

FALL 2012 SYLLABUS  
Counseling 301  
ORIENTATION TO THE COUNSELING PROFESSION

**Instructor:** Bobbie Jacobs, MS, LPC-S, RPT  
**Office Location:** HEN 207  
**Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 a.m.  
**Office Phone:**  
**Email:** (use Coun 301 as your subject) rjacobs@leomail.tamuc.edu

<b>COURSE INFORMATION</b>
---------------------------

**Course Text**

Required:

Capuzzi, D., & Gross, D.R. (2009). Introduction to the counseling profession (5<sup>th</sup> ed.)  
Columbus, OH: Pearson

Optional (**but highly recommended**):

American Psychological Association Publication Manual (6<sup>th</sup> ed). Washington, DC:  
American Psychological Association

**Course Description**

COUN 301 Orientation to the Counseling Profession.

A study of general professional issues including ethics, history, credentialing, professional associations and role of counselors in various settings.

**Objectives**

**Goals/Rationale of the Course**

The goals of this class include, but are not limited to:

- Creating an insight for the students to understand the inner workings of the Counseling profession, its history, and the role of the counselor in various settings.
- Developing an understanding of the differences between counselors and other mental health professionals.
- Providing students with information to help them better determine how congruent the discipline of Counseling is with their future academic and professional goals.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

The student will:

1. Be an active and engaged participant in discussions by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, student research, and class activities and sharing personal observations and opinions.
2. Become familiar with professional peer-reviewed Counseling journal publications and APA style of writing
3. Differentiate between counselors and other mental health professionals
4. Identify basic counseling theoretical orientations and their founders
5. Understand the history of the counseling profession and the fundamentals of the credentialing process

## FLEXIBLE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### **Method of Instruction**

This course will utilize lecture, class discussions, role plays, experiential activities and possibly , video demonstrations, to achieve the learning objectives.

### **Assignments**

**It is my opinion that your inner-strengths will be greater served by writing assignments that are focused on developing a greater sense of yourself and how you will fit into your role as a helper than taking tests and quizzes. That being said, if I see that your writing assignments are not up to the standards expected and discussed in class, or there is not sufficient class participation, I will adjust the Course Requirements to include quizzes and tests.**

In grading your written assignments I will be looking at three areas:

- The degree to which you completed all aspects of the assignment
- To what degree were you engaged in self-exploration
- To what degree was your paper in line with APA format

## FLEXIBLE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Attendance/participation (100 points)** – Refer to Course and University Procedures and Policies.

### **Grading**

Total possible points for the semester = 300

Attendance/Participation	100
Written Assignments (paper & in class work)	100
Presentation	<u>100</u>
Total	300

A	270 - 300 points
B	240 - 269 points
C	210 – 239 points
D	180 – 209 points
F	179 points or below

### **Late Assignment Policies**

All assignments are due, on the given assignment date, at the beginning of class. Computer problems are not an excuse for missed/late assignments. In certain

circumstances, some assignments may be emailed to me (doc files only, not docx). Do not email assignments to me unless you have discussed the situation with me and I have given you permission via email to send the document. **Remember the subject line should read “Counseling 301”.**

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

The best way to communicate with me between classes is email. Please use “Counseling 301” in the subject of your email. In the content part of your email be sure to include your first and last name and the best phone number in which I can contact you, if necessary. I respond to my emails daily. If you do not hear from me within 24 hours, please contact me at 903-274-9901, leaving your first and last name and, again, the best way I can contact you. Also, I will be more than happy to meet with you on campus. Contact me so that we can set up a convenient time.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution.

Texas A&M University-Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct. As the University states, **“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.”** These policies are stated in detail in the Student’s Guide Handbook. Each student is expected to read this document and abide by the contained policies. These university policies will be followed in this class. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment grade of “0” on the homework assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate *plagiarism* and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. “Academic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one’s own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse, (destruction, defacing or removal of resource material.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, visit the following websites:

<http://www.plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/weweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>

<http://www.indiana.edu/-wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.html>

**Attendance and Participation** Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. More than 3 absences (excused or unexcused) will negatively affect your grade. Participation in class activities, including discussion groups and in-class assignments, is a component of attendance. Failure to prepare and participate effectively will negatively impact the learning processes devised for the class. “All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment” (Student Guide Book, pp. 67-73).

Arrive to class on time and **do not pack up early**. If you know ahead of time you will be late or will need to leave early please notify me by email at least a day in advance.

Contributions, on a regular basis, to class discussions are expected.

Reading assigned work and course material is expected.

**Turn off all cell phones.** Students who fail to do so may be asked to leave the class. **It is inappropriate and disrespectful to “surf” the web, check email or text during class.**

Students may choose to use their laptop computers for note taking (if necessary).

