

Lewis and Clark College
Graduate School of Education and Counseling
Department of Counseling Psychology

MHC 582/583
Mental Health Internship
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Office hours
Please call office for appt.

Course Readings:

Readings as assigned based on issues as they arise in the semester.

Catalog Description: Internship in a community setting. Participants engage in counseling and related professional activities under supervision. Students write reports, prepare case histories, and submit work samples for supervisory review.

Goals:

- To develop the skills, attitudes and knowledge to be qualified for employment as an entry-level professional counselor.
- To develop entry-level skills in establishing a constructive working relationship with clients, assessing client needs, goals and relevant cultural and personal contexts, forming accurate diagnoses, developing sound treatment plans, and evaluating client progress.
- To develop familiarity with and use of person-centered, culturally appropriate relationship skills and a collaborative approach to working for change, commonly referred to as assessment and treatment intervention.
- To learn to identify and use evidence-based practices to inform judgments in assessment, intervention, and evaluation of outcomes.
- To establish a successful working relationship with supervisors and peers in an internship setting and internship supervision group on campus.
- To document work in formats accepted in professional settings.
- To understand the work environments, expectations and requirements for effective work in client service settings, and to demonstrate competence in meeting those standards.
- To identify and respond to ethical issues, problems and dilemmas using knowledge and procedures that meet current professional standards.

Objectives:

- To demonstrate effective skills in forming and maintaining constructive working relationships with clients.

- To demonstrate effective skills and attitudes in forming and maintaining successful working relationships with supervisors and other professionals in client-serving settings.
- To demonstrate the use of client-centered, empirically supported procedures in assessment, diagnosis, goal-setting, and treatment strategies and implementation skills.
- To demonstrate recognition, competent evaluation, sound decision-making, and competent implementation of action regarding ethical issues and dilemmas.
- To demonstrate development and growth in one's capacity to work effectively with clients and colleagues.
- To demonstrate growing capacity to understand and guide one's work informed by theory and practice that is accountable to contemporary professional, ethical and community standards.
- To document one's work accurately, clearly, and in forms that meet community standards for professional communication and accountability.
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Course Description:

This course provides group supervision to students in their mental health internship placement. This format is designed to provide students with experiences in addition to the on-site supervision each student will receive. The class will use a developmental model to focus on counselor growth in competence (skills, techniques), purpose and direction (goal setting, direction in counseling), theoretical identity (application of theory), ethics, respect for individual differences and diversity, and counselor self awareness, sense of personal motivation, and development of appropriate autonomy.

Class activities will primarily be organized to provide time in each class period for case review, student presentations, supervision focused on above model, consultation with peers, and discussion of readings. As part of this process students will develop an understanding of the role of supervision for counselors in order to learn to become active participants in their personal and professional growth. In order for supervision to be effective and useful for the supervisee (student), a working alliance between supervisors (on campus and on site) and supervisees is vital to the process.

Class discussion will provide each supervisee with support, critical feedback, and treatment suggestions and recommendations. Coordination will occur between the supervisors. Students are expected to provide information as accurately and completely to both supervisors in order to facilitate this process. Additionally, the discussion addresses topics concerning transference and counter-transference issues, personal concerns, and interpersonal communication. **IT IS OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE THAT THE CONTENTS OF GROUP DISCUSSIONS BE REGARDED AS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.**

It is intended that mental health interns will complete the internship prepared for entry into the professional community with the skills necessary to provide competent and effective treatment services.

A Note on Confidentiality: Much of our class discussion and most of the written work you do for this class will contain information about clients. All such private information falls within our shared responsibility for maintaining its confidentiality and protecting the privacy of our clients. Guidelines for fulfilling our responsibilities in this regard include the following:

- Written materials referring to clients should either refer to them by their initials or a by a pseudonym. If the materials are copied and contain the client's name, the name should be blocked out with a black felt tip pen.
 - Videotapes of client counseling sessions should be kept secure and should be erased when they have been viewed
 - Classroom doors will be closed when we are discussing cases or viewing videos of actual clients.
 - Written materials you turn in for review must follow confidentiality guidelines.
 - NEVER, NEVER leave materials in your car unattended. Even if you are just running into a store for coffee – take your bag with materials with you. It takes 30 seconds to break a window and grab a bag and it HAS happened to our students before.
 - Remember, what we talk about in the classroom STAYS IN THE CLASSROOM!
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Course Requirements:

1) **Attendance:** Attendance and active participation are ESSENTIAL. More than ONE absence from class per semester may result in a grade of “no credit.” Please call me in advance if you have any problems preventing you from attending class. Missed classes will require SIGNIFICANT makeup work which may include any or all of the following: meeting with me to make up time missed, written work, or additional documentation of supervision in a group setting on-site.

Active participation is defined as bringing video of sessions to class for case review on a regular basis, offering feedback to others in an appropriate manner, participation in class discussions, and presentation of articles as assigned.

