

**George Mason University**  
**College of Education and Human Development**  
**Graduate School of Education**  
**Counseling & Development**

**EDCD 791: Internship in School Counseling**  
**Fall 2009**

**Day/Time:** Wednesday 4:30-7:10 PM  
**Location:** Krug Hall 3  
**Instructor:** Jeff Wilson, M. Ed.  
**Phone:** 571-232-7879 (cell)  
703-250-7013 (home/office)  
**Email:** [jewilson1@verizon.net](mailto:jewilson1@verizon.net), [jwilsone@gmu.edu](mailto:jwilsone@gmu.edu)

## **Course Description**

**Catalog:** *Prerequisites: Completion of C & D program coursework except for electives [total credits cannot exceed three credit hours] and internship; permission of advisor; overall GPA of 3.0; no grade lower than B in skills courses EDCD 603, 606, 608, 609; no more than two grades of C in any other graduate course work required by C & D program.* Provides supervised practice for minimum of 200 hours [for school counseling students] and 300 hours [for community agency students] in counseling setting similar to setting in which student may work. Skills and practice build on previous practicum experiences. Weekly class emphasizes a discussion of site processing.

### **Relationship to C&D Program Goals and Professional Organization [Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs-CACREP]:**

EDCD 791 is the culminating course for master's degree students in the Counseling & Development [C&D] program. The internship experience is designed to enhance those skills acquired in practicum. This semester will provide opportunities to refine basic skills, acquire advanced skills, and reflect on ways to improve understanding and conceptual ability. Additional emphasis will be on C&D's basic mission statement, stressing the need for counselors to demonstrate *Advocacy, Leadership, Social Justice, and Multicultural Counseling Competencies*.

EDCD 791 fulfills the requirements for the following professional organizations:

Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) requirements that counselor education programs include the study of helping relationships.

CACREP-Section II.K.a: An understanding of all aspects of professional functioning; and CACREP-Section SCP.D: Clinical instruction.

American Counseling Association (ACA) Code of Ethics requirement that counselors establish counselor education and training programs that integrate academic study and supervised practice.

**Required Texts:**

American School Counselor Association (2005). *The ASCA National Model: A framework for school counseling programs*(2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Alexandria, VA: Author.

Virginia School Counselor Association (2008). *Virginia professional school counselor program manual*. Yorktown, VA: Author. [Available on CD.]

**Recommended Text:**

Holcomb-McCoy, C. (2007). *School counseling to close the achievement gap: A social justice framework for success*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, Inc.

Young, A., & Kaffenberger, C. (2009). *Making data work*. Alexandria, VA: American School Counselor Association.

**Additional Required Readings:**

Hatch, T., & Chen-Hayes, S. F. (2008). School counselor beliefs about ASCA National Model school counseling program components using the SCPCS. *Professional School Counseling*, 12, 34-42.

Ratts, M. J., DeKruyf, L., & Chen-Hayes, S. F. (2007). The ACA Advocacy competencies: A social justice advocacy framework for professional school counselors. *Professional School Counseling*, 11, 90-97.

Amatea. E. S., & West-Olatunji, C. A. (2007). Joining the conversation about educating our poorest children: Emerging leadership roles for school counselors in high-poverty schools. *Professional School Counseling*, 11, 81-9.

Weekly class seminars will focus on presenting, discussing, and conceptualizing cases. Students will have opportunities to discuss specific site-related issues and to strategize about techniques and interventions. Because of the serious nature of this work, it is essential that students discuss their reactions and feelings. Such discussions, however, cannot take place outside the context of a supervised class or appropriate site circumstance. Students may not discuss cases in other classes, with friends or relatives, or in social situations. It is essential to maintain confidentiality. Violations of this principle in *any* form will be treated as a serious ethical/legal infraction. Please do discuss cases in class. That is the primary purpose for meeting. It is also imperative that students discuss cases with their on-site supervisor. If students have questions or concerns that need immediate attention, please contact your university instructor.

