



COUN 5345-001: Group Counseling: Theory and Practice(3 credits)

Spring 2024 Syllabus

Course Time: Tuesday 5:00-7:45 PM

Location: HPR 252

**Instructor:** Ramona I. Grad, Ph.D., LPC, NCC

**Office Location:** HPR 213

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (by appointment)

**Email:** [rgrad@uttyler.edu](mailto:rgrad@uttyler.edu) (preferred method of contact)

**Office Phone:** 903-566-6269

### COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION

The Group Counseling course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the theory and practice of group counseling. In this course students will become familiar with different theoretical approaches to counseling groups; basic principles of group dynamics and therapeutic factors, group development models and group design, leadership tasks, and member roles. The course will introduce students to basic group counseling skills including establishing, leading, and evaluating various types of counseling groups. Consideration will be given to ethical, legal, and multicultural issues, and each student will have the experience of being a member of a counseling group.

### COURSE PREREQUISITES

Grade of "B" or better in COUN 5312, COUN 5328, and, COUN 5391 and departmental consent.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes	CACREP 2016 Standards (core)	Learning Activities and Assessments
Describe theoretical foundations of group counseling and group work.	2.F.6.a	Lectures, Group Proposal, Exam
Identify dynamics associated with group process and development.	2.F.6.b	Lectures, Group Observation, Group Leadership Experience
Identify therapeutic factors and how they contribute to group effectiveness.	2.F.6.c	Lectures, Group Observation, Group Leadership Experience
Describe characteristics and functions of effective group leaders.	2.F.6.d	Lectures, Group Observation, Group Leadership Experience
Describe approaches to group formation, including recruiting, screening, and selecting members.	2.F.6.e	Lectures, Group Proposal, Exam
Identify types of groups and other considerations that affect conducting groups in varied settings	2.F.6.f	Lectures, Group Observation, Exam
Identify ethical and culturally relevant strategies for designing and facilitating groups.	2.F.6.g	Lectures, Group Proposal, Group Leadership Experience, Exam
Have direct experiences in which to participate as group members in a small group activity.	2.F.6.h	Growth Group Experience, Group Analysis Report

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

- Gladding, S. T. (2019). *Groups: A counseling specialty* (8th ed.). Pearson
- Jacobs, E. E., Schimmel, C.J, Masson, R. L., & Harvill, R. L. (2015). *Group counseling: Strategies and skills* (8th Ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.

**RECOMMENDED READINGS**

- DeLucia-Waack, J. L., & Donigian, J. (2004). *The practice of multicultural group work: Visions and perspectives from the field*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.
- Hulse-Killacky, D., Killacky, J., & Donigian, J. (2001) *Making task groups work in your world*. Upper saddle River, NJ: Merrill/Prentice Hall.
- Yalom, I. D. & Leszcz, M. (2020). *The theory and practice of group psychotherapy* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: Basic Books.
- Yalom, I. D. (2005). *The Schopenhauer Cure*. New York: Harper Collins.

\* **Additional readings and resources will be posted in Canvas.**

\*\*Note: A student at UT-Tyler is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer

**OTHER RESOURCES**

- **Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW)** – [www.asgw.org](http://www.asgw.org)
- **American Counseling Association Code of Ethics** – <http://www.counseling.org/knowledge-center/ethics/code-of-ethics-resources>
- American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN-13: 978-1433832178

**TEACHING STRATEGIES**

This is a face-to-face course. There are weekly mandatory class meetings with the instructor, and you are expected to attend all classes as outlined in the course schedule. Traditional face-to-face instruction allows for approximately 42 hours of in-class time and an equal amount of time for homework, readings, and assignments. Therefore, the course is designed to require approximately 84 hours of clock time to complete.

The course is set up in 14 weekly learning units that equate to approximately 6 hours of classwork (lectures, activities, homework, readings) per week.

**RELATED FIELD EXPERIENCE**

This experiential class requires participation in a counseling group. Group participation aligns with the “best practices” of the Association for Specialists in Group Work and it meets CACREP standards (2.F.6.h.).

**Canvas** (<https://www.uttyler.edu/canvas/>)

Canvas will serve as the overall structure and launching pad for all our activities in this course. In Canvas, you will find announcements, assignments, course schedules, links to outside activities, and so on. Within each module folder, the activities necessary to successfully complete that module are described in detail. Take care to examine the module and get in touch with me if you are not clear about the requirements.

