

CPSY 508 Introduction to School Psychology Part II
Spring, 2005
BODINE 201

Instructor: Colleen M. Hanson, Ed.D.
Forest Park Elementary 8:00 to 4pm (503) 916-5400 M, W, Th, F
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Office Hours: By appointment

Text: (Required) (1.) **Thomas, A. & Grimes, J. (Eds.). (2002). Best Practices in School Psychology – IV. Washington, DC :The National Association of School Psychologists.**
&
(2.) **Articles purchased in class**

Course Description:

The spring component of this two-course sequence will provide a focus on school systems, system change, and ethics through readings, discussion, and class assignments. Historical and contemporary issues will be explored in order to help students develop a framework to act as advocates for best practices in school psychology.

Course Objectives:

Students will:

- Develop an understanding for systems issues at the building, district and community levels
- Explore the research on the effectiveness of special education and special education interventions
- Place school psychology in the larger context of education as one of a variety of related support services
- Gain insight into the organizational culture of schooling at the classroom, school, district, state, and federal levels
- Become familiar with the ethical standards in the profession
- Develop personal knowledge and skills needed to plan an individual educational course for themselves including interviewing and choosing practicum and internship sites and developing professional goals

Course Requirements:

- 1. Write (2) Self-Reflection Papers:** Each paper should contain a thoughtful consideration about your experiences, thoughts, and feelings about the profession of school psychology – as well as your expectations, insights and concerns. 2-3 pages each.

 - 2. Write (2) Observation Reports:** Reports should be based on your observations in two self-contained special education classrooms. You should observe students with a variety of disabilities. Each observation should be 1 to 2 hours and include the students transitioning from one activity to another (you will shadow). 1-2 pages each.
- Include information on the type of student(s), grade levels, location, etc. Also, describe your impressions about the students.**
- 3. Readings/Questions:** For each chapter you read in Best Practices, write (3) questions or discussion items. Be prepared to share these during the in-class discussion of the readings.

 - 4. Special Education Research paper:** As a cohort, you will research the effectiveness of special education. This project will be developed in class as a collaborative project. Each of you will be responsible for developing/providing a summary of a specific/focused area of research that will coordinate with the other students' writing to produce a comprehensive paper on the subject selected. 1-2 pages each.

 - 5. Attendance:** If you must miss a scheduled class, please let me know ahead of time (when possible). A make-up assignment will be given to cover the course work missed.

Grades:

Reflection Papers	(15 pts. each)	=	30%
Observation Reports	(10 pts. each)	=	20%
Readings/Questions	(15 pts. each/class)	=	30%
Special Education Research Paper		=	<u>20%</u>
TOTAL			= 100%

Grade Distribution:

98-100	=	A+	87-89	=	B+
93-97	=	A	83-86	=	B
90-92	=	A-	80-82	=	B- ...etc.

CALENDAR

JANUARY 15TH

Introduction
Review Syllabus
Research Project Discussion
Library Research

FEBRUARY 5TH

Readings: Best Practices – Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
Class Discussion of Readings
Planning/Coordination of Research Project
Educational Topic: Inclusion

DUE: Today's Questions/Discussion items

MARCH 5TH

Readings: Best Practices – 16, 17, 21, 22 & 23
Class Discussion of Readings
Individual Progress Reports on Research
Educational Topic: Ethics in the Work place

DUE: Today's Questions/Discussion items

APRIL 16TH

Presentation of Research Project (provide copies of your focus to class & me)
**Educational Topic: Everything You Wanted to Know About School
Psychology but Were Afraid to ASK!!!**

DUE: ALL reflection papers, observation reports & research assignments