**Student Outcomes:**

- Perform duties expected in a specific school counseling setting, to include working collaboratively with colleagues and supervisors;
- Select and apply appropriate counseling theories and interventions with a diverse student population;

- Demonstrate basic knowledge and skill competencies per Practicum/Internship contract agreement and criteria for mid-semester and final evaluations (See Appendixes A, N, & P);
- Demonstrate multicultural counseling competencies (See Appendix M);
- Respond appropriately to GMU and C&D's professional dispositions, C&D's dress code guidelines, and ethical/legal issues (See Appendixes F-K);
- Implement practices conducive to social justice and human rights;
- More effectively understand the nature of the changing role of the professional counselor that includes advocacy and leadership;
- Develop a professional school counselor portfolio (See Appendix C).

**Course Materials** [See Blackboard for additional “Suggested Readings.”]

American School Counselor Association. (2005). *The ASCA national model: A framework for school counseling programs* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Alexandria, VA: Author.

### **GMU’s Professional Dispositions**

GMU students are expected to exhibit professional behavior and dispositions as stated: *“The Virginia Department of Education and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education promote standards of professional competence and dispositions. Dispositions are values, commitments, and professional ethics that influence behaviors toward students, families, colleagues, and all members of the learning community. The Graduate School of Education expects students, faculty, and staff to exhibit professional dispositions through a:*

- *Commitment to the profession*
- *Commitment to honoring professional ethical standards*
- *Commitment to key elements of professional practice*
- *Commitment to being a member of a learning community*
- *Commitment to democratic values and social justice.”*

**See GMU’s website for these dispositions:**

<http://gse.gmu.edu/facultystaffres/profdisp.htm>.

### **C&D’s Professional Performance Criteria**

As counselor trainees, Student Counselors have additional professional performance standards. The codes of conduct for the American Counseling Association and the American School Counselors Association require 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 adhere to GMU University and C&D’s Professional Dispositions (Appendix F) while in the C&D program, to include their conduct and behavior while doing their field experiences.

### **C&D’s Dress Code for On-Site Field Work**

Student Counselors *must* adhere to the C&D’s dress code while at their practicum and internship sites (Appendix G). Any student who does not meet the standards of this policy

may be asked to leave the premises. Repeated violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to, and including, dismissal from the C&D program.

### **GMU's 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 their peers. In the even that the individual is found guilty, he or she will be punished accordingly.*

Refer to the GMU's catalog or website at [http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/#TOC\\_H12](http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/#TOC_H12) for the full honor code.

**NOTE:** This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in the series, programs, or activities of all State and local Governments. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the GMU Disability Resource Center (DRC) and inform the instructor, in writing, at the *beginning* of the semester. See [www.gmu.edu/student/drc](http://www.gmu.edu/student/drc) or call 703-993-2474 to access the DRC.

### **January and May GRADUATION – Reminder**

The GMU Graduation website is: <http://gse.gmu.edu/graduation/index.htm>

There are several requirements included in the graduation process. **All students graduating in January and May, of this school year, must file the graduation on-line intent form.**

These will be available late September [for January grads] and late January [for May grads].

File an on-line "intent to graduate" form by due date.

PCLC students must file both an online and paper intent to graduate form.

NOTE: You do NOT need your advisor's signature on this document. This is a generic document used for the entire university.

Contact Dean Rodger's office with any/all questions regarding graduation:

Office: Robinson A307 Phone: (703) 993-2076

### **Grading**

EDCD 791 is graded on a Pass/Fail basis. The following must be met to receive a PASSING grade:

#### **I Basic Requirements**

- All C&D students must work at their practicum and internship sites for the full 15 weeks of the semester.
- Register for the correct internship course and section.
- Attendance at each class. As a graduate student, you are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire class period. **Missing two classes or not regularly following your site placement schedule could result in failing this course.**

- Active class participation, including providing constructive feedback and suggestions for classmates.
- Completion of all assignments of acceptable quality, turned in by date due.
- Satisfactory mid-semester and final evaluations from On-Site Supervisor.