## **COURSE POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS**

**INFORMED CONSENT STATEMENT**

Faculty members are dedicated to the educational, personal, and professional growth and development of our students. Faculty are in a unique position as instructors who assess students’ academic skills and members of the counseling profession with an ethical obligation to the profession. In both roles, it is the faculty’s responsibility to evaluate student competencies within the realm of professional counseling and to address any concerns regarding students’ professional competence. As such, please be aware of the following information regarding this course:

- The counseling profession encourages counselors to fully integrate their own personal attributes and identity, as well as their strengths and weaknesses, into therapeutic processes. Therefore, self-awareness is critical because this knowledge relates to being an effective therapist.
- There will be an emphasis in many courses on self-awareness/exploration, as well as giving feedback to peers. Although uncomfortable at times, we encourage students to be open to self-exploration since we frequently ask clients to do so.
- At times, the class may include experiential and self-awareness exercises. It is important to distinguish between sharing one's emotional reactions to such experiential class activities and revealing information about one's personal history. Self-disclosure of personal history is not required to successfully pass any course; however, students may be expected to share their reactions to experiential activities.
- Self-disclosures will not be used as a basis for grading in any course. However, should a student disclose information indicating impairment or the potential for harm to clients, the faculty member may take appropriate action in accordance with the ACA Code of Ethics (2014).
- Students often experience personal growth as they progress through the program. However, the courses are not meant to be a means of personal therapy. The focus in classes is on self-awareness and the enhancement and growth of necessary counselor skills.
- Please be aware that, although all instructors strive to create a safe environment for any personal disclosures, we cannot guarantee that other students will maintain the confidentiality of any such disclosures that are made.
- It is each student's responsibility to determine an appropriate level of self-disclosure (i.e., the content and depth of personal information that you share) in experiential learning activities.

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

Student attendance in this class is critical. It is expected that students will attend all classes. If there is an extenuating circumstance or emergency that will require you to miss a class, you should notify the professor ahead of time. You may then be asked to write a letter, and/or provide documentation that substantiates the extenuating circumstances which prevented you from coming to class. The instructor will then decide if the absence is excusable. In case of missed class students will lose participation and professionalism points. After the first excused missed class, along with missing participation and professionalism points, for each missed class students will lose an additional 10 points from their overall grade. All absences must be discussed with the instructor prior to the class missed. Missing more than one class may result in an "IP" or "NC" for the class unless otherwise determined by the instructor.

### CLASS PUNCTUALITY

Students are expected to attend classes on time. Students who are consistently late at the beginning of class will have points deducted from their participation grade. Late behavior in more than one class will result in a drop in attendance and participation points for each incident.

### TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

All students taking this course should have access to a computer with an internet connection that can support the use of Canvas. If you are having trouble logging onto Canvas or uploading assignments, please contact the **Canvas helpdesk at (903)566-7439** or email them at [itsupport@patriots.utt Tyler.edu](mailto:itsupport@patriots.utt Tyler.edu). You can also receive help by using the **Help tab located on the left side of your Canvas screen**, using the Canvas guides, or contacting **Canvas help at (844)214-6949**. If you are having technical difficulties, please alert the professor as soon as possible.

All submissions for this course will be online via Canvas. **Do not wait until the last minute to submit your assignments** as this is a sure way to ensure you will have technical difficulties (remember Murphy's law).

Cell phones are to be turned off or put in silent mode during class. Cell phones should not be visible during class, so please keep them in your purse, backpack, etc. Students who choose to use a laptop computer should only do so for taking notes. **Students who use laptop computers are prohibited from (a) surfing the internet, (b) checking email, and (c) working on other assignments during class.**

### PATRIOT E-MAIL

University policy requires that all e-mail correspondence between students and instructor be done via the Patriot account **ONLY**. Check your Patriot E-Mail frequently. Announcements pertaining to class or departmental business will be sent to the student's Patriot account. In accord with university policy your instructor will respond **ONLY** to student correspondence sent via Patriot E-mail. Please do not contact the instructor via the Canvas messaging system. My email address is [rgrad@utt Tyler.edu](mailto:rgrad@utt Tyler.edu)

