



**COUN 551 Practicum  
Fall 2016  
Monday 4:30pm – 7:10pm  
CHEC**

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Stephen J. Freeman, Ph. D.

Professor

Texas A&M University—Commerce

College of Education

Department of Psychology, Counseling & Special Education

Commerce, TX 75429-3011

Office: CHEC

Office hrs: Mon. 3:00 – 4:30 (CCHE)

Tue. 6:00 - 7:20 (CHEC)

Other time by appointment

Office phone: 903-886-5637

Office fax: 903-886-5780

E-Mail: [sfreeman@tamuc.edu](mailto:sfreeman@tamuc.edu)

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: one day

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Textbooks:** Teyber, E. & McClure, F. (any edition). *Interpersonal Process in Psychotherapy: An Integrative Approach*. Brooks/Cole

*Software Required NA*

*Optional Texts and/or Materials NA*

***Course Description***

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION OF COURSE**

Provides for continued development and practice of skills learned in COUN 516. Students develop conceptual and professional skills related to their practice at a field site and practice various specified counseling and related activities during a minimum of 100 hours at an agency or educational setting. Satisfactory performance at the field placement and during on-campus class meetings must be demonstrated before students can proceed to internship (COUN 552).

Prerequisites: Application form returned to department several months before actual enrollment in this course (check with department for availability and due dates), a grade of "B" or better in

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

516, and successful completion of Admission to Candidacy requirements within the Department of Counseling.

### **GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Practicum is designed to develop students' counseling skills beyond the basic level required in Pre-Practicum (and 548 if applicable). The primary emphasis is on students' development as practitioners and related activities in a specified agency or school setting. As a result, Practicum comprises both on-campus and on-site experiences. Students will learn and practice a variety of counseling strategies. This course will also have a field site where they will gain approximately 100 hours of experience. In addition, students must be assessed at an average to exceptional level on the competencies listed under the COURSE OBJECTIVES (see below).

Include the university catalogue description and any necessary prerequisites. Also, you may choose to include your own description of the course.

### ***Student Learning Outcomes***

include, but are not limited to the following.

Students will demonstrate understanding and appropriate application of:

1. essential interviewing and counseling skills so that the student is able to develop, maintain, and successfully terminate a therapeutic relationship,
2. counseling theories that provide the student with a consistent model(s) to conceptualize client presentation and select appropriate counseling interventions.
3. models of counseling that are consistent with current professional research and practice in the field so that they can begin to develop a personal model of counseling
4. self awareness so that the counselor-client relationship is therapeutic and the counselor maintains appropriate professional boundaries
5. major areas of competence (Process and Communications skills, Conceptualization skills, and Personalization skills)
6. ethical standards of ACA and related entities, and applications of ethical and legal considerations in professional counseling

### **TEXES COMPETENCIES THAT RELATE TO THIS COURSE (*TEXES is the state examination required for school counselor certification.*)**

Competency 001 (Human Development)

The school counselor understands processes of human development and applies this knowledge to provide a developmental guidance program, including counseling services that meet the needs of all students.

Competency 002 (Student Diversity)

The school counselor understands human diversity and applies this knowledge to ensure that the developmental guidance and counseling program is responsive to all students.

Competency 003 (Factors affecting Students)

The school counselor understands factors that may affect students' development and school achievement and applies this knowledge to promote students' ability to achieve their potential.

Competency 006 (Counseling)

The school counselor understands how to provide effective counseling services to individuals and small groups.

Competency 007 (Assessment)

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

The school counselor understands principles of assessment and is able to use assessment results to identify students' strengths and needs, monitor progress, and engage in planning to promote school success.

Competency 008 (Collaboration with Families)

The school counselor knows how to communicate effectively with families and establish collaborative relationships that enhance work with students.

Competency 009 (Collaboration with Others in the School and Community)

The school counselor understands how to work collaboratively with other professionals and with community members to promote positive change and to facilitate student learning.

Competency 010 (Professionalism) The school counselor understands and complies with ethical, legal, and professional standards relevant to the profession.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### *Minimal Technical Skills Needed NA*

### *Instructional Methods*

1. **Video Taping of Clients.** All students are required to videotape (digital format preferred) counseling sessions with clients from their field sites. Videotaped counseling sessions will be submitted to the instructor for supervision feedback. You will provide a detailed critique of your counseling skills with your tape.
2. **Group counseling.** Students are required to lead one psycho-educational or counseling group (minimum 6 sessions) in their setting. If you are in a mental health setting and are not allowed to lead a group, please let me know as soon as possible. Videotaping of two group sessions is required. Students will be required to provide a detailed summary of the group, which includes an analysis of content and process.
3. **Theory summary.** Students are required to provide a summary describing your theory of choice.
4. **Attend all individual supervision sessions.** One of the most important requirements and benefits of practicum is to meet individually with the doctoral student who will serve as your individual supervisor. **You must keep your appointments with your doctoral supervisor. If you miss more than two appointments with your supervisor, you will not pass the course.** You will need to bring a videotape to each of your sessions with your supervisor. Failure to bring a tape will adversely affect your grade. **Repeatedly failing to bring a tape will result in a failing grade in the course.**
5. **Group supervision.** You will be asked to bring a tape to class during the semester. One of your tapes will be of a group counseling session. The class or small group will listen to your tape and use the tape as a stimulus for group discussion and supervision.

### *Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course*

Read the material assigned prior to class. Review your tapes prior to class and come prepared to actively participate in critique.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## GRADING

This class is pass/fail as determined by assessment of your clinical skills. At midterm you will be given a formative assessment of your performance.

If using a weights-based system, then please include a list or table showing the weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final course grade.

### *Assessments*

#### **Counseling Student Competency Evaluation (CSCE)**

The Counseling Program is obligated by professional ethics (see ACA Code of Ethics, 2014) and University procedure to assess students as to their potential for meeting the expectations of the professional counseling field. The Counseling Student Competency Evaluation will be used as a basis for assessment. Copies of the CSCE are available from the Departmental website or by contacting the Department of Counseling Office.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS NA

### ACCESS AND NAVIGATION NA

### COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

### *Interaction with Instructor Statement*

Contact instructor outside of class using email ([sfreeman@tamuc.edu](mailto:sfreeman@tamuc.edu)). Queries will be answered within 24 hrs .

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### *Course Specific Procedures/Policies*

Students are expected to attend all classes and arrive on time. Attendance in this class is critical and cannot be emphasized enough. More than 2 absences from class will result in your being dropped from the class.

**Digital devices:** It is inappropriate to text, email, check email or texts, use a laptop or go online during this course. Full attention and participation is expected. Confine your use of digital devices to breaks.

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## ***University Specific Procedures***

### ***Student Conduct***

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

### ***TAMUC Attendance***

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### ***Academic Integrity***

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### ***ADA Statement***

#### **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:

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **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  
Email: [Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### ***Nondiscrimination Notice***

Texas A&M University-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.

### ***Campus Concealed Carry Statement***

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

8/29 Orientation

Read chapters 1 & 2 for next class

9/5 Labor Day Holiday

9/12 The Interpersonal Process & Establishing a working alliance

Read chapters 3 & 4 for next class

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

9/19 Honoring resistance and an internal focus for change

Read chapters 5 & 6 for next class

9/26 Helping clients with their feelings and family and developmental factors

10/3 Tape review & critique

10/10 Tape review & critique

10/17 Tape review & critique

10/24 Tape review & critique

10/31 Tape review & critique

11/7 Tape review & critique

11/14 Tape review & critique

11/21 No class

11/28 Tape review & critique

12/5 TBA

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*