

**Introduction to Professional Counseling**  
CPSY 503 Graduate School of Education and Counseling  
Lewis and Clark College  
Fall 2006

September 6 to October 4, 2006  
Wednesdays 5:30-8:30 pm  
South Campus Conference Center 101

Tod Sloan, Ph.D.

Advising by appointment – call CPSY office to schedule – 503-768-6060

Direct office line: 503-768-6066

Email: [sloan@lclark.edu](mailto:sloan@lclark.edu)

Website: [www.lclark.edu/faculty/sloan](http://www.lclark.edu/faculty/sloan)

**Catalogue Description:** Basic theoretical assumptions of the counseling profession, with an overview of its historical roots, social, cultural contexts, types of practice, ethical principles, and professional orientation.

**Readings:** Available for purchase in class. Reading list included in packet.

**Learning Objectives:** As informed by the CACREP and COAMFTE standards of learning about professional identity. This class will provide an understanding of:

- ❖ History and philosophy of the counseling profession
- ❖ Professional roles, functions, and relationships with other human service providers
- ❖ Professional organizations like ACA, AAMFT, divisions, functions, and services to members
- ❖ Professional credentialing, certification, licensure, accreditation practices, professional organizations, journals and effects on public policy
- ❖ The role of professional counselor in advocating on behalf of the profession
- ❖ Advocacy processes needed to address institutional and social barriers that impede access, equity, and success for clients
- ❖ Ethical standards of ACA and related entities, and applications of ethical and legal considerations in professional counseling
- ❖ The current modes and settings of the counseling practice
- ❖ Philosophical, ethical, and political issues regarding the role of counselors in various settings
- ❖ Researching information about counseling, including the use of technological competence and computer literacy

## **Class Assignments:**

1. Worldview paper: Two-page (double-spaced) paper describing your view of the helping profession as it is informed by your personal values and your cultural, political, and social contexts.
2. Library research: Find three different journals associated with counseling, MFT, and/or counseling psychology, and print the abstract from 3 articles related to your counseling interests (dated in the last 3 years) - hand in on due date.
3. Quizzes based on class readings and discussions.
4. Design a system for organizing the elements of your portfolio (see portfolio requirement sheet) and include a print out of Ethical Guidelines related to your focus of study (MFT, SP, CMH).
5. Write a 6-8 page (doubled-spaced) position paper utilizing and integrating elements from at least 8 of the class readings (cited properly.) You can also incorporate ideas from class discussion. Merge these with your personal reflections on how these ideas and themes might inform your development as a future professional counselor or therapist.

## **Grading:**

Worldview paper = 20 pts

Participation in class discussions 5 points each week = 25 pts

Portfolio & Ethical Guidelines = 10 pts

Library assignment = 25 pts

8 quizzes 10 points each = 80 pts

Paper = 40 pts. Paper will be evaluated on ability to integrate readings and class discussions into a carefully-crafted essay. Grading will take into account importance, clarity of expression, relevance to course objectives, and creativity.

Final Grades:

A: 200-180

B: 179-160

C: 159-140

below 140: failure

Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Credit for late assignments is reduced by 5 points per day (unless major emergencies are involved and documented).

## **Attendance:**

Notification of absence required. Any absence of more than an hour requires make-up assignment. More than 3 hours of absence is failure to complete the class. Email notification is preferred, but you may also call the professor's office phone.

Please notify instructor of any special learning considerations that need to be taken into consideration in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.