*\*\*Note: make sure that you do not send emails to [rgradl@patriots.utt Tyler.edu](mailto:rgradl@patriots.utt Tyler.edu), as I will not receive these messages.*

### ONLINE COMMUNICATION

All written communication that takes place within this course must adhere to the rules of written etiquette. Please remember that you are in a graduate program and are earning a professional degree, therefore please respond to your instructor and your colleagues professionally. Please refrain from using texting language (i.e. lol, btw, omg) and/or emoticons (i.e. :- / ;:-) ) in your discussion responses and communication with your instructor and colleagues. Other things to keep in mind:

- Open your email with a salutation (e.g., Hi, Hello, Dear Dr. or Ms. X) and finish with a closing (e.g., Best, Regards, Thank you, your name). Introductory emails should address your instructor more formally (Dr. Grad).
- Use complete sentences and avoid jargon, especially text-type words (e.g., C U). This is especially important when sending messages from mobile devices.
- Be aware that using capital letters to express yourself is considered SHOUTING.
- Maintain a professional tone.
- Avoid sending emails in anger or frustration. Walk away from the computer and wait at least 24 hours.
- Whether in writing or person, derogatory or prejudiced remarks are still considered bad manners, and the discussion that contains such comments will be addressed by the instructor.
- Please refrain from sending junk mail, forwards, or advertisements to the class via Canvas.

### DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Students are expected to be sensitive to individual and multicultural differences and to treat one another with respect during their experience in this course. Sensitivity to gender/race/ethnicity/ability/sexuality is expected and disrespectful language and/or behavior will not be tolerated. The American Counseling Association has explicit policies, standards, and ethical guidelines regarding diversity issues. In this class, you will be expected to reflect the standards and ethics of the counseling profession, especially in the area of diversity. Any use of written or verbal language should be consistent with the respect and tolerance that are the cornerstone of the counseling profession and should reflect the ACA Human Rights Committee's 1987 statement on tolerance, which states: In order to guarantee that each individual is free to pursue their potential, each member of ACA is charged to (a) engage in ongoing examination of his/her own attitudes, feelings, stereotypic views, perceptions and behaviors that might have prejudicial or limiting impact on others; (b) contribute to an increased sensitivity on the part of other individuals, groups or institutions to the barriers to opportunity imposed by discrimination; (c) advocate equal rights for all individuals through concerted personal, professional, and political activity.

### COVID-19 RELATED ISSUES

The University of Texas at Tyler strongly encourages our campus community to take the necessary preventative measures to ensure health and safety. In addition to wearing a mask when appropriate, social distancing when possible, covering coughs and sneezes, and practicing good hand hygiene, the COVID-19 vaccine is a protective measure to prevent severe illness due to COVID-19. You can contact your healthcare provider or local pharmacy to schedule a COVID-19 vaccine.

Stay home and contact your professors or supervisors if you do not feel well or have symptoms so that you do not risk exposing others. As a student, you are responsible for informing your faculty of absences due to COVID-19. Regardless of your vaccination status, stay home and follow the [CDC guidelines](#)

### COURSE FEEDBACK AND EVALUATION

Your constructive assessment of this course plays an indispensable role in shaping education at the University of Texas at Tyler. Upon completing the course, please take time to fill out the online course evaluation.

## **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS**

- **Small Group Experience** (required not graded)  
To lead groups well, one has to know what is like to be a group member. This is so important that CACREP has required at least 10 hours of experience in a group. These small groups are not therapy groups: they focus on growth goals related to personal and professional development as a counselor, openly describing one's experience as a group member, and providing greater understanding of normative group stages, dynamics, and member roles. **Attendance is required and not graded.** This assignment assesses CACREP standard 2.F.6.h.

