

**NIAGARA UNIVERSITY**  
**Department of Education**

I. Course Number and Title

EDU 677 - Counseling Practicum (3 credit hours)

II. Catalogue Description

The counseling practicum is a school-based experience in counseling. The major emphasis is on the counseling situation in an individual or group setting. The student will be supervised both by a certified counselor and by the university instructor. Feedback will be provided on techniques, application of theory, and counseling styles. On-campus seminars and individual supervision will be held to share experiences and for further supervision by the university instructor.

III. Course Objectives

The primary objective of the practicum will be to aid students in developing an eclectic counseling style and to relate and utilize theoretical concepts acquired from their university course work to the realistic and practical counseling situations in which (s)he will perform. Upon completion of EDU 677 the student will:

- A. Demonstrate skills in individual counseling using all major theoretical perspectives when appropriate.
- B. Maintain attitudes and behaviors that form the core conditions necessary for effective counseling relationships.
- C. Demonstrate skills in group counseling.
- D. Demonstrate regard for professional development and ethical standards.
- E. Recognize and respond appropriately to personal and professional abilities and limitations.
- F. Apply knowledge of ethical and legal issues to relevant situations.
- G. Be familiar with community resources and know when to appropriately refer clients.
- H. Work cooperatively with staff in the site setting and in outside agencies.
- I. Follow established and ethical guidelines regarding the counseling and guidance of multicultural and specific populations.

IV. Methods of Instruction

The bi-weekly sessions will be organized utilizing a seminar approach for purposes of communicating experiences to other students/faculty and receiving immediate feedback. The bi-weekly individual supervision sessions will be primarily used for giving students feedback on tapes, logs, etc. Individual supervision is provided for further personalized feedback.

V. Outline of Course Content

Course content is determined by the nature of the audio tapes, video tapes, logs, etc. which are produced at the student's field site. Seminar discussions are focused on providing feedback to students on their counseling style, effectiveness, etc.

VI. Course Requirements

- A. Minimum of one (1) full day per week (approximately seven hours) in an intensive counseling situation under the immediate supervision of a counselor in the field.
- B. Attendance and participation in ALL counseling seminars. Attendance will be recorded. Poor attendance will result in assignment of unsatisfactory grade and an additional requirement to make up missed work in order to attain a satisfactory grade.
- C. Preparation of a minimum of TWO (2) counseling tapes for critique by Niagara University supervisors (seminar participants).
- D. Preparation of a typed script of one counseling tape indicating an analysis of counselor and client responses (see handout).
- E. Maintenance of counseling log (see handout).
- F. Title of Suggested Test  
None--individual readings assigned as needed.

VI. Course Requirements (continued)

G. Method of Evaluation for Grades

Final grade (S, U, or Inc.) will be determined by the accomplishment of ALL requirements listed above.

H. Other

1. Office Hours--as scheduled with department secretary/anytime by appointment
2. Location of Office: O'Shea Hall, B-14
3. Telephone: Office - 716/286-8545 Home - 716/745-3264

VII. Bibliography

Corey, G. Corey, M., & Callanan, P. (1993) *Issues and ethics in the helping profession*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.