**If students choose to use their laptop or other electronic device for internet access during class time they will be asked to turn off the device and put it away. Once the student has been found accessing the internet during class time they will not longer be allowed to use their laptop or other electronic device during class. If use of the internet persists students may be asked to leave the class.**

<b>COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES</b>
--

**Late Assignment Policies**

All assignments are due, on the given assignment date, at the beginning of class. **No late assignments will be accepted.** In certain circumstances, some assignments may be emailed to me (doc files only, **not docx**). Do not email assignments to me unless you have discussed the situation with me and I have given you permission via email to send the document. **Remember the subject line should read “Counseling 315”.**

**Withdrawal Policy**

Every student has the right to drop the course without penalty until the drop-date. Students dropping the course during this period will be given a DP (drop while passing). A grade of DP is GPA neutral, but a grade of DF counts as an F on your transcript. If you choose to stop attending class, you may be dropped from the course due to excessive absences. If you are not satisfied with your grade in the course and wish to drop, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the course. Once the grade of DP or DF has been registered, I will not be able to change it. A student may drop a course by logging into

their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled “Drop a class” from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the web page.

### **ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities ACT (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. *If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:*

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

**Texas A&M University-Commerce**

**Gee Library 132**

**Phone (903) 886-51512 or (903) 886-5835**

**Fax (903) 468-8148**

[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

Student Disability Resources & Services

<b>COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES</b>
--

### **Student Conduct**

Polite and civil interactions with all members of the class is expected.

(“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). All students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.

- **All pagers, cell phones, electronic games, radios, CD players, or other devices must be turned off when you enter the classroom.**
- **I expect every student to have the utmost respect for their peers in class, especially when discussing experiences of a sensitive or personal nature. Students are reminded disclosures in the classroom setting are to be kept confidential.**
- **Discriminatory, rude and, inappropriate language will not be tolerated in this class and the student(s) choosing to act in a discriminatory or rude manner or use inappropriate language will be asked to leave the class. Disruption of class or inconsiderate behavior will not be tolerated. If the student continues to act in the same manner during future classes, the instructor reserves the right to drop the student from the course.**

### **University closing due to weather**

Check <http://www.tamuc.edu> regarding class cancellations. Also KETR radio on 88.9 FM and Channel 4, 5 and 8 (Channel 7 for Tyler and Longview area).

<b>COURSE OUTLINE/CLAENDAR</b>
--------------------------------

**Flexible Schedule**

<b>Monday, August 27</b>	Introductions.
<b>Wednesday, August 29</b>	Syllabus. Discussion: “Why I am interested, or what has caused my interest in the helping professions”.
<b>Monday, September 3</b>	No class
<b>Wednesday, September 5</b>	In class discussion of Chapter 1 The Counseling Profession Historical Perspectives and Current Issues and Trends
<b>Monday, September 10</b>	<b>Guest Speaker – APA Counseling - Student Services</b> Read Chapter 2, The Helping Relationship for next Class.

**HOMEWORK: Type a cover page APA Style**

<b>Wednesday, September 12</b>	Discussion of Chapter 2, The Helping Relationship Read Chapter 3, Counseling People of Color for next class.
--------------------------------	--

**TURN IN COVER PAGE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS**

<b>Monday, September 17</b>	Discussion of Chapter 3 Read Chapter 4, Ethics & the Beginning Counselor Being Ethical From the Start for next class.
<b>Wednesday, September 19</b>	Ethical Case discussions
<b>Monday, September 24</b>	In class reading and discussion of Chapter 5 Research & Writing in Counseling Read Chapter 6, Technology and Counseling for next class.

**HOMEWORK:** Type a Reference Page, using APA style.  
You will have 15 references, from a variety of sources. **You must have at least three references each from peer reviewed, scientific journals, books and the internet.** Due Monday, October 1.

<b>Wednesday, September 26</b>	Discussion of Chapter 6. Read Chapter 7, Individual Counseling: Traditional Approaches.
--------------------------------	---

**Monday, October 1**

**Guest Speaker**

**TURN IN REFERENCE PAGE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS**

**Wednesday, October 3**

Discussion of Chapter 7  
Experiential Activities

**Monday, October 8**

Reading and in class discussion of Chapter 8  
Individual Counseling: Brief Approaches

**Wednesday, October 10**

Experiential Activities  
Read Chapter 11, Counseling and Spirituality  
for next class.

**Monday, October 15**

Discussion of Chapter 11  
Read Chapter 12, Creative Approaches to  
Counseling

**Wednesday, October 17**

Discussion of Chapter 12  
Experiential Activities

**Monday, October 22**

Experiential Activities  
Read Chapter 14, Diagnosis in Counseling for  
next class

**Wednesday, October 24**

Discussion of Chapter 14  
Read Chapter 16, Counseling in Mental Health  
and Private Practice Settings for next class

**Monday, October 29**

Discussion of Chapter 16  
Read Chapter 18, Counseling Couples and Families  
for next class.

**Wednesday, October 31**

Discussion of Chapter 18

**Monday, November 5**

**Guest Speaker**

**Wednesday, November 7**

Discussion of Chapter 19  
Discussion of paper and handout  
Read Chapter 20, Counseling Clients with  
Disabilities for next class.

**Monday, November 12**

Discussion of Chapter 20

**Wednesday, November 14**

**Library-Research Day**

<b>Monday, November 19</b>	Class Activity/Self-Care-Burn Out
<b>Wednesday, November 21</b>	Class Activity
<b>Monday, November 26</b>	Class Presentations
<b>Wednesday, November 28</b>	<b>COMBINED CLASSES</b> <b>Henderson 124</b>
<b>Monday, December 3</b>	Class Presentations
<b>Wednesday, December 5</b>	Class Presentations
<b>Monday, December 10</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 12</b>	<b>TBA</b>