidelines can be cause to fail any course in the counseling program, including this course.

Please notify instructor of any special learning considerations that need to be taken in to considerations as covered by the American Disabilities Act.

Laptops and Cell phone use:
No use of cell phones during class time (inc. texting) except for emergency (you may have them on vibrate if necessary to be alerted to necessary incoming calls)
Laptops maybe used in class during times designated by the professor
Break times and lunch times are free for cell and laptop use
Tentative Course Schedule (subject to change)

September 10
Syllabus & Class overview
Portfolios & Advisors
Introductions
Being a Graduate student
Intentional Listeners (reading-handout)
Create Power Point Groups
Assignments for next week: Bring Ethical guidelines to class
Read History assignment (Posted to Moodle)
Read Chapters (see below for reading assignment)

September 17
Ethical Guidelines (bring to class)
Background Check Information—Marsh White (guest speaker)
History Timeline Activity
Reading discussions: 1. Thinking Through Culture
2. Culture and the Field of Psychotherapy and Counseling
3. Counseling and Psychotherapy as Cultural Work

September 24
Paper due
Library Information- Elaine Heras--Guest speaker
Professional Overview: Law, Ethics, Associations, Journals, Certifications and Academics
Reading Discussions: 4. The Felt Sense as Avenue of Human Experience for Integrative Growth
6. Hawaiian Psychology
7. Toward a Feminist Ecological Awareness

October 1
Professional roles, functions, and relationships with other human service providers
The current modes and settings of the counseling practice
Self-Care
Work in “Unanswered Questions” groups

October 8
Group Presentations