

CNE 710 Doctoral Seminar: Group Counseling  
*CNE 710 is a required course for the Ph.D. Degree and Counselor Education Specialization Area*

**College of Education**  
**Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling**

**Instructor:** Mary Nichter, Ph.D.  
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Office Hours – Monday, Tuesday 9:00am – 4:00pm  
Wednesday , Thursday 1:00 – 3:30pm

**Course Description:** CNE 710 is designed to provide an orientation to doctoral studies in counseling, topics of current interest to doctoral students and the faculty and information regarding areas of study and research related to the doctoral program. Students in the Ph.D. program in counseling are required to complete six sections of CNE 710. This section of CNE 710 Doctoral Seminar: Group Counseling will provide doctoral students with the opportunity to lead a counseling group experience of six hours.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Students will continue to develop and refine skills in group facilitation and leadership;
2. Students will gain a broader understanding of group effectiveness through participation and facilitation;
3. Students will examine their self growth and professional identity through self reflection;
4. Students will use analysis and critical evaluation to gain a broader understanding of the group process and growth.

**Group Counseling Activities and Assignments:**

1. *Group Counseling:* Each student will participate as a facilitator/leader-therapist of a group in a professional counseling setting. This experience is expected to provide a field experience that enhances: effective group leadership style and skills; understanding at a higher level, group processing; the development of processing, analysis and critically evaluating points of view of others and group dynamics. Students will use self reflection/assessment as a means for the development of personal counseling identity and values. The group experience can be six one hour sessions or four one and a half hour sessions. The type of group and setting can vary depending on the interest of each doctoral student. **Type of group and location must be approved by professor prior to beginning the group experience.**
2. *Documentation log:* Maintain a log of the weekly group counseling experience. The log most include your name and class; the name of the group; name and signature of the supervisor/administrator in charge; number of sessions with dates of each group meeting and your signature) **due on May 3.**
3. *Reflection paper:* Each student will write an *eight to ten page reflection* on the group experience. The paper will include the student's observations of the learning and behavior/attitude changes as the group evolved through each stage of development (10

points); leader-therapist challenges of a doctoral professional in advanced training (20 points), and other issues and experiences of the group counseling (10 points). Please follow APA guidelines for the reflection paper. **Due on May 3.**

**Attendance Policy:**

Students are required to attend both classes, January 26 and May 3. There are no make-up days available for missed classes.

**Disability Statement:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities from their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

**Religious Holy Days Policy:**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Class Meetings dates and times:**

January 26, 2008      9:00am – 1:00pm

May 3, 2008            9:00am – 1:00pm