Counseling Theories (DAAC 1311)
Spring 2009/Internet-Based Distance Learning

Glen Killian – Instructor
(936) 273-7061 – office phone
gkillian@lonestar.edu – email
http://faculty.lonestar.edu/gkillian/ - Faculty Web Page

Office Hours (Montgomery A-200)
MWF 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
TTH 12:00 – 3:00 pm

Proposed Course Calendar

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Assignments/Activities
Discussion Questions
Over the course of the semester the instructor will post a total of 15 brief, open-ended discussion questions that each student is to review and then respond to. All discussion questions will be posted in the Discussions section of the class, and students will respond by typing their thoughts, ideas and experiences and then posting those for viewing by both the instructor and the rest of the class. All discussion questions will relate to the topic being covered during that week in the course, and the instructor will post his question by the end of the day each Monday. Students will have until 5:00 pm the following Friday to post their responses to each question, and any postings made after this deadline will not be graded – no exceptions. Students will receive credit for each discussion posting as long as their responses demonstrate they have thought deeply about the question at hand, have taken sufficient time to review the question and post their response, and are not simply repeating what others in the class have already shared. Students are reminded that all comments made on the discussion page are “public”, and thus can be viewed by all in the class.

Homework Assignments
Over the course of the semester the instructor will post seven (7) written homework assignments in the Assignments section of the class. Each of these assignments will consist of questions taken from the assigned textbook reading, as well as questions related to the information provided in the lecture notes for that week’s learning module. Each of these assignments will be due no later than noon on each of the dates noted below, and the instructor will accept late assignments for 24 hours (noon on the day following the due date), with a 20% grade deduction from the assignment’s final grade. All assignments will be uploaded and submitted for grading through the Assignments page, using the instructions provided by the instructor inside the classroom. The due dates for the homework assignments are:

- Homework Assignment 1 (Psychoanalytic Theory) – January 26
- Homework Assignment 2 (Existential Theory) – February 9
- Homework Assignment 3 (Person-Centered Theory) – February 23
- Homework Assignment 4 (Gestalt Theory) – March 16
- Homework Assignment 5 (Behavior Theory) – March 30
- Homework Assignment 6 (Cognitive Behavior Theory) – April 13
- Homework Assignment 7 (Reality Theory) – April 27

Case Study Reviews
Over the course of the semester the instructor will post seven (7) brief case studies in the Assignments sections of the classroom that depict hypothetical clients facing a particular life problem. Each student will be responsible for reviewing each case study and then answering a set of questions related to the case, applying concepts covered in that week’s learning module. The responses to these case study questions will be due no later than noon on each of the dates noted below, and the instructor will accept late assignments for 24 hours (noon on the day following the due date), with a 20% grade deduction from the assignment’s final grade. All assignments will be uploaded and submitted for grading through the Assignments page, using the instructions provided by the instructor inside the classroom. The due dates for the case study assignments are:

- Case Study 1 (Psychoanalytic Theory) – February 2
- Case Study 2 (Existential Theory) – February 16
- Case Study 3 (Person-Centered Theory) – March 2
- Case Study 4 (Gestalt Theory) – March 23
- Case Study 5 (Behavior Theory) – April 6
Exams
Each student will take two online exams, one at mid-term and one at the conclusion of the course. Each exam will be taken online in the Assessments section of the classroom, and will consist of short-answer essay questions. The instructor will post a brief study guide for each exam on the course’s homepage approximately two weeks before the exams, and students may take the exams at any time during the availability period. Those timeframes are:
- Exam 1 (covering the Course Orientation and Modules 1-6) – available February 26 thru March 3
- Exam 2 (covering modules 7-14) – available April 30 thru May 5

Personal Theory Paper
Using an outline provided by the instructor on the course homepage, each student will write a brief personal reflection paper regarding their personal “theoretical orientation”. This assignment will be uploaded for grading through the Assignments section of the course, and will be due at noon on March 20. The instructor will accept late assignments until noon the following day, and all late assignments will have 20% deducted from the final assignment grade.

