HCE 500 Orientation to the Counseling Profession

This introductory course is designed to acquaint individuals who are preparing to enter the counseling profession with a broad overview of the profession's historical and theoretical foundations and to begin the development of professional identities. This course must be taken the first semester following matriculation.

Prerequisite: None
Credit Hours: 3
Course Type: Lecture
Ideal Class Size: 50

Relationship to CEHD Core Values

*Democracy:* The counseling profession honors the concepts of client rights and promotes personal decision-making.

*Civility & Caring:* The entire counseling profession is centered on caring and civility.

*Equity & Diversity:* Multicultural competence is introduced and assessed.

*Social Justice:* Client advocacy is addressed as an expectation of the profession.

*Scholarship:* APA standards are introduced and assessed; future program writing assignments must be presented in APA format.

*Professional Learning & Continuous Improvement:* One of the major elements of CACREP-accredited programs. Students are introduced to professional associations and student membership is encouraged.

*Ethical Practice:* Students sign a Code of Ethics Attestation statement upon entry into the Counselor Education program, and all students are responsible for abiding by the professional Code of Ethics in all course work and activities that represent program outcomes and standards.

Course Goals

The goals of this course are to orient individuals to the profession of counseling, the USM counseling program, and to assist in the initial development of an identity as a professional counselor.

Course Outcomes

Students will:
1. examine the three counseling concentrations: school, rehabilitation, and mental health.
2. explore the historical, philosophical and theoretical foundations of the counseling profession.
3. become knowledgeable of professional credentialing, including certification, licensure, and accreditation practices and standards.
4. gain a general knowledge of the practice of individual, group, and family systems counseling.
5. explore the role of research and assessment in counseling.
6. study the ethical standards of the counseling profession and become familiar with their application to various professional activities.
7. increase their awareness of counseling in a culturally diverse society.
8. learn to write using the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* and become familiar with library research techniques.
9. explore professional roles and functions of counselors through field experiences.
10. develop an initial identity as a counseling professional.

Approved 2/02
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