HRE 417 Multicultural Counseling
3 hours credit

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1. Catalog Description

Multicultural counseling is a course designed to give students the self-understanding, knowledge, and techniques necessary to counsel a person whose culture is different from that of the counselor/therapist. Prerequisite: Psychology 234

2. Readings

a) Specific assigned current event articles and journal articles distributed in class

   a. Authors: Baruth & Manning
   b. Title: Multicultural Counseling and Psychotherapy: A Lifespan Approach, 5/E
   c. Publisher: Pearson

3. Specification of learning goals and objectives

Through intellectual dialogue and critical evaluation of course materials and other sources of information, at the course conclusion, each participant should:

a) Become aware of the importance of antecedent variables or underlying factors in and/or affecting a client’s life circumstances and world view

b) Understand the importance of social and cultural influences and context of a client’s life and the systems in which the client exists

c) Understand multicultural and pluralistic trends, including characteristics and concerns within and among diverse groups nationally and internationally

d) Become aware of attitudes, beliefs, understandings, and acculturative experiences, including specific experiential learning activities designed to foster students’ understanding of self and social and/or culturally diverse clients

e) Understand the counselors’ roles in developing cultural self-awareness, promoting cultural social justice, advocacy and conflict resolution, and other culturally supported behaviors that promote optimal wellness and growth of the human spirit, mind, or body and counselors’ roles in eliminating biases, prejudices, and processes of intentional and unintentional oppression, exclusion, and discrimination
4. Description of learning strategies used to accomplish the objectives

a) Lectures over material covered each week and assigned on the calendar
b) Role play exercises as determined by class discussion
c) Discussion of reading materials and recent events in the news
d) Readings from the assigned textbooks, current events, and journal articles
e) Student presentations over assigned topics
f) Student journal entries over each class to be done at the end of each class

5. Methods of assessment of student performance

a) Attendance and participation in classroom discussions. This includes being prepared to discuss assigned readings, handouts, films and videos, etc. Twenty points toward the final grade will be based on participation and attendance. After reading the syllabus, you can understand that attendance is important to take full advantage of all the learning opportunities of this course. If you know in advance that you must miss a class, speak to me so that I can give you assignments to make-up the absence. One absence can be made-up. Two absences will result in the loss of 10 points, plus will require make-up work. If you anticipate more than two absences, please enroll for the course at a time more convenient to your schedule.

b) Oral Presentation in class on the topic. The presentation is worth 10 points, topics will be chosen on the first night of class.

c) Journal. Students will maintain a course journal in which they will enter insights and reflections about readings from the text, presentations by other students, and class discussions there should be at least one entry for each night of class. The journal should be integrative in that insights and reflections are tied together and relate to one’s counseling practice. For presentations, summarize what was presented in a few sentences and provide the same analysis as for the text chapters. In class, use your comments, summaries, and objections as a basis for your contributions (participation). The journal is worth 70 points and is due one week after the final class session.

6. Course Policies

a) Attendance is very important in this course, please see instructor if you have a hardship regarding attendance.

b) Grading Scale: Possible Points:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100-97</td>
<td>70 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>96-94</td>
<td>Journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>93-90</td>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>89-87</td>
<td>Attendance/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>86-84</td>
<td>Participation</td>
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c) Late papers and assignments will not be accepted

d) The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All projects and tests will represent your own work. Any use of others’ ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies.

Course Weekly Outline will be provided at the first class meeting