

SYLLABUS

EDCD 654: COUNSELING, ETHICS, AND CONSULTATION IN COMMUNITY, AGENCIES

**Graduate School of Education
College of Education and Human Development**

FALL 2005 M 4:30-7:10

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Fred Bemak
A331 Robinson Hall
Office Phone: 703-993-3941
Email: fbemak@gmu.edu

Course Description: This class will provide an overview of community agency counseling, the role of the counselor in communities, prevention, outreach, systemic issues, multicultural issues in community agency counseling, advocacy and social change, and service delivery programs. Ethical issues and consultation in community agencies will also be discussed.

Course Objectives:

1. To gain an understanding of counseling within community systems.
2. To understand the role of the community agency counselor.
3. To understand and appreciate the role of prevention in community agency counseling.
4. To gain awareness of outreach within the framework of community agency counseling.
5. To achieve knowledge of how prevention links with community agency counseling.
6. To investigate the role of advocacy and social change within the context of community agency counseling.
7. To investigate multicultural counseling concepts within community agency settings.
8. To appreciate and understand applications of community agency counseling models to various settings.
9. To understand the role of supervision and management in community agency counseling programs.
10. To develop the ability to make sound professional decisions based on ethical principles in counseling.
11. To become familiar with consultative roles and responsibilities within community agencies.

Relationship to Courses and Program Goals and Professional Organizations:

This course provides a core required course in the Community Agency Counseling Program and directly relates to the program goals and mission. The course teaches students about social justice, multiculturalism, advocacy, and leadership as community agency counselors, and discusses consultation and ethical issues in community agency work. CACREP standards which are met include Section II b. (An understanding of the cultural context of relationships, issues and trends in a multicultural and diverse society and Section II e. (An understanding of counseling and the consultation process).

Required Textbooks:

Gladding, S. T., & Newsome, D. W. (2004). *Community and agency counseling (2nd edition)*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Merrill/Prentice Hall.

Bemak, F. & Keys, S. (2000). *Violent and aggressive youth: Intervention and prevention strategies for changing times*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, Inc.

Additional Readings: As assigned.

Assignments:

1. Assignment 1 - TBA
2. Assignment 2 - TBA
3. Assignment 3 - TBA
4. Assignment 4 - TBA
5. Assignment 5 - TBA
6. Attendance and Participation 17%

Attendance and participation are essential in this class. This requires that all students are present and actively participate in all classes, including class discussions, exercises, and group experiences. If there is a scheduling conflict that interferes with attendance during any portion of the semester students should see the instructor during the *first* class to discuss continuing in the class this semester or taking the course during another semester. It should be noted that two unexcused (non-medical emergencies) absences during the semester will result in not receiving credit for the course.

Evaluation:

Grading Scale

A	=	97-100
A-	=	94- 96
B+	=	91- 93

B	=	87- 90
B-	=	84- 86
C	=	83- 80
F	=	Below 79

NOTES ON ASSIGNMENTS:

- The deadlines for papers are strictly observed. Late papers without prior permission from the instructor will not be accepted.
- Page limit on assignments do not include title page, abstract, references, or appendices.
- All written work submitted *must* conform to APA 5th Edition standards. Sample portions of the APA manual appear in the "Style Guides and Manuals" link on the GMU library web guide at: <http://library.gmu.edu/resources/edu>
- Papers that are not in APA 5th edition format and/or are over the page limit will result in a grade deduction.

Honor Code:

To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of George Mason University and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the members of George Mason University, have set forth the following code of honor. Any individual who is caught in the act of cheating, attempting to cheat, plagiarizing, or stealing will be brought forth before a council of peers. In the event that the individual is found guilty, he or she will be punished accordingly. For further information, please refer to the University Catalogue or website at www.gmu.edu. Students must follow the guidelines of the university Honors Code. See <http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/#TOC> h12. The Graduate School Education (GSE) expects that all students abide by the following: Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviour and dispositions. See <http://www.gse.gmu.edu> for a listing of these dispositions.

Students must agree to abide by the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing. See <http://mail.gmu.edu> and click on Responsible Use of Computing at the bottom of the screen.

Special Accommodations:

Any students with disabilities who need special accommodations should see the Instructor privately to make arrangements at the beginning of the semester. Students must be registered with the GMU Disabilities Resource Center (DRC) and inform the instructor in writing at the beginning of the semester. See www.gmu.edu/student/crc or call 703-993-2474 to access the DRC.

CELL PHONES AND PAGERS: Students must turn off their pagers and/or cell-phones before class begins.

Course Schedule:

Week of Class	Topic	Reading/Assignment
Week 1	Introductions, Course Overview; Requirements; Introduction to Community Agency Counseling; Defining the Field; C&D Mission Statement	
Week 2	Historical Overview, Current Needs; Professional Counselor's Role; School Violence	G&N 1, 2 B&K 1
Week 3	Ethical and Legal Issues; Roots of Violence in Schools	G&N 3 B&K 2
Week 4	Ecological Context; Goals of Interventions;	G&N 4 B&K 3
Week 5	Counseling Process; Assessment and Diagnosis	G&N 5,6
Week 6	Crisis Intervention; Prevention; Advocacy; Evaluation	G&N 7
Week 8	Group Project and Research Day	
Week 9	Group Counseling; Innovative Interventions	G&N 8 B&K 4
Week 10	Family Counseling; Partnerships	G&N 9 B&K 5
Week 11	Cultural Diversity;	G&N 10
Week 12	Adults; Children and Adolescents	G&N 11, 12
Week 13	Community Facilities	G&N 13, 14
Week 14	Sharing Journal Articles; Special Issues; Avoiding Pitfalls; Being an Effective Counselor	G&N Epilogue B&K 6
Week 15	Sharing Journal Articles; Special Issues, Summary	

Week 16 Final Exam Week

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE CRITERIA (EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 25, 2003)

Students must meet professional performance criteria as posted on C&D homepage:

http://gse.gmu.edu/programs/counseling/professional_performance.htm

The American Counseling Association code of ethics requires counselors and counselor trainees to maintain standards of professional competence and possess good moral character. Therefore, the Counseling and Development Program in the Graduate School of Education at George Mason University requires its students to exhibit the following:

Communication Skills

- Clear presentation and demonstration of multicultural competencies in counseling skills
- Clear oral communication
- Clear written communication
- Clear ability to demonstrate effective and supportive helping skills
- Clear ability to demonstrate effective listening skills

Collaboration

- Respect for the opinion and dignity of others
- Ability to collaborate with others
- Ability to demonstrate effective interpersonal skills
- Ability to participate as a colleague and team member in all aspects of professional training

Professionalism

- Commitment to multiculturalism and diversity
- Commitment to social justice as it relates to counseling
- Respect of multiculturalism and diverse cultures
- Demonstration of openness, willingness to learn, and positive attitude about multiculturalism and diverse cultures
- Commitment to the psychological well-being, health, and wellness for all people
- Sound judgment
- Integrity and honesty
- Ability to accept personal responsibility
- Ability to receive and reflect upon constructive criticism
- Positive attitude
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Ability to maintain confidentiality with clients, students, and colleagues
- Appropriate assertiveness
- Ability to manage stress
- Ability to meet requirements as stated in course syllabi
- Adherence to ACA ethical guidelines