

Counseling Practicum
Fall 2008
CPSY 440 006
Mondays, 4:15-6:45 pm
25 E. Pearson, #204

Rufus R. Gonzales, Ph.D.
(312) 296-2877
rgonza1@luc.edu
Office hours: by appointment or after class

OBJECTIVES

Practicum I is an experience designed to promote your development as a skilled practitioner capable of applying your knowledge base in counseling in an ethical, reflective, and culturally responsive manner. This course provides you with faculty supervision of your direct counseling experience at your respective placement sites and supplements the on-site supervision experience. Your learning will focus on the following:

- a. enhancement of your basic counseling skills
- b. developing your case conceptualization and treatment planning skills with diverse clients
- c. understanding how to evaluate the outcomes of your interventions
- d. improving your ability to accurately assess your strengths and areas for continued growth
- e. awareness of transference and counter-transference issues
- f. ability to develop and evaluate and modify treatment plans and goals
- g. appropriately engage in critique and feedback
- h. demonstrate understanding and application of ACA ethical standards of professional conduct

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK STANDARD CF2

Candidates demonstrate knowledge and skills in a variety of school and professional settings.

REQUIREMENTS

- (a) 350 hours on site per semester (700 hours per year)
- (b) 40% of your time in direct service with clients (e.g., individual, group, family counseling; co-therapy; outreach; psychoeducation; workshops; intakes; assessments; crisis intervention; observations; advocacy; consultation)
- (c) 9 journal entries, submitted electronically due at the beginning of the assigned class period
- (d) case presentation which includes taped segments of your work
- (e) submission of one complete audio taped therapy session for review by instructor
- (f) participation in group and dyadic supervision
- (g) self-evaluation paper: to include your assessment of your strengths, areas in which you have improved over the semester, and areas for continued growth. Length: 5-7 pages
- (h) completion and submission of 100-hour and end-of-semester hours verification forms

JOURNAL

You will keep a weekly journal of your practicum experiences and submit 9 entries across the course of the semester. The journal entry should be at least 2 full pages (i.e., typed, double-spaced), and submitted electronically to the instructor each Monday by the start of class. Use the journal to process your practicum experiences, including successes, frustrations, and anxieties regarding your work with clients, your supervision, and your professional development.

CASE PRESENTATIONS

You will present one case during the semester in which you summarize your client's issues and progress in counseling. The purpose of these case presentations is to obtain feedback to improve your work. Therefore, you will be expected to prepare a written case summary for your peers (including your goals for the group consultation, specifically, what feedback you would like from the group) and a 5-10 minute audio-taped sample of your work.

Videotapes are also acceptable. You will have approximately one hour for the presentation. You will need to disguise the identity of your client but present sufficient detail and specific questions about the case (and your performance) to which your peers can respond.

AUDIO TAPE SUBMISSION

You will be required to submit one audio tape of a complete therapy session. The session will be reviewed by the instructor and you will be given written feedback about the session. In addition to the tape, you will be required to submit a written paragraph about the specific feedback you would like to receive from the instructor about the work demonstrated in the tape.

GROUP AND DYADIC SUPERVISION

You will meet weekly as a group with the instructor and other students at the beginning of the class period. Attendance is mandatory. If you miss a class because of illness or an emergency, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible.

In addition to group supervision, you will be required to participate in weekly dyadic supervision with one of your peers. Dyadic supervision is the time when you will focus on self-exploration, skill development, or acquiring resources that aid your development. You will be expected to tape at least one of your counseling sessions each week and review your own tapes. In preparation for supervision, you will have:

1. Reviewed your tapes,
2. Taken notes on the themes and your internal process,
3. Written down future treatment goals for the client, and
4. Raised questions and issues to discuss in your supervision of the case.

Successful completion of these items will ensure that you are able to come to your supervision sessions with a clear idea of the topics for us to address.

SELF EVALUATION PAPER

Complete a 5-7 page final self-evaluation paper that addresses the goals you initially came into the course with, what you did to achieve those goals, what was difficult about the process, how your goals changed throughout the semester, anything that you learned unexpectedly, your strengths as a counselor and the challenges/areas of growth you anticipate in the next phase of your training.

FINAL PAPERWORK

It is your responsibility to use the forms provided to you to document your practicum work this semester. You will be expected to make sure that your on-site supervisors complete 100-hour and end-of-the-semester evaluations of your work and that your hours-verification form is complete, signed, and turned in by the end of the semester. It is critical to keep personal copies of these documents for yourself in the event that they are misplaced.

