

## COUN 6968 - Research in Counseling

### Summer 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 30008,

Credit hours: 3

## Instructor

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Professional Qualifications:

MS Ed, Clinical and School Counseling, Youngstown State University (2013)

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## Course Description

6968. Research in Counseling. The study and application of quantitative and qualitative research in counseling with statistical application component. 3 s.h.

## Course Readings

| Group    | Title                                                                  | Author                                                                          | ISBN              |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Required | Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.) | American Psychological Association (APA)                                        | 978-1-4338-3216-1 |
| Required | Research design in counseling (4th ed.)                                | Heppner, P. P., Wampold, B. E., Owen, J., Thompson, M. N., & Wang, K. T. (2016) | 978-0-357-67076-7 |
| Required | Program Evaluation in Practice                                         | Spaulding, D. T. (2014)                                                         |                   |

### Journals and Peer Reviewed Literature

Byrne, J. S., & Shufelt, B. (2014). Factors for personal counseling among counseling trainees. *Counselor Education & Supervision*, 53, 178-189. doi: 10.1002/j.1556-6978.2014.00056.x

Dass-Brailsford, P., & Hage Thomley, R. S. (2015). Using walk-in counseling services after hurricane Katrina: A program evaluation. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma*, 24, 419-432. doi: 10.1080/10926771.2015.1022287

Larsen, D. J., & Stege, R. (2012). Client accounts of hope in early counseling sessions: A qualitative study. *Journal of Counseling & Development*, 90, 45-54. doi: 10.1111/j.1556-6676.2012.00007.x

O'Connell, W. P. (2012). Secondary school administrators' attitudes toward confidentiality in school counseling. *NASSP Bulletin*, 96, 350-363. doi: 10.1177/0192636512466936

Rowell, P. C., Mobley, A. K., Kemer, G., & Giordano, A. (2014). Examination of a group counseling model of career decision making with college students. *Journal of College Counseling*, 17, 163-174. doi: 10.1002/j.2161-1882.2014.00055.x

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

## Schedule of Topics and Assignments

| Day | Date | Reading(s)                                                                                                                                                                      | Proposed Topic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Due/To Prepare for Class                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon | 6/29 | Heppner ch 1 and 2 (pp. 18-23 only)                                                                                                                                             | Importance of research in advancing the counseling profession Science and counseling (3.H.1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Wed | 7/1  | Heppner chapters 4 and 22<br>Spaulding ch. 1<br>APA Manual chapter 2, 8, 9, 10<br>Byrne & Shufelt (2013) on Blackboard<br>APA manual chapters 1, 4, 5, 6<br>Spaulding chapter 2 | Introduction to research and program evaluation Overview of APA format How to critique research Critical evaluation of published research discussion (3.H.1)<br>Research writing Locating Resources<br>How to describe a program (for paper)<br>Developing a logic model (3.H.4., 3.H.7.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Quizzes #1 & #2<br>Research Mission Statement<br>Decide on Program Evaluation Topic<br>Critical Evaluation of Published Research Discussion<br>Developing and Using a Logic Model<br>Document on BB                                                                                                                              |
| Mon | 7/6  | Heppner chapters 5, 18, and 19<br>Heppner chapter 6 and 17<br>Spaulding pp 15-31 and chapter 7                                                                                  | Program evaluation models and designs Part 1: Describing the program and selecting variables Identifying interests and operationalizing topics Independent and dependent variables (3.H.2., 3.H.7.)<br>Program evaluation models and designs Part 2: Selecting a program evaluation design and methods and identifying program evaluation goals, objectives, and variables Selecting research designs Mixed methods research and program evaluation (3.H.3., 3.H.4, 3.H.5., 3.H.7., 3.H.8.) Peer Review: Program Description | Quizzes #3 & #4<br>Bring completed draft of Program Description (problem being addressed, research base supporting the program, program details, program goals and objectives, logic model, and APA-formatted reference list) for peer review<br>Peer Review 1 in class activity<br>Peer Review 1 form submission next day (7/7) |
| Wed | 7/8  | Workday                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Revise Part 1 of project based upon Peer Review #1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Mon | 7/13 | Workday                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Revise Part 1 of project based upon Peer Review #1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Wed | 7/15 | Workday                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Revise Part 1 of project based upon Peer Review #1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Mon | 7/20 | Heppner chapters 8, 11, and 12<br>Dass-Brailsford & Hage Thomley (2015)<br>Heppner chapter 7, 13 and 23<br>Spaulding chapter 3-4<br>Program evaluation matrix reading on BB     | Quantitative research methods Populations and sampling Critical evaluation of published research discussion (3.H.3.)<br>Developing outcome measures for counseling programs Program and evaluation plan development 1: Quantitative methods Survey research designs Investigator and participant bias Issues of reliability and validity Developing an evaluation matrix (3.H.5., 3.H.7., 3.H.8.)                                                                                                                            | Quizzes #5 & #6<br>Critical Evaluation of Published Research Discussion<br>Program Description and Logic Model submission on Blackboard<br>Bring your Logic Model to class for Evaluation Matrix development                                                                                                                     |