Case Study Paper
During the second half of the course the instructor will post a detailed case study within the classroom. Each student will then be assigned one of the seven counseling theories addressed in this class, and using an outline provided by the instructor will write a brief paper where the assigned theory is used to evaluate the client depicted in the case study. This assignment will be uploaded for grading through the Assignments section of the classroom, and will be due no later than noon on May 1. The instructor will accept late assignments until noon the following day, and all late assignments will have 20% deducted from the final assignment grade.

Grading/Evaluation
Discussion Questions (20 points each) 300 points  A = 1260-1400 points
Exams (100 points each) 200 B = 1120-1259
Homework Assignments (50 points each) 350 C = 980-1119
Case Study Reviews (50 points each) 350 D = 840-979
Personal Theory Paper 100 F = 0-839
Case Study Paper 100
1400 total points possible

Extra Credit Opportunity
Students enrolled in this class have two (2) opportunities to earn extra credit points. Students may attend one or both of the professional seminars that are being sponsored by the college’s Human Services Professional Institute, which are held on Friday mornings from 9:00 to Noon. These seminars meet in the board room of the college district’s Training and Service Center at 5000 Research Forest Drive in The Woodlands, and the two seminars this spring will be held on Friday, February 27 and Friday, April 3. Students may attend these seminars for free, and will receive 25 points extra credit for each seminar attended provided they are in attendance for the entire three hours of each seminar, and
provide the instructor with a one-page synopsis of the seminar within one week. The synopsis should summarize what was discussed in each seminar as well as outline what the student felt was significant, interesting, challenging, etc about the information presented, and once completed can be emailed to the instructor (please attach as a document; do not submit as email text).

**Other Important Items of Note**

**Student Participation**

Although this is an online class, each student will be expected to participate and “attend class” just as they would in a traditional classroom. As required by the college district, the instructor will monitor student log-in and movement within the e-classroom on a weekly basis. Students are expected to log in to the classroom at least once every 72 hours to check their email and review any new material posted by the instructor. The e-classroom is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and the student may log in whenever is convenient for them. Students who fail to routinely enter the e-classroom risk being locked out of the classroom and possible withdrawal from the course.

Students should also remember that they bear responsibility for ensuring their computer, internet hookups, etc, are in working condition, as the instructor will not extend assignment deadlines when problems with these areas arise (students are strongly encouraged to not wait until the last minutes before assignments are due to attempt to upload the assignments for grading, as this does not provide students ample time to problem-solve any issues that may arise). Any student enrolled in this course has full access to computers with high-speed internet on all five Lone Star College campuses, and they should access those computers if and when their own personal equipment is not functional.

**Submission of Assignments**

Students are required to submit all required written assignments in this course through the Assignment page, with the exception of discussion questions and any extra credit work. The instructor will not accept assignments sent via email, or hard copies of assignments turned in to the instructor personally or placed in his mail box on the Montgomery campus. Assignments time-stamped as being submitted past the due times noted in the syllabus will be considered late (i.e. 12:01 pm or after), and no late assignments will be accepted past deadlines outlined in the course syllabus – no exceptions.

**Instructor Availability**

The instructor is available at the phone number and hours listed on the first page of the syllabus. Students may contact the instructor by phone, using his college email address or the email function within the classroom. The instructor will respond to questions related to course content within 24 hours, excluding Saturdays and Sundays (phone and email messages left on Saturdays or Sundays will be returned promptly on Monday morning). Questions or problems related to Vista (problems logging in, program not responding, computer system down, quizzes not working correctly, etc) should be directed to the district’s distance learning help desk @ (832) 813-6700.

**Student Disability Accommodations**

Students who have disability accommodations should provide written documentation of those accommodations to the instructor no later than the end of the second week of class. Students should be advised that the bulk of the work in this class is considered “out of class” work, and thus accommodations related to “in-class” work will not apply in this course.