MASTER SYLLABUS
COUN 548: ADVANCED COUNSELING SKILLS
Instructor: Linda Ball, Ed.D. E-mail (preferred way of contact)
   linda_ball@tamu-commerce.edu
   (903) 886-5637 or (903) 886-5649

OFFICE HOURS
To be posted online, with main office, and on office door within the first week of the semester. E-mail is always available, and I usually respond within 24 hours.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE
548. Advanced Counseling Skills. 3 Semester Hours. A laboratory-based, experiential course, Advanced Counseling Skills will merge the continued development of basic skills with theoretically based conceptualization skills and techniques. Students will examine their intrapersonal alignments with chosen theoretical orientations. Students will practice theoretically consistent conceptualization skills and techniques. Students will be expected to adhere to ACA Ethical Standards. A grade of “B” or higher must be earned in COUN 516. Prerequisites: COUN 501, 510, 528 and 516.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
At the completion of this course, students will be expected to:
1. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical foundations of counseling, systematically articulate professional philosophy, and integrate this philosophy into practice. (5d)
2. Demonstrate self-awareness with regard to personal values and cultural worldview.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the ongoing relationship between personal self-care and professional effectiveness. (5a, 5b)
4. Explain and demonstrate skills in managing the counseling session: opening and closing the session, appropriately directing the session. (5c)
5. Provide clear and constructive feedback to classmates.
6. Demonstrate advanced skills that address clients’ cognitive, behavioral and emotional concerns. These skills include but are not limited to: challenging distorted thinking/beliefs, confrontation and challenging discrepancies, and responding to resistance.
7. Accept and implement feedback from the instructor and classmates.
8. Demonstrate appropriate intervention strategies that integrate theory, client assessment information, and accepted professional counseling skills while providing a safe therapeutic environment. (5b; 5c)
9. Demonstrate assimilation and accommodation of individual differences that include but are not limited to differences of age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, spiritually, socioeconomic class, and educational level, and implement this understanding in personal, professional, and community relationships. (2b, 2c)

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION
Lecture, seminar and supervised practical application will be implemented.

REQUIRED TEXTS


RECOMMENDED TEXTS


ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
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, Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

CONDUCT AND ACADEMIC HONESTY
"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, Polices and Procedures, Conduct) “Graduate students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work.” (See Section A13.12, Academic Honesty, A&M-Commerce Procedures.)

DISCRIMINATION FREE ENVIRONMENT
A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

UNIVERSITY CLOSING DUE TO WEATHER
Check www.tamuc.edu/ regarding class cancellations. Also, KETR radio on 88.9 FM and television channels 4, 5, and 8 (channel 7 for Tyler & Longview Area).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION (20%)
  Regular class attendance is required. As this is a developmental based clinical course, more than one (2) absences will jeopardize successful completion of the course, i.e. grade will be lowered.
Appropriate (as defined by instructor) level of interaction/participation during classroom discussions and presentations is expected. Concerns/Infractions will be addressed individually by the instructor and recommendations made.

- Faculty are required to include in their course syllabi the following statement: "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, Polices and Procedures, Conduct)

- **SKILL DEVELOPMENT- 3 TAPES (30%)**
  ~3 video tapes with critique and selected transcripts. Each tape will build on the one before it with the third tape culminating in the use of at least one advanced skill/technique learned this semester. As such I will expect your skills to be more developed and refined at the end of the semester than at the beginning and thus evaluations will reflect this assumption. (Grading rubric will be discussed.)

- **TECHNIQUE PRESENTATION (20%)**
  You will present on an advanced counseling technique. Include the description of the technique; the theory/approach from which it originates; a recent/selected literature review of its effectiveness; the populations/settings in which the technique may be most or least effective; the rationale for further research; and a live demonstration of the technique. Each student will provide a handout of his or her technique’s presentation to be distributed to each class member. The presentation will be approximately 15 minutes.

- **TEST (30%)**
  One multiple-choice exam, with a section of application questions will be given. (approximately 50 questions.)

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<td>08/31</td>
<td>Syllabus &amp; Course Expectations</td>
<td>Introductions</td>
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REMINDER OF OUTLINE WILL BE DISTRIBUTED FIRST DAY OF CLASS