

 <p>MTSU Professional Counseling Program</p>	<p align="center"><b>Professional Counseling Program</b>  Middle Tennessee State University  1301 East Main Street  Murfreesboro, TN 37132  <a href="http://www.mtsu.edu/edu_leadership/professional_counseling/">http://www.mtsu.edu/edu_leadership/professional_counseling/</a></p>
	<p align="center"><b>COUN 6850</b>  <b>COUPLES AND FAMILY COUNSELING: ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT SEMESTER</b></p> 
<p>Professor  Office:  Office Number:  Cell Number:</p>	<p>Email:  Office Hours:  Class Location:  Class Time:</p>

**I. Course Description**

Students will obtain in-depth knowledge of theories and techniques pertaining to couples and family counseling. Students will develop knowledge via lecture, discussion, and small group activities. Students will develop skills that can be implemented in their work with couples and families via role play.

**II. Required Text**

Gladding, S.T. (2015). *Family therapy: History, Theory, and Practice (5th ed)*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Taibbi, R. (2017). *Doing couple therapy: Craft and creativity in work with intimate partners (2nd ed.)*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press.

**Recommended Text**

Gurman, A.S., Lebow, J., & Snyder, D.K. (2015). *Clinical handbook of couple therapy*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press.

**III. Objectives**

The objectives are for students to develop an understanding of essential elements of couples and family counseling. Specifically:

- Objective 1: Students will learn about ethical issues pertaining to the practice of couples and family counseling.
- Objective 2: Students will learn how lifespan development factors (eg. Parenting styles, puberty, identity, health), psychological disorders (eg. Depression, anxiety) and environmental elements (eg. Poverty, culture, discrimination) impact couples and families.
- Objective 3: Students will learn models of couples and family counseling including assessment & conceptualization of cases from a systems perspective (CACREP 2016 – Section 2 – Professional Counseling Identity – Standard F.5.b).
- Objective 4: Students will identify a model that they would most likely utilize in their work with couples and families.
- Objective 5: Students will learn evidence-based and creative techniques of couples counseling and family counseling including crisis intervention and trauma-informed techniques and community resources for helping couples and families (CACREP 2016-Section 2-Professional Counseling

Identity-Standard F.5.J and M.)

- Objective 6: Students will learn methods of developing and evaluating outcome criteria pertaining to couples and family counseling (CACREP 2016-Section 2-Standard F.5.I).

#### IV. Course Requirements

a. Attendance

b. Late Assignments

c. Weekly Posts (Various Objectives)

d. Genogram (Objectives 2 & 3)

e. Family Analysis and Intervention Paper (Objectives 3, 4, & 5)

f. Intervention and Counseling Experience (Objective 5)

g. Midterm Exam (Various Objectives)

h. Couple Interview and Reflection Paper (Objectives 2)

i. Couples Case Analysis (Objectives 3, 4 & 5)

j. Final Exam (Objectives 3 & 4)

#### V. Grading

#### VI. Program Disposition Statement

Students in the Professional Counseling Program are required to demonstrate Program Dispositions (being collaborative, ethical, professional, reflective, self-directed, critical thinkers, and have acceptable counseling skills) in this class and in all other academic and professional endeavors. Information regarding demonstration of these dispositions will be used as a component of the faculty's continuous evaluation of student progress. (See Professional Counseling Program Handbook for further details.)

#### VII. Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disabilities described by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and would like to request academic and/or physical accommodations, please contact Director, Disabled Student Services, KUC 120 (898-2783) as soon as possible. Course requirements will not be waived, but reasonable accommodations may be provided as appropriate

#### VIII. Professional Organizations

The MTSU Professional Counseling Program strongly recommends that you obtain membership in the American Counseling Association (ACA), American School Counselor Association (ASCA), the Tennessee Licensed Professional Counselors Association (TLPCA), and/or the Tennessee Counseling Association (TCA). Student memberships are available at a reduced rate, and allow you to become actively involved in local, state, and national activities, which serve to enhance your professional repertoire.

#### IX. Academic Misconduct

The use of a third party to submit a student's work is only allowed when accommodations are approved by the Disabled Student Services Office. Students found to be in violation of this policy will be reported to the faculty member and Dean of Student Affairs. Students should be familiar with the "[MTSU Students Rights and Responsibilities](#)" handbook which outlines academic misconduct including plagiarism, cheating, fabricating or facilitating any such act. The Handbook also provides a statement of community standards of civil behavior and code of computer use.

**X. Academic Honesty**

It is expected that all work you complete for this course is your own. You are expected to include appropriate citations (when applicable) in all of your work for this course. The University policy for academic misconduct will be followed. Academic misconduct includes the following behaviors: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, or facilitating any such act. The following definitions apply:

- **Plagiarism** – the adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one’s own without proper acknowledgement.
- **Cheating** – using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The term academic exercise includes all forms of work submitted for credit or hours.
- **Fabrication** – unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- **Facilitation** – helping or attempting to help another to violate a provision of the institutional code of academic misconduct.

**XI. The True Blue Pledge**

As a member of this diverse community, I am a valuable contributor to its progress and success. I am engaged in the life of this community. I am a recipient and a giver. I am a listener and a speaker. I am honest in word and deed. I am committed to reason, not violence. I am a learner now and forever. I am a BLUE RAIDER. **True Blue!**