2) **Program/Internship Expectations:** Students are expected to meet all requirements for the program and internship as outlined in the Counseling Psychology Student Handbook, Internship Handbook, and Internship Contract. This includes receiving satisfactory ratings on the evaluation form from the on-site supervisor.

3) **Ethical Behavior:** Students are expected to understand and follow ethical guidelines, and to seek supervision when there is confusion or an ethical dilemma to be resolved. The student must inform both the on-site supervisor and the faculty supervisor in the event that an ethical error is made. Failure to follow ethical guidelines and/or non-disclosure of ethical errors and seeking of appropriate supervision may result in dismissal from the internship and/or counseling psychology program.

4) **Case summary and conceptualization:** Using the format used in CPSY 549 – Clinical Reasoning provide a client summary, conceptualization and treatment plan. You may use actual treatment plan from your site, but if it differs from your conceptualization, you will need to write an explanation about how you are carrying out the plan and why. **Due Oct 6**

5) **Case Presentation:** Students are expected to do one formal case presentation, using the format from CPSY 549 with written form to be turned in (must be different from the one above). Be prepared to discuss your conceptualization of the case and choice of treatment goals. **Dates will be scheduled for each student. Videotape preferred.**

7) **Strengths, Goals, Theoretical Orientation Summary:** Students are expected to write a 1 page (2 page maximum) summary of their learning experiences, strengths, and areas for growth (goals) for your second semester of internship or (for second semester students) during your first year as a counselor. This assignment will also contain a ONE PARAGRAPH summary of your theoretical orientation. **Due December 8**

8) **CARE form:** Complete the supervision CARE form each week.

9) **Other:** Other assignments may be required as needed for optimal student development, and based on your individual needs.

10) **Individual Supervision Meeting:** Listed last, but not the least important. During the first 4 weeks of the semester you will need to schedule a ½ hour individual meeting with me during my office hours. If you absolutely cannot make my office hours we'll see what we can do to balance both of our schedules.

Documentation required by semester end:

First semester internship students:

- Evaluation by the on-site supervisor
- Self-evaluation on same form that supervisor completes
- Fall hours summary sheet

Second semester internship students:

- Evaluation by the on-site supervisor
- Self-evaluation on same form that supervisor completes
- Fall hours summary sheet
- Site evaluation (your evaluation of the site)
- Fall hours summary sheet
- Final hours sheet (Summer/Fall)
- Exit interview (anonymous, print thank you page, sign)

Grading: Although this class is graded on the basis of credit/no credit, completion of all requirements at a satisfactory level of competence is necessary to obtain credit. Each student will be evaluated in the areas of counseling competence, self-awareness, theoretical knowledge, integration and application, ethical considerations, effectiveness of oral and written communication, and openness to feedback/supervision. Judgments about what constitutes satisfactory performance will be made by the campus instructor in collaboration with the on-site supervisor. Final decisions will be made by the campus instructor.

Evaluation methods include written work, observation, tape review, case study, and in class participation/performance. I will visit you at your site and meet with your supervisor at

minimum one time during the semester. I will also have telephone contact with the supervisor as needed.

All students will receive a Credit grade at the end of each semester if all requirements of the internship are met. Completion of the required number of hours is only one of the minimum standards, Students must also demonstrate the appropriate growth and skills as outlined above and in the Internship Manual and Contract. Sometimes students need more than two semesters to develop and demonstrate the requirements of a master’s level counselor. Also, occasionally a student will have personal issues or life events that make it impossible to develop as a counselor, and the student will be encouraged or required to take time off for self-care. In the event that the internship needs to be interrupted or discontinued, a plan will be developed in conjunction with the instructor, on-site supervisor, and other faculty members in the department.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Any student who requires some special arrangement in order to meet course requirements because of a disability should contact the professor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations.

Class Schedule:

Sept 8: Introductions, syllabus review, schedule individual meeting, overview of class format

Sept 15, 22, 29: Case discussion all students: Come prepared to discuss one of your clients, use form provided to guide oral presentation of case data, working hypothesis/case conceptualization, feedback needed from group.

Oct 6: Case Presentation: _____
Case conceptualization/tx plan due

Oct 13: Case Presentation _____

Oct 20: Case Presentation _____

Oct 27: Case Presentation _____
Case Presentation _____

Oct 30 : Case Presentation _____
Case Presentation _____

Nov 3 Case Presentation _____
Case Presentation _____

Nov 10: Case Presentation _____
Case Presentation _____

Nov 17: Case Presentation _____

Nov 24: Case Presentation _____

Dec 1: Case Presentation _____

Dec 8: Learning Experience/Goals Paper Due

Supervision CARE Note (continue on back for each section if necessary)

Student name: _____ Date of Supervision: _____

Clients (List all current clients/groups, presenting problem/dx, # of visits, & possible risk factors):

Analysis/reflection (Synopsis of cases/issues discussed this session, what I learned, was it helpful):

Recommendations from supervisor:

Ethical Issues (List any relevant or possible ethical issues regarding clients, supervision, or the site):