- Group Analysis Reports** (3 points each – 15 points total)

You will submit a group analysis report for each small group session you attend. Your report will demonstrate an analysis of group processes and dynamics using concepts you have learned in class. Students missing an SG session will earn a grade of 0 for its corresponding entry. You will submit your group analysis reports via Canvas, responding to questions provided by your instructor. Please aim to formulate a response of 150-200 words for each question, referencing group-related concepts and concrete examples in today's session. For confidentiality, please avoid sharing identifying information when referring to a group member; instead, use gender-neutral pronouns ("they felt xxx") or non-identifying words ("A member said xxx"). This assignment assesses CACREP standard 2.F.6.h.
- Group Observation** (15 points)

Groups are everywhere, and this assignment takes advantage of that. Students will spend time observing a group and write a short paper (2-3 pages) analyzing the group. You can be *creative in choosing a group to observe; try to expand your current experience*. Groups may be real (e.g., psycho-educational, self-help, therapeutic) or fictional (e.g., from a movie). If real, you must obtain permission to observe from the group facilitator and group, must not interfere with the functioning of the group, and must omit any identifying information about the group or its members. *NOTE: Instructor pre-approval of the group is required*. This assignment assesses CACREP standards 2.F.6.b., 2.F.6.c., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.f.
- Group Proposal** (25 points)

Create a proposal for a counseling group you would like to organize and lead in a mental health setting. Papers should follow APA 7 format and consist of ten to twelve full pages of content, which does not include a title, or reference pages. This assignment assesses CACREP standards 2.F.6.a., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.e., 2.F.6.f., 2.F.6.g.
- Group Leadership** (25 points)

Each student will have the opportunity to plan and lead/co-lead a group. Leaders will be responsible for planning and executing 30-45 minutes group meetings. Following the group leadership experience, leaders will be expected to write a critical reflection paper that addresses their learning points as leaders. This assignment assesses CACREP standards 2.F.6.b., 2.F.6.c., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.g.
- Final Exam** (20 points)

This exam will include multiple-choice questions. The final exam will cover group development theories, ethical issues, and multicultural group counseling issues. Content for the final exam will be drawn from the in-class PowerPoint presentations as well as the assigned readings and is meant to prepare students for the CPCE and NCE. This assignment assesses CACREP standards 2.F.6.a., 2.F.6.b., 2.F.6.c., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.e., 2.F.6.f.

#### **LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY**

The due dates for all assignments are listed in the Syllabus and on Canvas and **must be completed by the date and time listed**. You should plan to work on your assignments around your life and submit them earlier in the week if need be. All assignments coming in any time after their due date/time will be reduced by 10% per day they are late. **NO** assignment will be accepted if submitted more than 3 days past the due date. It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the instructor to re-open the assignment for a late submission. **CANVAS is the only method assignments are accepted (Email and hard copy are not accepted).**

Oftentimes students wonder what constitutes a particular grade in the courses I teach. From my perspective, if a student has completed standard, average work on an assignment, then the work will receive a "B". A grade of "A" denotes exceptional work beyond the basic and/or minimal expectations.

Since this is graduate-level work, it is expected that students will hand in grammatically correct papers, have the correct spelling, and conform to the [APA 7<sup>th</sup>](#) edition guidelines. Do not, repeat, do not write papers as if talking to me, using common figures of speech. Writing is NOT talking, and it takes practice, patience, and intentionality to break this habit. On each written assignment I will deduct points from the final score based on writing and composition skills, and APA

formatting. If you believe there are weak areas for you, please utilize the [University Writing Center](#) as they are more than prepared to help you with writing, composition, and research skills.

A grade of I (incomplete) is discouraged and is assigned at the discretion of the instructor, when illness, death in the immediate family, or other unusual and unforeseeable circumstances not encountered by the other students in the class prevent completion of the course requirements by the end of the semester (per UT Tyler Graduate School Guidelines). Under these circumstances, a grade of I may be assigned when all of the following conditions are met: (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all coursework or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor, and (c) the student presents these reasons before the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average for a student.

Week	Assignment	Points
6 → 11	Small Group Experience	Attendance required, not graded
6 → 11	Group Analysis Reports	15 points
10	Group Observation	15 points
14	Group Proposal	25 points
12 → 15	Group Leadership (Critical Reflection Paper included)	25 points
16	Final Exam	20 points
		Total: 100
A → 100-90	B → 89-80	*C → 79-70
		*D → 69-60
		*F → 59-0 points

\*A grade of "C" or lower will require that you retake the course.

*Final grades will be available on or after the date designated by the University. Please do not send grade inquiries to the professor before this date. Any assignments or exams kept by the instructor will be retained until the last day of classes in the following semester, after which they will be shredded.*

### **PROFESSIONAL DISPOSITION ASSESSMENT**

Professional disposition is an integral component of the course. The **systematic assessment** of students is required by CACREP (2016) Section 4.G.; 4.H. and ACA Code of Ethics (2014) Section F.9: F.9.a; F.9.b. The assessment is completed by the instructor based on the criteria in the table below. The Professional Dispositions component **is not calculated in the final grade**; however, the assessment is (1) part of the CMHC Committee's systematic student review and (2) will be included in the student's academic file.