## II. General Course Requirements

- *Professional Counseling Liability Insurance.* Student Counselors *must* purchase their own professional counseling liability insurance policy. Professional counseling organizations provide such coverage, some with association membership, and offer student rates.
- *A minimum of 200 hours in the field placement.* Hours spent on off-site training experiences may be counted if prior approval from instructor has been granted. Hours spent in class or at home preparing GMU assignments may not be counted toward the 200 hours.
- *Log of hours and activities.* Log of Activities should be reviewed during weekly supervision sessions with the site supervisor. Log is to be included in the portfolio. Remember to keep a copy for your files. While the actual daily schedule of the Student Counselor will be determined by the University Supervisor, the On-Site Supervisor, and the GMU student, **the minimum number of hours spent on-site at one time is to be no less than a 3-hour block of time.**
- *School Counseling Practicum/Internship Contract.* Contracts will be signed at the first meeting with the On-Site Supervisor, University Supervisor, and Student Counselor. The original copy of the contract goes to the University Supervisor. Student's copy of the contract is to be included in the portfolio.
- *School Counselor Portfolio* [see below for Specific Assignments]
- *Technology.*
  - GMU 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.
  - WEB SITE: Use Blackboard as the primary web link to access course instruction, documents, and to view announcements. Blackboard address is: [www.courses.gmu.edu](http://www.courses.gmu.edu)
  - **GMU students must use/check their official GMU email address on a regular/daily basis.**
- **Blackboard Community:**  
There is a new blackboard community site for all C&D students. The site contains P & I information for CA & SC students, including:
  - SC P & I Applications
  - SC Contract
  - SC mid semester and final evaluation
  - Log of Hours
  - Exit Interview templates
  - SC Licensure Application Instructions
  - Frequently Asked Questions

To login to the Bb Community site go to this link:

<https://gmucommunity.blackboard.com>

Your user name is your GMU NetID (GMU email username & password).

Students are responsible for providing copies of the documents for their site supervisors.

### III. Specific Assignments

- Cover Letter. Write a cover letter applying for a job as a professional school counselor.
- Introductory Letter. Skip ahead a few months from now....You have just graduated and are newly hired as a professional school counselor! Write a letter of introduction to use at your new school.
  - Remember to use the correct terminology: Professional School Counselor, Counseling Staff/Department, etc. [not “Guidance Counselors” Guidance Department,” etc. The only time that term is appropriate is when you are referring to “Classroom guidance lessons.”]
- Two individual tape presentations. Must have written custodial/parental permission prior to taping with a minor. Original copy is kept with On-Site Supervisor. Student counselor keeps a copy. Tapes must be audible, so check for clarity prior to appointment. If the tape is not audible, then you will need to re-tape another session.
  - First tape: Student will make an individual appointment [approx. 45-60 minutes] with instructor to review counseling tape.
    1. Bring tape and tape recorder to this meeting.
    2. Bring to the meeting a 1-2 page brief summary that addresses the following: student descriptive data; reason for referral; goals of session; intervention strategies; strength and areas for growth for the session; goals for next sessions.
    3. Be prepared to identify and critique counseling interventions. Student will identify his/her areas of strengths and areas for growth.
  - Second tape: This session will be reviewed first by a peer and then by the instructor.
    1. Remember to bring tape #2, tape recorder
    2. Bring to the meeting a 1-2 page brief summary that addresses the following: student descriptive data; reason for referral; goals of session; intervention strategies; strength and areas for growth for the session.
    3. Both recordings should reflect your best counseling skills.

