COU782 Practicum: Counseling
Dr. Catherine Mueller-Bell MA, LPC, PhD
Associate Professor of Counseling
Grand Rapids Theological Seminary
Meetings on Select/Scheduled Thursday’s 1:00-3:00
Room 101

Course Description:
A supervised field ministry experience for students pursuing counseling careers. This course provides, on a limited basis, some of the activities that licensed professional counselors would be expected to perform. Opportunities to learn the practical aspects of individual, marriage, family and group counseling are emphasized. An orientation, experiential and professional development component will be implemented through a group supervision format to facilitate the complex transition of bridging from theory to practice.

Course Objectives:
• To provide an opportunity to engage in the practice of counseling which will involve applying theory into practice.
• To learn the expectations within the professional counseling field.
• To become aware of the process of professional supervision.
• To enhance ability to determine and articulate a personal counseling philosophy.

Required Text:


**Moodle Requirements:**

All assignments must be submitted through Moodle. No hard copies will be accepted. All grading will be calculated through Moodle as well.

**Course Requirements:**

You are required to engage in field work at an approved counseling practicum site. Attendance and participation in the scheduled group supervision meetings is required. In order to register for this course you have purchased and secured a Malpractice Insurance Policy and you have signed the GRTS Code of Ethics form. In doing so you will be expected to uphold the highest standard of ethical conduct at your practicum site in the role of counseling intern. If you breach any of the ethical codes while you are serving in the role of counseling intern you may be asked to leave the practicum site and your academic standing will need to be reviewed and evaluated by GRTS administration. If you follow all of the ethical guidelines, rely on your support system and complete all of the course requirements you will earn the ability to continue on to your 1st Internship the following semester. This course is graded from the traditional scale based on the assessment factors listed below.

**Required Field Hours:** 100 Hours (Total) for the semester

1. 40 hours of client contact
   a. 30 hours of individual counseling
   b. 10 hours of group, couples or family counseling (recommended)

2. 60 hours of support hours
   a. Preparing for client sessions
   b. Meetings with counseling site administrators and personnel
   c. Writing notes forms and records for agency
   d. Developing Practicum notebook for GRTS Academic Supervisor
   e. 5-14 hours of on-site supervision with Site Supervisor etc.

**Assessment Factors for Grading:**
(February Grade will be submitted when all 10 requirements below are met)

1. Completion of Required Hours
2. Assessment by Site Supervisor and Self (Hard Copy)
3. Complete Practicum Notebook due 12/18/15 by 5:00pm (grading rubric provided)
4. Prompt Attendance and participation in all Practicum group supervision meetings
5. Written journal entry re: weekly reading assignments and themes from the Bush and Brown texts, submitted through Moodle (@ least 500 words, no more than 1000 words)
6. Reflective 2 page (double spaced) Summary of Pipher Text submitted to drop box in Moodle by 12/18/15 before 5:00pm
7. Intentional Wellness Growth Plan on Moodle
8. Copy of Lifestyle Survey from page 234-236 in textbook
9. Your Assessment of your site due in Practicum Notebook by 5:00pm on 12/18/15
10. Upload Final Assessments (Self & Supervisors) to Moodle by 12/18/15
Assignment Values:

Attendance 10%
Chapter Journal Entries and Reflective Summary submitted on Moodle 20%
Hard copy of Final Notebook and submission of both Final Assessments on Moodle 70%

Contact Information:

If you need to contact me in between scheduled class times you can reach me at: E-mail Address: Catherine.Mueller-Bell@Cornerstone.edu

Institutional Policies:

Disability Accommodation: The University will make reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The purpose of accommodation is to provide equal access to educational opportunities to students affected by disabilities, and the university does not intend that the standards be altered, nor that the essential elements of programs or courses be changed. Students having documented disabilities may apply for accommodations through Student Disability Services (SDS), which is part of the Cornerstone University Learning Center located in Miller Hall on the main campus.

In the event that students have questions regarding whether they are eligible for accommodations, how they might provide appropriate documentation of disabilities, or how they might handle a disagreement with a professor over questions of accommodation, the Director of Academic Support should be contacted immediately at (616) 222-1596 or via email at learning.center@cornerstone.edu. Further information about applying for and utilizing accommodations is provided in the Student Handbook and on the university’s website.

Inclusive Language: As noted in the GRTS academic catalog, writing and discussion should reflect the GRTS policy on inclusive language when referring to other people, regardless of their gender, nationality, culture, social class or religion.

Confidentiality: All information that is discussed about clients during case presentations/group supervision will need to be shared by using an artificial name or number to protect the identity and privacy of the client. All details that are covered in the meetings need to be kept confidential by all group members in order to protect the dignity of all clients being served.
### Class Schedule:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group Supervision</th>
<th>Case Presentations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/10/15</td>
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<td>Orientation/Q&amp;A</td>
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<td>9/17/15</td>
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<td>9/24/15</td>
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<td>10/1/15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10/8/15</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Case Presentations</strong></td>
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<td>10/29/15</td>
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<td>12/3/15</td>
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<td>12/17/15</td>
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<td>No Meeting/No Final Exam</td>
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<td><strong>12/17/15</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Notebooks and submission of All Requirements Due</strong> by 5:00pm on 12/18/15</td>
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~ Have a Blessed Christmas ~