Professional Dispositions Indicators	Unacceptable	Acceptable	Optimal
1. Openness to new ideas.	1	2	3
2. Flexibility and adaptability.	1	2	3
3. Cooperativeness with others.	1	2	3
4. Willingness to accept and use feedback.	1	2	3
5. Awareness of own impact on others.	1	2	3
6. Ability to deal with conflict.	1	2	3
7. Ability to deal with personal responsibility.	1	2	3
8. Effective and appropriate expression of feelings.	1	2	3
9. Attention to ethical and legal considerations.	1	2	3
10. Initiative and motivation.	1	2	3
11. Orientation to multiculturalism and social justice advocacy.	1	2	3
12. Professional wellness and self-care.	1	2	3
13. Humility.	1	2	3
14. Professionalism.	1	2	3
15. Willingness to seek help.	1	2	3

**Professionalism.** The counseling program at UT Tyler leads directly to certification, licensure, and professional practice in the field of counseling. All students are required to know and adhere to their respective professional associations (i.e., ACA Code of Ethics, 2014). Ethical violations may result in failure of the course and possibly dismissal from the program.

## TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE\*

\*This syllabus is a guide and outline for the progression of the class. Changes may be made for due dates, assignments, and other items. All changes are the prerogative of the instructor.

Week/Date	Topic	Readings/Assignments	CACREP Standard
<b>Warm-up Phase January 16 – February 27</b>			
<b>Week 1</b> 1/16	Introduction and Orientation. Syllabus Overview	Syllabus	2.D.
<b>Week 2</b> 1/23	Group Work as a Counseling Specialty – History, Theoretical Foundations, Types of Groups	Gladding: Ch.1 Jacobs: Ch. 1	2.F.6.a. 2.f.6.f.
<b>Week 3</b> 1/30	Group Dynamics Therapeutic Factors & Forces	Gladding: Ch. 2 Jacobs: Ch. 2	2.F.6.b. 2.F.6.c.
<b>Week 4</b> 2/6	Models, Stages, and Group Development Group Formation Effective Group Leadership I	Gladding: Ch. 4 Jacobs: Ch. 3, 4	2.F.6.a. 2.F.6.e. 2.F.6.d.
<b>Week 5</b> 2/13	Planning, Promoting, and Preparation Effective Group Leadership II	Gladding: Ch. 4, 5 Jacobs: Ch. 5, 12	2.F.6.e., 2.F.6.g. 2.F.6.d.
<b>Week 6</b> 2/20	Effective Group Leadership III Counselor characteristics and behaviors Leadership Challenges <b>Small Group Experience Begins (SGE#1)</b>	Gladding: Ch. 6, 7, & 9 Jacobs: Ch. 6, 8, & 15 <b>Group Analysis Report (GAR) #1 due 2/25</b>	2.F.6.d. 2.F.5.f. 2.F.6.h
<b>Action Phase February 27 – April 16</b>			
<b>Week 7</b> 2/27	Ethical, Legal, and Multicultural Issues; Group Work with Specific Populations  <b>SGE#2</b>	Gladding: Ch. 8, 10, 11,14 Jacobs: Ch. 17 Singh et al. (2012) <b>GAR #2 due 3/3</b>	2.F.5.f.  2.F.6.h.
<b>Week 8</b> 3/5	<b>SGE#3</b>	<b>GAR #3 due 3/10</b>	2.F.6.h.
<b>Week 9</b> 3/12	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>		
<b>Week 10</b> 3/19	<b>SGE#4</b> Assess ability to observe group dynamics, therapeutic factors, effective group leadership, types of groups	<b>Group Observation due 3/18</b>  <b>GAR #4 due 3/24</b>	2.F.6.h. 2.F.6.b., 2.F.6.c., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.f.
<b>Week 11</b> 3/26	<b>SGE#5</b>	<b>GAR #5 due 3/31</b>	2.F.6.h
<b>Week 12</b> 4/2	Assess ability to facilitate group, group dynamics, promote therapeutic factors, demonstrate effective group leadership via <b>Group Leadership Assignment</b> Assess ability to use theoretical foundations to design a specific type of group with effective leadership		2.F.6.b., 2.F.6.c., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.g.  2.F.6.a., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.f., 2.F.6.g.