NOTE: Instructor has the prerogative to request additional counseling tapes from the student based on requests from On-Site Supervisor and/or University Supervisor.
- Site Accountability Project. The purpose of this is to help interns see the role of the professional school counselor as change agents within school communities and to support the goals of the school counseling program at their sites. This assignment will be individualized to the particular site and will be determined in coordination with the site supervisor and your instructor.
  - This project is meant to extend what was learned in Practicum about using data to address educational issues. Based on data or demonstrate gaps

implement a program or a program modification to an existing program and evaluate the effectiveness of that program.

- You will present your accountability project to your peers and invited guests. You will provide a one page data report for classmates and guests. The final project to be handed in to instructor will include the one-page data report followed by detailed description of each step in the process along with instruments, permission letters, data analysis, etc. [20 points= 17 for project & 3 for class presentation.] A description of this assignment and an accountability project rubric can be found on Blackboard.
- **Portfolio. The C&D Professional Portfolio is the performance based assessment for this course.** A rubric for this assignment can be found at the end of this syllabus and on blackboard. Students will present their completed portfolio near the end of the semester. Make two copies of the following [One is to be included in your portfolio, the other is to be submitted to your instructor and kept by the Clinical Coordinator]:
  - Position Paper (role statement; theoretical orientation; focus)
  - Counseling brochure
  - Mid-Semester Evaluation of Student by On-Site Supervisor [you can copy this only if it is not in a sealed envelope]
  - Final Evaluation of Student by On-Site Supervisor [you can copy this only if it is not in a sealed envelope]
  - Evaluation of Site by Student Counselor
  - Log of hours

#### PRODUCTS DUE:

- **Accountability Project.**
- **Position Paper.** A written three-page statement to reflect your role as a professional school counselor, to include:
  - Role Statement – articulate what you perceive the role of the school counselor to be. Be sure to incorporate ASCA's National Model and C&D's mission statement. Incorporate components of leadership, advocacy, collaboration and teaming, systemic change, social justice, and multiculturalism.
  - Theoretical Framework – identify one or two counseling theories that you espouse in your practice. Talk about why, in general, this theory [theories] is appropriate for use with your student population and with your counseling style. How does this fit in with ASCA's National Model for School Counseling Programs?
  - Focus – what is your focus at this point in your career? This might be answered by defining the age of children you want to work with – elementary, middle, or high school population. Another way to address this is to identify specific issues that are of interest to you [e.g., conflict resolution, peer refusal skills, issues of loss, AOD issues, etc]. Make sure your discussion ties in with your role statement.  
Remember to follow APA format. [e.g., Check to be sure your paper has a cover sheet, complete with running head. Be sure your headings are also per APA format.]
- **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.** You will be required to email the instructor when there are no scheduled classes due to site visits. The purpose of this requirement is to provide the student and the instructor a vehicle in which to continue the internship dialog. The content of the message will be

a brief update of the weekly internship experience, similar to a journal entry. [Your log of hours and activities will reflect “what” you are doing. I want to know “how” you are doing!]

**JOB FAIRS.** Check specific school district’s website for detailed information; usually under Human Resources or Employment - Job Fair.

- **GMU:** Education Recruitment Fair, Check website for details and registration:  
<http://careers.gmu.edu/calendar/erd/>
- **Alexandria City Public Schools:** <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/>
- **Arlington Public Schools:** <http://www.arlington.k12.va.us/aps>
- **Fairfax County Public Schools:** <http://www.fcps.edu>
- **Loudoun County Public Schools:** <http://cmsweb1.loudoun.k12.va.us/loudoun>
- **Manassas Park City Schools:** <http://www.mpark.net>
- **Prince William County Schools:** <http://www.pwcs.edu>   **Spotsylvania County Schools:** <http://www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/>

## Class Schedule

May 6	Orientation: P-I Manual / Supervision / C&D Dress Code / Prof. Counseling / Liability Insurance
Sept 2	Course Orientation / Supervision Issues / ASCA’s National Model for School Counseling Programs – Portfolio
Sept 9	Panel Discussion with EDCD 755 Students – Accountability Projects, Electronic Portfolio introduction, Virginia Manual and Portfolio review (bring copies of your 755 Accountability Projects) Job Interview – [Bring <i>updated</i> resume to class]

