

Course: **CO604 Professional Orientation**
Credit: 3 credit hours
Semester: Cycle 6 (May 10th-July 2)
Time: Thur-Fri (8am-5pm), Sat. (8am-4pm)
Instructor: Dr. Luther Ray Smith Jr. Psy.D

I. DESCRIPTION

This course will be an introduction of the counseling profession. This course will examine the basic history, philosophy, social, and psychological fundamentals of counseling, in addition to the particular abilities and characteristics necessary for counseling in a professional setting. This course is designed to supply foundational concepts and skills required for certification and licensure. (Prerequisite: CO601)

This course uses a blended model of delivery, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in Canvas.

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the history and philosophical worldview of counseling (PLO 1, 2, 3).
2. Examine the ethical codes that oversee the counseling process (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4).
3. Examine organizations and vocations that are related to the counseling profession (PLO 1, 2)

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Explain the occupation and role of a counseling professional (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4).
2. Explain the role of assessment in testing in the counseling process (PLO 1, 2).
3. Explain and distinguish amongst different psychological models and how they relate to counseling (PLO 1, 2).

III. REQUIREMENTS

A. Video Assignments

1. **Counseling Orientation Discussions:** Student will post a 5-10 minute initial video with a discussion that is supplied by the instructor on CANVAS. Each reflection and discussion will come from the information from the book and how it is related to the lectures covered in class. Each student will post a 3-5 minute reply video to at least two of their classmates. **There will be a total of six (6) reflections.** Each reflection will be worth 25 points (GC 1, 2, 3; SC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

B. Written Assignments

2. **Reading Journals:** (four (4) pages each) Student will write a four (4) page journal that demonstrates a mastery of the reading assignment and class material and the student's personal reflection on what they read from the chapters in the book. The student will also need to demonstrate an ability to compare and contrast this information on their current world view. The journal format will be provided by the instructor on the first day of class. Each journal will be due according to the course schedule. There will be a **total of six (6) journals.** Each journal will be worth 25 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
2. **Individual Counseling Portfolio:** Student will build and develop their own counseling career portfolio. This portfolio will include the following information such as a resume, potential objectives and goals for the master's program, abilities that you have and ones you desire to work on, an explanation of the counselee population you would like to work with and why? Potential workshops, conferences, and trainings you would like to attend, and areas of specialty you would like to have. This portfolio will be worth 300 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 4).
3. **Counselor Interview Report:** (eight to ten (8-10) pages each) Student will interview two (2) counselors who counsel in a given field (e.g., private, school, agency, etc.). The students interview will consist of the following information: setting where the counselor works, the counselor personal history in the counseling profession, the requirements to work in this particular profession, the abilities and skills that are necessary in this area, the challenges and successes in this area, the interventions and methods used in this area, the role advocacy plays in this area, and a personal reflection about how you feel in this area. There will be a **total to two (2) papers.** Each of these papers will be worth 50 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 5).

C. Presentation Assignment

4. **Counselor Interview Presentation:** Student, in a 15-20 minute PowerPoint presentation, will present the interviews they conducted, the important information they learned throughout their interview, and their personal reflection of how they felt about each interview, and how this will assist them in furthering developing their skills in the counseling profession. The research presentation will be worth 100 points (GC 1, 2; SC 1, 2, 3, 5).

D. Class Participation & Behavior

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the professor, prompt and excellent attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity. Students are to refrain from using cell phones and handheld devices during class. Playing games, browsing the internet, using email, instant messaging, or text messaging, etc. are considered unacceptable when class is in session. In addition, the student will be expected to contribute to class discussions in a positive manner which shows respect for the views of others. Failure to maintain this standard may result in a **full letter grade deduction from their overall grade.**

IV. METHODS

A. Teaching

1. Lectures by the instructor
2. Large group discussion
3. Research and writing
4. Quizzes on the lectures

B. Grading

1. Weight given to course assignments

6 Journals (completed according to schedule) <i>25pts each</i>	150 pts	15%
6 Counseling Orientation Discussions <i>25pts each</i>	150 pts	15%
Individual Counseling Portfolio	300 pts	30%
Counseling Interview Papers <i>50pts each</i>	100 pts	10%
Counseling Interview Presentation	100 pts	10%
Participation	200 pts	20%

2. Letter/Numerical Grade Scale

Grading Scale
Grade Value Grade Point Value
Per Semester Hour

A	100-93	4.0
A-	92-90	3.7
B+	89-87	3.3
B	86-83	3.0
B-	82-80	2.7
C+	79-77	2.3
C	76-73	2.0
C-	72-70	1.7
D+	69-67	1.3
D	66-63	1.0
D-	62-60	0.7
F	59-0	0.0

V. MATERIALS

A. Bible

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

B. Required Textbooks

Eerford, B. (2013). *Orientation to the counseling profession: Advocacy, ethics, and essential professional foundations* (2nd ed.). Pearson publications. AISBN: B00ZT0SCFQ. \$113.98 Kindle version available.

Note: It is your responsibility as a student at Calvary University to have your textbooks before class begins so that you are able to complete all of the readings assigned. Please make sure that you have all of your assigned textbooks prior to the start of class. Failure to have your assigned textbooks at the start of the class will result in

C. Selected Readings, which will be passed out by the instructor.

VII. CLASS POLICIES

Attendance

Campus Students: Students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of courses for which they are registered (as this also counts for class participation). If a student begins a course and is unable to attend a class, he/she will not receive the points allotted for this course. There are eight (8) class sessions, which correspond to the eight week cycle. **Each class participation session is worth 25 points.**

Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person's ideas and presenting them as your own.

Writing Style

All class papers *must* follow the APA according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 7th edition.

Late Work

Papers, projects, etc. are due at the class period assigned. Unless under extreme circumstances, which will be determined at the discretion of the instructor, **no late work will be accepted.**

Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

Learning Center

The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu), located in the library building, is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.