ETHICAL BEHAVIOR AND LIABILITY

You are expected to adhere to the ACA ethical standards at all times. If you find yourself facing an ethical dilemma, it is best to be proactive and seek immediate consultation from your supervisors. You are required to purchase personal liability insurance and submit evidence of this insurance to the department.

GRADING

Grading in this course is based on your ethical, responsible performance as a counselor-in-training. You must fulfill the stated requirements, come prepared for supervision, and be open to feedback and guidance from your supervisors, and demonstrate appropriate skills. Failure to fulfill the requirements and/or any ethical violations may result in either grading deductions or a reassessment of your standing in the program. Thus, you are highly encouraged to speak with the course instructor in the event that you anticipate problems in the aforementioned areas. Examples of foreseeable problems include low client attendance, difficulty in obtaining tapes, class absences, or on-site problems with either supervisors or colleagues. In the event that you are unable to meet the direct client contact requirements of the course, you will be given a grade of "I" which will be changed when this requirement is met.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty is an expression of interpersonal justice, responsibility and care, applicable to Loyola University faculty, students, and staff, which demands that the pursuit of knowledge in the university community be carried out with sincerity and integrity. Academic dishonesty is one of several possible reasons why a student may be dismissed

from the Graduate School of Education. For specific policies and procedures see:

http://www.luc.edu/education/academics_policies.shtml#honesty

ACCESSIBILITY

Students who have disabilities which they believe entitle them to accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act should register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) office. To request accommodations, students must schedule an appointment with an SSWD coordinator. Students should contact SSWD at least four weeks before their first semester or term at Loyola. Returning students should schedule an appointment within the first two weeks of the semester or term. The University policy on accommodations and participation in courses is available at: <http://www.luc.edu/sswd>.

HARASSMENT

It is unacceptable and a violation of university policy to harass, discriminate against or abuse any person because of his or her race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, age or any other characteristic protected by applicable law. Such behavior threatens to destroy the environment of tolerance and mutual respect that must prevail for this university to fulfill its educational and health care mission. For this reason, every incident of harassment, discrimination or abuse undermines the aspirations and attacks the ideals of our community. For specific definitions of discrimination, abuse, and harassment refer p. 25-26 in the Loyola University Chicago Student Handbook, located at: <http://www.luc.edu/studentaffairs/pdfs/LoyolaStudentHandbook2006.pdf>

If you believe you are subject to such harassment, you should notify your instructor. If you believe you are subject to harassment by your instructor, contact the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at 312-915-6464.

ATTENDANCE

See university catalog for official policy.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Professionalism in the Service of Social Justice As a future counselor, you can be a vehicle for justice in whatever setting you work. Issues of oppression, privilege, access, opportunity, inclusion, exclusion, discrimination, and bias occur throughout our society. You will be in a unique position to apply the knowledge base of your profession and the skills that you will acquire in an ethical and reflective manner that promotes the self-development and self-determination of others.

TECHNOLOGY

In this course you will use technology to aid you in communicating and locating resources. You will be able to locate journal articles through the Library's PsychInfo or ERIC search engines, access resources from Blackboard, and find additional information through website links.

DIVERSITY

Your department and program are committed to issues of diversity including, but not limited to, race, gender, sexual orientation, social class, ethnicity, and ability status. This course will include discussions of theoretical applications to a diverse population.

SCHEDULE

August 25	Introduction, Organization	
September 1	No Class: Labor Day	
September 8	Check-in and Introductions Grading and Expectations Assignment Sign-up Self-assessment	
September 15	Check-in Suicide Assessment Homicide Assessment Mental Health Assessment	Journal Entry Due
September 22	Check-in Case Conceptualization	Journal Entry Due
September 29	Individual Meetings	Journal Entry Due
October 6	No Class: Fall Break	
October 13	Check-in Multiculturalism and Social Justice	Journal Entry Due
October 20	Case Presentation: _____ Audio Tape Submission _____	Journal Entry Due
October 27	Case Presentation: _____ Audio Tape Submission _____	Journal Entry Due
November 3	Case Presentation: _____ Audio Tape Submission _____	Journal Entry Due
November 10	Case Presentation: _____ Audio Tape Submission _____	Journal Entry Due
November 17	Case Presentation: _____ Audio Tape Submission _____	Journal Entry Due
November 24	Individual Meetings	Self-Evaluation Paper Due
December 1	Last Class: Wrap-up	Final Paperwork Due