HRD 664  Culture, Tradition and Diversity

This course focuses on developing multicultural awareness, understanding the role of culture and tradition in the life cycle, examining issues of diversity in human interactions, and on exploring the attitudes and perceptions of diverse populations. The course surveys world views, values, and beliefs of specific groups to better understand and appreciate diversity as they relate to professional applications. This course includes a field experience.

Prerequisite: None

Credit Hours: 3

Course Type: Seminar (with Field Experience)

Ideal Class Size: 20

Relationship to CEHD Core Values

Democracy - Inclusive dialogue, freedom of expression, and participatory decision-making that includes respect for and consideration of multiple views and perspectives are expected.

Civility & Caring - Instructor and students will attend to the health of the learning community through maintaining constructive communication, protecting individual dignity, and exhibiting empathy, compassion, and openness.

Equity & Diversity - Course is designed to seek understanding about, engage inclusively with, and foster the voice and visibility of individuals of all identity groups and perspectives.

Social Justice - Instructor will model and students will be encouraged to speak for and empower people who are disenfranchised and work towards a more just society.

Ethical Practice - Instructor will model and expect students to engage in the highest level of professional practice.

Scholarship - Students will create and apply knowledge and skills using methods of research and inquiry that reflect a diverse range of accepted practices within the academic and professional discipline.

Professional Learning & Continuous Improvement - Instructor and students will engage themselves as lifelong learners in their field, use feedback, and adjust their practices for continuing professional growth.

Course Goal

This course will provide counselors, educators, and other professionals with a multicultural perspective, and a deeper appreciation of how the beliefs and values of specific ethnic and other diverse groups might influence attitudes toward growth and change.

Course Outcomes

Students will be able to:

1. identify the cultural context of their own background and experience, and explore personal attitudes, beliefs, and biases about diverse individuals and groups.

2. recognize the various cultural and sociopolitical factors impacting the lives of individuals from diverse backgrounds, and their concerns result from this.

3. describe the ways in which traditional culture and modern society interact in the lives of individuals, and the issues this creates in multicultural society.

4. describe how privilege, stereotyping, oppression, discrimination, and racism affect both the individual and group in terms of personal, social, and economic development opportunities.

5. identify the issues related to ethnicity, gender, sexuality, disability, socioeconomic class, age, and how these issues can result in assumptions to hierarchical and stunted identities.

6. understand how culture, experience, attitudes, beliefs, values, and biases affect interpersonal communication and interaction styles.

7. explore techniques for working with diverse populations, while identifying regional resources and services that provide assistance and support to diverse populations.

8. demonstrate knowledge of the primary ethical considerations in working with individuals of diverse backgrounds.

1/02
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