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|-----|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wed | 7/22 | Heppner ch. 16<br>Spaulding chapters 6 and 11<br>Larsen & Stege (2012)                                | Program and evaluation plan development<br>II: Qualitative methods Qualitative research<br>methodologies Peer Review: Evaluation<br>Matrix Critical Evaluation of Published<br>Research (3.H.5., 3.H.6., 3.H.7., 3.H.8.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Quiz #7<br>Bring completed Program Evaluation Matrix<br>for peer review<br>Peer Review 2 in class activity<br>Peer Review 2 form submission next day<br>(7/23)<br>Critical Evaluation of Published Research<br>Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Mon | 7/27 | Mid-term exam and paperwork day                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Mid-term exam (on BB)<br>Program Evaluation Matrix submission on<br>BB                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Wed | 7/29 | Heppner chapter 1<br>Heppner chapters 3 and 9<br>Spaulding chapters 12 and 13<br>Rowell et al. (2014) | Needs assessments Instrument/scale/<br>survey development (3.H.5, 3.H.6., 3.H.8)<br>Ethical and cultural considerations<br>and practices related to research and<br>program evaluation Research and program<br>evaluation and evidence-based practice<br>Critical evaluation of published research<br>discussion (3.H.9., 3.H.10., 3.H.11.)                                                                                                                                                                                        | Quizzes #8 & #9<br>Needs Assessment development (in class<br>activity)<br>Critical Evaluation of Published Research<br>Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Mon | 8/3  | Heppner chapters 15, 20, and 21<br>O'Connell article (2012)                                           | Statistical methods and use of data in<br>research and program evaluation Mass<br>Media Research Reporting Discussion Peer<br>Review: Program Evaluation Plan (3.H.8.,<br>3.H.9., 3.H.10., 3.H.11.)<br>Single-subject research Counseling<br>outcome and process research Peer<br>Review: Appendices and overall paper<br>Critical evaluation of published research<br>discussion Application to Real-World<br>Practice: Counseling Program Assessment<br>Process Description and Discussion (3.H.8.,<br>3.H.9., 3.H.10., 3.H.11.) | Upload article for Mass Media discussion to<br>Blackboard<br>Quiz #10<br>Critical Evaluation of Published Research<br>Discussion<br>Bring completed Program Evaluation Paper<br>(part 1, part 2, logic model, evaluation<br>matrix, surveys/instruments/questions,<br>needs assessment, needs assessment data<br>& summary, references) for peer review<br>Peer Review 3 in class activity<br>Peer Review 3 form submission next day<br>(8/4) |
| Wed | 8/5  | Workday                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Revise project based on Peer Review #3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Mon | 8/10 | Program evaluation poster presentations                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Final Program Evaluation Paper submission<br>on Blackboard and on SL&L<br>Poster Presentation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Wed | 8/12 | Final exam                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Final Exam (on BB)<br>CITI Certificate on BB (optional)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.