### DUE: Contracts

Sept 16	No Class (site visits)
Sept 23	Cover Letter Discussion, Job Interview Process/Questions, Site Processing <b>DUE: Cover Letter</b>
Sept 30	No Class (site visits)
Oct 7	Intro Letter, Site Processing, First Tape Review (if ready) <b>DUE: Introduction letter</b>

**Remind On-Site Supervisors that written Mid-Semester Evaluation is due on Oct. 28 or at the time of the individual appointment.**

Oct 14	No Class (Erin’s Wedding)
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- Oct 21            Suicide & Issues of Loss; Collaboration and Teaming: Working with Administrators, Faculty, and Parents; Site Processing            **DUE: Accountability Project Project Update**
- Oct 28            Individual Appointments with Instructor  
**DUE: First tape. [Bring tape *and* tape recorder.]**  
                    Mid-Semester Evaluation
- Nov 4            Individual Appointments with Instructor (**First tape continued, Mid-Sem Eval**)
- Nov 11            Scenarios, Site Processing  
**DUE: Second tape, tape recorder, 1-2 page analysis. (peer evaluation of tape/comments)**
- Nov 18            Meeting with Practicum groups to prepare for Accountability Presentation; tip sharing (brief presentations, 1 page handout)  
**DUE: Portfolios (if complete)**
- Nov 25            No class – Thanksgiving Holiday
- 12/2            Accountability Presentations  
**DUE: Portfolios**
- 12/9            Final Session; wrap up; evaluation

**NOTE:** Your copies of these documents [see below] stay in your portfolio. Bring second copy for instructor to submit to Clinical Coordinator.

**DUE:** Position Paper; Counseling Brochure, Contract; Log of hours; Final Evaluation by On-Site Supervisor; Evaluation of site by Student Counselor

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**THE PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR'S PORTFOLIO  
Guidelines and Evaluation Rubric**

The assignment as described in the syllabus: **This is the performance-based assignment for EDCD 791: Internship in School Counseling.** The Professional School Counselor's Portfolio is an accumulation of documents that provides the counselor with a visual representation of her/his experience. It is an evolving record that authenticates a person's growth, skill, and knowledge in a specific discipline. The contents of the portfolio should reflect one's professional philosophy and collegiate experience. You will begin your portfolio during practicum and complete it during your internship. [20 points]

- You will complete your professional portfolio during internship.*

**I. Professional Documentation**

- Collect and maintain all of the components in this section.*
- A. Resume
  - B. Academic Transcripts
  - C. Professional Memberships, Honors, Awards
  - D. Letters of Recommendation / Accommodation
  - E. Clinical Field Experience
    - a. Practicum/Internship Contracts
    - b. Practicum/Internship Log of Hours

**II. Application of C&D's Mission Statement**

- Collect an example of how these components are in evidence at your site. Write a 1-page reflection of how these themes are or are not in evidence at your sites:*
- A. Leadership
  - B. Multiculturalism
  - C. Social Justice
  - D. Advocacy

**III. ASCA's National Model for School Counseling Program**

**A. Foundation**

- Write a role statement, theoretical orientation, and focus*
1. Role Statement - A written three-page statement to reflect your role as a professional school counselor, to include:
    - a. Role Statement - articulate what you perceive the role of the school counselor to be. Be sure to incorporate ASCA's National Model. Identify your leadership role, and beliefs about how to use advocacy, collaboration and teaming, and use of data for systemic change.
    - b. Theoretical Framework - identify one or two counseling theories that you espouse in your practice. Talk about why, in general, this theory [theories] is appropriate for use with your student population and with your counseling style.
    - c. Focus - what is your focus at this point in your career? This might be answered by defining the age of children you want to work with – elementary, middle, or

high school population. Another way to address this is to identify specific issues that are of interest to you [e.g., conflict resolution, peer refusal skills, issues of loss, AOD issues, etc]. Make sure your discussion ties in with your role statement.

