

MENNONITE BRETHREN BIBLICAL SEMINARY

COURSE: MF 501
TITLE: PRE-PRACTICUM
UNITS: 1.0
OFFERED: SPRING 2008
INSTRUCTOR: MARY A. SHAMSHOIAN, M.A., L.M.F.T.
TELEPHONE: (559) 452-1778
SCHEDULE: GROUP SUPERVISION— TUESDAYS AT 12:30 (BEGINNING 1/22/08, FOR THOSE AVAILABLE BEFORE 1/29/08)
MENTORING ASSIGNMENTS TO BE ARRANGED WITH INSTRUCTOR/SITE

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an opportunity for MFCC and pastoral counseling students to practice basic counseling skills in a supervised mentoring setting with pre-screened mentees. The course consists of a minimum of two hours per week On-Site mentoring plus one hour per week of group supervision, over a period of approximately ten weeks. Students are expected to be available to their assigned sites for a minimum of ten weeks, regardless of their MBBS semester schedules.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will practice supportive counseling, focusing on rapport building skills and utilizing the core conditions of genuineness, empathy, and unconditional positive regard. Students will receive group supervision and gain a beginning understanding of the importance and uses of critical self-reflection, peer feedback, and clinical supervision. Students will be introduced to appropriate file documentation and statistical recordkeeping.

RELATED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will work at a basic level towards application of the following MBBS learning outcomes—Utilize feedback to insure accountability for growth (1.2.5), give and receive counsel in cohort (1.4.2), explain and assess basic approaches to pastoral care and counseling (MDiv 4.2.1), articulate integrative views of humanity, theology, and counseling (MFCC 4.1.2, 4.1.3), demonstrate appropriate use of one's personal self (MFCC 4.3, all), demonstrate practice consistent with the applicable laws and ethics (MFCC 4.4.1, 4.4.2, 4.4.3, 4.4.4, 4.4.5), demonstrate understanding of counseling theories and techniques (MFCC 4.5.3, 4.5.5, 4.5.7), demonstrate knowledge of mental disorders (4.6.2), demonstrate proactive diversity awareness and relational skills (MFCC 4.7.1, 4.7.2, 4.7.3), demonstrate ability to intervene in cases of harm (MFCC 4.8.3).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

Because this is an experiential course, there are no required texts or readings. Pre-practicum students have typically taken, or are concurrently enrolled in, advanced counseling courses (such as Counseling Individuals and Couples, Counseling Families, etc.). Students must meet with the Pre-Practicum instructor to arrange an On-Site pre-practicum placement. Students must complete a minimum of twenty-eight hours of pre-practicum mentoring/supervision to receive 1.0 credits. Students will receive a pass/fail grade which will reflect evaluation in five areas: attendance, counseling/interpersonal skills, utilization of feedback/supervision, documentation/recordkeeping, and professionalism (dependability, punctuality, attire, demeanor with colleagues, etc.).

CLASS POLICIES:

MBBS academic policies (as well as other school policies) are described at <http://www.mbseminary.edu/fresno/policies/>. These policies provide guidance on academic integrity and plagiarism, accommodations for disability, incomplete course work, extensions, dates for changing registration, non-discriminatory and inclusive language, appeals, grading templates, etc. Students are expected to be familiar with these policies and will be held responsible for adhering to them. If you have questions about how these policies relate to you or to a situation that you face in your studies, please speak to your professor or consult the Registrar.

Course evaluations are to be completed online and are due one week after the completion of the course. Official grades will not be posted until the student's evaluation of the course is completed.