

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **COUN 697**

**CENTER FOR COUNSELING AND FAMILY STUDIES**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an overview of the theory and practice of counseling in human services agencies and other community settings. Emphasis is given to principles and practices of community outreach, intervention, education, consultation, and client advocacy in multicultural settings.

#### **RATIONALE**

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the array of counseling settings within the community. By providing students with an overview of the systemic context of mental health delivery systems, the student's awareness of sociopolitical and cultural aspects of community counseling will be increased. This, in turn will enhance advocacy for clients as well as provide career insight to the student.

#### **I. PREREQUISITES**

None

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES**

Click on the following link to view the required resources for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio and video equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word and PowerPoint  
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Trace the historical and professional foundations of Community Counseling.
- B. List the roles and functions of Community Counselors.
- C. Distinguish counseling practices in diverse populations.
- D. Develop systems of evaluating needs of counseling in their local community.

- E. Explore counseling concepts and management strategies.
- F. Evaluate environmental influences that effect counseling practices.
- G. Incorporate a systems approach to designing counseling practice.
- H. Navigate the components of licensure and certification.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and video lectures
- B. Group Discussion Board Forums (4)

For Group Discussion Board forums, the instructor will divide all students into small groups at the beginning of the course. For each forum, topics will be given for discussion by the instructor. It is important that all major components of the topic are addressed and supported by the assigned readings and lecture materials as a thorough response to the instructor's prompt. The initial thread is to contain 200–250 words for a sufficient thread. Readability, grammar and appropriate “netiquette” are required. An appropriate reply to a classmate's thread should focus on the meaningful points with opinions supported by assigned reading and lecture materials. The reply is to be 75–100 words in length.

- C. Community Needs Assessment Paper

At the end of Module/Week 4, students will submit a 5–10-page paper evaluating the overall mental health needs of their community. The goal of this paper is to familiarize the student with the overall community needs regarding mental health. It will be 5–10 pages in length following APA guidelines with a minimum of 5 resources.

- D. Community Counseling Model Paper

At the end of week 8, students will submit a 10–15-page paper articulating and evaluating their community's approach to meeting the needs discovered from the Community Needs Assessment Paper. This project is about how the local community as a whole meets its mental health needs. It will be 10–15 pages in length following APA guidelines with a minimum of 10 current references.

- E. Exams (4)

Students will take four open-book exams regarding the history and theory of community mental health systems and basic community needs. Exam questions will be comprised of key concepts from the required texts. Although these exams are open-book, they are timed; therefore, a thorough study of the material will be essential to achieve high scores on the exams.

## VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

### A. Points

Discussion Board forums (4 at 50 pts ea)	200
Community Needs Assessment Paper	150
Community Counseling Model Paper	250
Exam 1 (Modules 1 & 2)	100
Exam 2 (Modules 3 & 4)	100
Exam 3 (Modules 5 & 6)	100
Exam 4 (Modules 7 & 8)	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>

### B. Scale

A = 960–1000    A- = 940–959    B+ = 920–939    B = 900–919    B- = 880–899  
 C+ = 860–879    C = 840–859    C- = 820–839    D+ = 800–819    D = 780–799  
 D- = 760–779    F = 759 and below

### C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

### D. Dual Relationship

The faculty is responsible to interact with counseling students in a supervisory capacity/role. As such, faculty may provide students professional principles, guidance, and recommendations as it relates to the context of the student-client setting. The faculty is responsible to avoid dual relationships with students such as entering a student-counselor or student-pastor relationship. Thus, the faculty does not provide personal counseling addressing student personal problems. If a faculty member perceives that a student is in need of personal or professional counseling, then that faculty member will recommend that the student pursue either pastoral or professional assistance from a counselor in their community.

### E. Limits of Confidentiality

In the event of a student's disclosure, either verbally or in writing, of threat of serious or foreseeable harm to self or others, abuse or neglect of a minor, elderly or disabled person, or current involvement in criminal activity, the faculty, staff, administrator, or supervisor will take immediate action. This action may include, but is not limited to, immediate notification of appropriate state law enforcement or social services personnel, emergency contacts, and notification of the appropriate program chair or online dean. The incident and action taken will become part of the student's permanent record.

## F. Late Policy

## Papers/projects:

1. 5% deduction per day.
2. No assignment will be accepted seven (7) days after original due date without written approval from the professor. This approval must be sought prior to assignment due date.

## 3. Discussion Boards:

No Discussion Board posts accepted after DB has closed without prior permission of professor. Late posts will not be factored into DB grade.

If the professor grants students permission to submit posts after the DB has closed the following requirements apply:

- a. 5% deduction per day.
- b. No assignment will be accepted seven (7) days after original due date without written approval from the professor. This approval must be sought prior to assignment due date.
- c. Professor may require alternate assignment if Discussion Board has closed. These assignments must be completed within terms of late policy. No assignment will be accepted seven (7) days after original due date.

## Tests/Exams

1. For timed tests/exams students are required to complete the exam within the assigned time. For students who exceed this time limit a penalty of 5 points will be deducted for each minute they exceed the assigned time limit.
2. Students must take the exam during the assigned module. A 5 % deduction from the tests final grade will be assigned for each day the test is late.
3. No test will be accepted seven (7) days after original due date without written approval from the professor. This approval must be sought prior to tests due date.

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **COUN 697**

Textbooks: Lewis, J.A. et al., *Community counseling* (2003).

Gerig, M., *Foundations for mental health and community counseling* (2007).

<b>WEEK/ MODULE</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Lewis: chs. 1 & 2 video lecture	Course Requirements Checklist Group Discussion Board Forum 1	0 50
<b>2</b>	Lewis: chs. 3 & 4 video lecture	Exam 1	100
<b>3</b>	Lewis: chs. 5 & 6 video lecture	Group Discussion Board Forum 2	50
<b>4</b>	Lewis: chs. 7 & 8 video lecture	Community Needs Assessment Paper Exam 2	150 100
<b>5</b>	Gerig: chs. 5 & 6 video lecture	Group Discussion Board Forum 3	50
<b>6</b>	Gerig: chs. 8 & 9 video lecture	Exam 3	100
<b>7</b>	Gerig: chs. 7 & 10	Group Discussion Board Forum 4	50
<b>8</b>	Gerig: chs. 11 & 12	Community Counseling Model Paper Exam 4	250 100
<b>Total</b>			<b>1000</b>

**NOTE:** Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.