

**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 605**

#### **COMMUNITY AND AGENCY COUNSELING**

#### **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 the student 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. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

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

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

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word  
(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. Discuss the historical development 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 the needs of counseling in a local community.

- E. Explore counseling concepts and management strategies.
- F. Evaluate environmental influences that affect counseling practices.
- G. Incorporate a systems approach to designing counseling practice.
- H. Describe the credentialing requirements for counselor licensure and certification.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Group Discussion Board Forums (6)

The instructor will place the student into a small discussion group at the beginning of the course. The student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 350–400 words, must be supported with 1 citation in current APA format, and must demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 1 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 300 words and follow the same graduate level engagement as the threads.

- D. Community Needs Analysis Paper

The student will submit a 10–15-page paper evaluating the overall mental health needs and services within his/her community. The goal of this paper is to familiarize the student with the overall community needs regarding mental health care. This paper must follow current APA format and must have a minimum of 10 resources.

- E. Case Treatment Plan Paper

The student will complete a Case Treatment Plan Paper that will consist of an examination of a provided case study, an investigation into various service providers in the area that meet the presented needs, and the development of a treatment strategy for the case. The paper will consist of 10–12 pages, contain 8–10 resources, and follow current APA format.

- F. Exams (4)

Each exam will cover the Reading & Study material for the modules/weeks in which it is assigned. Each exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain 50 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and have a 1-hour and 30-minute time limit.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

- A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Group Discussion Board Forums (6 at 50 pts ea)	300

Community Needs Analysis Paper	150
Case Treatment Plan Paper	150
Exams (4 at 100 pts ea)	400
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859  
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739  
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis

E. 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. Late submissions will be penalized at 5 % per day, cumulative, with no test/exam being accepted seven (7) days after original due date without written approval from the professor. Whenever possible, this approval must be sought prior to the test/exam due date.

F. 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.

G. 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.

H. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **COUN 605**

Textbooks: Gerig, *Foundations for Mental Health and Community Counseling* (2018).  
Lewis et al., *Community Counseling* (2011).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Lewis et al.: chs. 1–3 1 presentation 1 lecture note	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Group DB Forum 1	10 0 50
<b>2</b>	Lewis et al.: chs. 4–6 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 2 Exam 1	50 100
<b>3</b>	Lewis et al.: chs. 7–9 1 presentation 1 lecture note	Group DB Forum 3	50
<b>4</b>	Lewis et al.: chs. 10–12 1 presentation	Community Needs Analysis Paper Exam 2	150 100
<b>5</b>	Gerig: chs. 5, 7 2 presentations 1 lecture note	Group DB Forum 4	50
<b>6</b>	Gerig: chs. 6, 10 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 5 Exam 3	50 100
<b>7</b>	Gerig: chs. 9, 11 1 presentation 1 lecture note	Case Treatment Plan Paper	150
<b>8</b>	Gerig: chs. 8, 12-13	Group DB Forum 6 Exam 4	50 100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1011010</b>

Group DB = Group Discussion Board

**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.