<b>Week 13</b> 4/9	Assess ability to facilitate group, group dynamics, promote therapeutic factors, demonstrate effective group leadership via <b>Group Leadership Assignment</b>  Assess ability to use theoretical foundations to design a specific type of group with effective leadership		2.F.6.b., 2.F.6.c., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.g.  2.F.6.a., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.f., 2.F.6.g.
<b>Week 14</b> 4/16	Assess ability to facilitate group, group dynamics, promote therapeutic factors, demonstrate effective group leadership via <b>Group Leadership Assignment</b>  Assess ability to use theoretical foundations to design a specific type of group with effective leadership	<b>Group Proposal due 4/21</b>	2.F.6.b., 2.F.6.c., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.g.  2.F.6.a., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.e., 2.F.6.f., 2.F.6.g.
<b>Closure Phase April 23 – April 30</b>			
<b>Week 15</b> 4/23	Termination; Overview of Group Theories	Gladding: 6 & 8 Jacobs: 13 & 15  <b>Critical Reflection Paper due 4/28</b>	2.F.6.a.  2.F.6.d.
<b>Week 16</b> 4/30	Assess the level of theoretical understanding of theoretical foundations, group dynamics, therapeutic factors, effective group leadership, group formation, and types of groups via <b>Final Exam - 4/30 at 5PM CST</b>		2.F.6.a., 2.F.6.b., 2.F.6.c., 2.F.6.d., 2.F.6.e., 2.F.6.f.

## PROGRAM AND DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

### CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the CACREP-Accredited Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) program at the University of Texas at Tyler (UTT) is to prepare ethical and competent professional counselors. The CMHC program places a strong emphasis on preparing future counselors to work with a diverse range of client populations. Faculty members collectively aim to provide a rigorous learning environment and supportive atmosphere encouraging personal and professional development to a diverse student body. Throughout their time in the CMHC program, students are supported in developing a deep sense of self-awareness and a strong professional counselor identity integrating mental health, research, service, and advocacy. Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible for counselor licensure in Texas and are able pursue impactful mental health careers within the community.

### **UT Tyler Department of Psychology and Counseling Student Code of Conduct:**

<https://www.uttyler.edu/psychology/policies.php>

### **UT Tyler Clinical Mental Health Counseling Student Handbook:**

<https://www.uttyler.edu/psychology/graduate/clinical-mental-health-counseling/>

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES

### UT TYLER HONOR

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.



**STUDENTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

**CAMPUS CARRY**

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

**UT TYLER A TOBACCO-FREE UNIVERSITY**

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free).

**GRADE REPLACEMENT/FORGIVENESS AND CENSUS DATE POLICIES**

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three-course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, and approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment.
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through.

**FINANCIAL AID STATE-MANDATED COURSE DROP POLICY**

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical, and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the [New Student](#) application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

**STUDENT ABSENCE DUE TO RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE**

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second-class meeting of the semester. Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities: If you intend to be absent from a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

**SOCIAL SECURITY AND FERPA STATEMENT**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

**EMERGENCY EXITS AND EVACUATION**

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire Department, or Fire Prevention Services.

**STUDENT STANDARDS OF ACADEMIC CONDUCT**

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give an unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

- i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
  - copying from another student's testpaper.
  - using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
  - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test.
  - possession during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test.
  - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program.
  - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority.
  - discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination.
  - divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student.
  - substituting for another person or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment.
  - paying or offering money or another valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an un-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an un-administered test, test key, home solution or computer program.
  - falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit.
  - taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
  - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
- ii. "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.
- iii. "Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
- iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

**UT TYLER RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS**

- [UT Tyler Writing Center \(903.565.5995\)](tel:903.565.5995), [writingcenter@uttyler.edu](mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu)
- [UT Tyler Tutoring Center \(903.565.5964\)](tel:903.565.5964), [tutoring@uttyler.edu](mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu)
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, is the open-access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- [UT Tyler Counseling Center\(903.566.7254\)](tel:903.566.7254)