

**Nova Southeastern University
Center for Psychological Studies**

Course Outline

Course # & Title:	PSY 682 – Counseling Practicum III
Credit Hours:	3
Location/Section:	Miami/MI2
Class Times:	Tuesdays 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Dates:	April 15, 29, May 13, 27, June, 10, 24, July 8, 22, 2008.
Instructor:	Bunny Falk, RN, Psy.D. (954) 731-0690 Home (954) 732- 9410 Cell falksara@nova.edu If you leave a message, please state which class you are in and at what location.
Required Text:	No text

Course Description:

This course is a continuation of Practicum II. **Prerequisite: PSY 681 with a grade of B or better.**

The student is required to spend a specified number of hours per week at a selected agency working under supervision with clients. During that time, the student is expected to increase his/her competence in the areas of basic interviewing, assessment, and counseling skills. Furthermore, the student will be made more aware of the ethical, legal and professional issues inherent in the counseling process.

Course Objectives:

1. Expand clinical skills through formal, structured supervision.
2. Be knowledgeable regarding ethical and legal issues, the therapeutic alliance, transference/counter transference, therapist self-disclosure, diagnosis and case conceptualization, intervention strategies, and termination issues.
3. Have opportunities to collaborate with other treatment team members.
4. Become sensitive to issues of cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity and its impact on counseling.

5. Develop proficiency in writing case presentations, progress notes, and other clinical documentations.

Course Requirements:

Each student will audio tape each individual therapy session with every client assigned to the student by their site supervisor. This assumes that your clients give Permission for Audio Taping, which they will sign for you. You are to bring these tapes to class and **MAY BE CALLED UPON TO PLAY A PORTION OF YOUR SESSION IN CLASS.**

Each student will be required to present a 30-minute tape-recorded session with one of his or her clients, to be accompanied by a verbatim transcript of the session.

Please remember to protect your client's privacy; use a pseudonym on all written materials.

A copy of the transcript should be available for all students in the class. Please number the pages and indicate which session it is (example - 5th session).

Audio recording **MUST NOT** be done with the small micro-tapes, as the sound quality is usually unacceptable. **Students ARE REQUIRED to tape on regular cassette tapes, unless you convince me that you have a superior micro-tape recording.** The newer digital recorders are acceptable.

Students working with small children, doing play therapy **must have a video tape of the session they are presenting.**

The student-presenter will lead the oral discussion. The case presentation must include relevant diversity, legal and ethical issues associated with the case. A copy of the treatment plan is required (your site format is acceptable). Additionally, if class time allows, the student will discuss 3 articles from the current professional literature that supports their treatment interventions or clinical orientation used with their client. A copy of the articles is to be supplied to the instructor only. A written summary of the articles is due at the time of the presentation. Please choose your articles carefully; preferably those, which focus on specific intervention, that address your clients presenting symptoms or targeted goals.

Each student will provide the instructor with the name and phone numbers for their site supervisor. I will be contacting your site supervisor at least once during the semester as a professional courtesy and to introduce myself and inform that I am available should the need arise.

Please do not ask to be excused on Valentine's Day – it's my anniversary TOO!

Grading:

The total points earned by the student will determine the final course grade.

Attendance per class session (2 pts x 15 classes).....up to	30 pts
Oral Case Presentation.....up to	25 pts
Written Case presentation documentation.....up to	30 pts
Articles and written summary.....up to	5 pts
Class participation.....up to	10 pts
Professional deportment & behavior (timeliness, courtesy, attentiveness to Cases presented, relevant clinical/ethical questions).....up to	10 pts
Professional deportment & behavior and performance at practicum Site (A = 5; B = 3; C = 1)	<u>5 pts</u>
TOTAL POSSIBLE 105 POINTS	

A = 95 – 105

B = 80 - 94

C = 70 - 79

F = BELOW 70

HELPFUL HINTS

- **Class attendance is mandatory and 2 points will be given per class for confirmed attendance. (Points will be given for any class cancelled by the instructor).**
- **Case presentations are divided into the oral and written parts: The oral part must include the background information on the client, the presenting problem, the context of the session presented, diagnostic formulation and differential diagnosis, relevant diversity, legal, ethical issues in the case. The intake evaluation IS NOT TO BE READ TO THE CLASS. This is your client and you know this person better than we do. The treatment plan should also be discussed, not read. How did you determine the goals and objectives? Both long term and short-term goals need to be discussed. You may use the treatment plan form utilized by your practicum site. Discuss the interventions you chose to use and why.**
- **The written part is the intake evaluation report or initial evaluation report. It should contain all the information that you talk about during your oral presentation. Follow the written format found in Chapter 8 and Appendices I and II of the text.**
- **Remember, the Case Formulation (or conception) is NOT a rehashing of the presenting symptoms. It is your explanation about why the client is experiencing the distress that required your interventions.**
- **I regret that I must mention grammar and spelling. They count. Do not rely only on spell check. Proof read your written work. The Intake Evaluation will be returned to you with the instructor's comments.**
- **Articles – avoid choosing articles that are correlational studies or quasi-experimental in nature. Look for those articles that describe treatment interventions**

(outcome studies that compare them) program descriptions, or specific treatment intervention strategies for targeted symptoms. Your summary should mention whether or not the article was useful to you. Do not read the summary to the class, discuss what you have read and learned. You are encouraged to express your opinions.

- **Class participation means you are more than just sitting in the seat in class. This is your last chance to ask questions without looking foolish, silly or incompetent.....that is why it's called training. No one looks foolish asking questions in this forum...the why questions.....the "can you ..."** and "how do you..." questions. How well you listen to your peers will be obvious by the questions you ask about the case.
- **Professional deportment & behavior. This class is a mock patient staffing. Presenters deserve your undivided attention and respect. They also deserve your feedback and clinical suggestions. Professionals are prepared and can think on their feet. All assignments are to be completed and turned in on a timely basis. Professionals take responsibility for their actions and do not make excuses for their mistakes or shortcomings; they accept constructive supervision as a way to grow professionally.**
- **Do not ask to be excused from class for weddings, Bar Mitzvahs, vacations, family holiday trips, etc. You choose to attend classes this term and with the knowledge that the holidays intervene. Points are earned for confirmed attendance only.....NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- **Assignments turned in late will lose and extra 10 points.**
- **Play-therapy clients must be video taped. Do not wait until the week before your presentation to do your taping. If your client doesn't keep the appointment, rescheduling your presentation will cost you points.**
- **Students having difficulty getting individual clients assigned should notify me and the program office, ASAP. Practicum sites signed a contract that indicates they must provide students with one-to-one experiences.**