- Complete all components during internship:*
  - d. Counseling Brochure - incorporate pertinent information regarding your school counseling program. Be sure it illustrates your role in leadership, advocacy, collaboration and teaming, and systemic change.
  - e. Counselor's Office - design a floor plan of office
  - f. Professional Library
    - i. Maintain a list of reading resources to be used with students, parents and other professionals.
  - g. School Counseling Issue
    - i. One-page handout of a current issue in school counseling (completed during EDCD 626).
  - h. Referral Lists
    - i. This list might include: Child Protective Services, community mental health facilities, licensed practicing social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, and specialists who work with children and families.
- Provide examples from two of the following components to complete during internship:*
  - B. Delivery System** (include the guidance unit or small group plans you developed)
    - a. Individual planning with students
    - b. Counseling group
    - c. Guidance curriculum
    - d. Classroom guidance
    - e. Parent education
    - f. Consultation
    - g. Coordination.
  - C. Management System**
    - a. Student monitoring
    - b. Use of time
    - c. Use of calendars
  - D. Accountability – results, reports, program audit, advisory council, performance evaluation.**
    - a. Outcome-based program audits – develop a plan to identify, provide, and evaluate school counseling services that support student achievement.
    - b. Evaluations from On-Site Supervisors [if available]
    - c. *Self-Evaluation of the Practicum experience.* Write a one-page paper describing your growth and your strengths. Who have you met the personal goals you set for yourself at the beginning of the term? What are your goals for growth for your Internship experience?

## EDCD 791: Professional Counseling Portfolio

Levels:	Exceeds	Adequate	Emerging	Not Present	Score
Criteria:	value: 4	value: 3	value: 2	value: 1	
<b>Professional Documentation 3 points</b> <b>weight:15%</b>	Resume, transcripts, memberships, recommendations, clinical field experiences are collected.	Criteria fails to provide one of the components previously described.	Criteria fails to provide two of the components previously described.	Criteria fails to provide any of the components previously described.	
<b>Application of the C&amp;D Mission Statement 3 points</b> <b>weight:15%</b>	Portfolio contains well documented examples of the components of the C&D mission statement: multiculturalism, leadership, advocacy, and social justice.	Portfolio is missing one of the components of the C&D mission statement.	Portfolio is missing two of the components of the C&D mission statement.	Portfolio is missing three of the components of the C&D mission statement.	
<b>ASCA Model: Foundation 5 points</b> <b>weight:25%</b>	1. Role statement based on the ASCA National Model and your beliefs about the transformed role of the school counselor. 2. Theoretical orientation clearly identifies your beliefs about counseling theory and strategies that are effective with students. 3. Reflection on your school counseling focus. 4. Other counseling program documents: counseling brochure, floor plan, school counseling issue, and/or referral list.	One of the previously described criteria is incomplete or not clearly described.	Two of the previously described criteria is incomplete or not clearly described.	One or all of the previously described criteria is missing.	
<b>ASCA Model: Delivery &amp; Management 3 points</b> <b>weight:15%</b>	Portfolio contains examples of delivery system and management components that may include: Delivery: guidance lessons, group counseling, parent education, consultation, or ind. planning. Management: student monitoring, use of time or calendars.	Recommendations & implications of the project fail to address one of the previously described components.	Recommendations & implications of the project fail to address two or three of the previously described components.	Recommendations fail to address any of the previously described components.	
<b>ASCA Model: Accountability 6 points</b> <b>weight:30%</b>	1. Accountability projects from practicum and internship demonstrate the use of data to develop or evaluate a counseling program. A data framework is used. 2. A self-evaluation of the internship experience is included.	One of the components previously described is not well written or is incomplete.	One of the components previously described is not included.	One of the components previously described is not included and the other is incomplete.	

**Total Score: 20 points**