Instructor: Andrea Knestel, Ph.D.  
Office: 1536 WSC  
Phone: 422-3035  
Office Hours: 8:00-10:00 a.m. Tuesday  
or by appointment  
E-mail: andrea_knestel@byu.edu

Textbooks:


Course Description:

This course is intended to help students gain an understanding of the basic theories, intervention skills, and ethical issues of counseling. This is accomplished through: (1) Classroom discussions of readings, case examples, skill lab experiences, and observations of live counseling sessions; (2) Skill laboratory learning and demonstrations of the basic counseling skills of empathy, concreteness, owning thoughts and feelings, immediacy, confrontation, and problem solving; and (3) Integration of the above during live and taped demonstrations of intervention strategies.

This course is designed in two ways to give you a firm foundation for investigating problems or questions regarding psychotherapy research and practice that interest you. The first way is to give you a good knowledge base, and the second way is to provide you with the skills to be a critical (in the constructive sense) consumer of the psychotherapy research and practice literature.

Course Objectives:

1. Develop knowledge and sensitivity pertaining to ethical issues as they relate to clinical practice
2. Develop foundational level intervention skills for the practice of psychology
3. Develop critical cognitive skills to facilitate development of effective clinical interventions
4. Learn about the major theories of psychotherapy and how they translate into clinical practice and research
Assignments:

Counseling Theory Papers:
For each theory under “Theories of Psychotherapy: Practice,” you will write a reflection paper addressing the following questions.

1. What are the basic tenets of this approach to therapy?

2. How does this approach understand health and pathology, and individual, couple, and family dynamics?

3. What are the core therapy techniques?

4. How does this theory compare and contrast with the other theories you read this semester?

5. What is the interface between this theory and gender, class, race, and culture? What are your thoughts about this (lack of) interface?

6. What are your reactions to the theory? What have you learned from this theory that may help you clinically? How do you imagine using this theory in practice?

The reflection papers are due at the beginning of class, the week following our discussion of each theory.

Live Observation of Therapy:
Each of you will observe three live therapy sessions in the CAPS training corridor. You can observe these sessions as a class. Please observe each therapist once for a total of one intake session and two regular therapy sessions. Write a paper that tracks each counselor’s use of the counseling skills we have been learning in class. In your paper include a brief summary of your emotional and cognitive reactions to each therapy session and what you have learned from each observation.

Lab Skills Presentations:
During the lab portion of the class, you will pass off the lab skills by submitting a 45-minute long video of interaction with a stranger. Please choose 20 minutes of the video that specifically demonstrates your use of the counseling skills learned in class. You can continue to pass off this assignment until mastery is achieved. I want all students to demonstrate competency with these skills. Please have the stranger complete a consent form, which you will submit on the day that you present your video.

Research Paper and Presentation:
In pairs you will conduct a review of the literature in an area of psychotherapy research of interest to you. For example, you could look at the research literature investigating how effective cognitive-behavioral therapy is in treating autism. You will get to choose who you would like to work with and what theoretical orientation and mental disorder you would like to further examine (it can be a theoretical orientation we have not talked about in class). You will write a
20-page (double-spaced) research paper summarizing your findings and you will also present your findings in class.

Class Schedule:

Week 1 (September 2)
Introduction and overview
Ethical and other issues in counseling practice

Readings:
Textbook: Chapter 16

Week 2 (September 9)
The counselor as a person and professional/opening your heart to therapy

Readings:

Theories of Psychotherapy: Practice

Week 3 (September 16)
Psychoanalytic therapy: Is a cigar really a cigar?

Readings:
Textbook: Chapter 2
Cases Studies: Chapter 1
Counseling Skills Workbook: p. 1-23

Due:
Turn in topics for group presentations.
Week 4 (September 23)
Adlerian Psychotherapy

**Readings:**
- Textbook: Chapter 3
- Case Studies: Chapter 2
- Counseling Skills Workbook: p. 24-43

**Due:**
- Reflection paper: Psychoanalytic therapy

Week 5 (September 30)
Client-Centered therapy: It’s all about you

**Readings:**
- Textbook: Chapter 4
- Case Studies: Chapter 3
- Counseling Skills Workbook: p. 44-61

**Due:**
- Reflection paper: Adlerian Psychotherapy

Week 6 (October 7)
Behavior therapy: Prepare to salivate

**Readings:**
- Textbook: Chapter 6
- Case Studies: Chapter 5

**Due:**
- Counseling Skills: Video Presentation
- Reflection Paper: Client-centered therapy

Week 7 (October 14)
Cognitive therapy: Warm and fuzzy

**Readings:**
- Textbook: Chapter 7
- Case Studies: Chapter 6

**Due:**
- Counseling Skills: Video Presentation
- Reflection Paper: Behavior therapy

Week 8 (October 21)
Existential therapy: Who am I, Where am I going? Why do I have death anxiety?

**Readings:**
- Textbook: Chapter 8
- Case Studies: Chapter 7

**Due:**
- Counseling Skills: Video Presentation
- Reflection Paper: Cognitive therapy
Week 9 (October 28)
Gestalt therapy: More than the sum of the parts

Readings:
Textbook: Chapter 9
Case Studies: Chapter 8

Due:
Counseling Skills: Video Presentation
Reflection Paper: Existential therapy

Week 10 (November 4)
Couples Therapy: Let’s do the dance

Readings:


Due:
Counseling Skills: Video Presentation
Reflection Paper: Gestalt therapy

Week 11 (November 11)
Family Systems therapy: It’s not my problem, it’s our problem

Readings:
Textbook: Chapter 11
Case Studies: Chapter 10

Due:
Counseling Skills: Video Presentation
Reflection Paper: Couples therapy
Live Observation of Therapy Paper

Theories of Psychotherapy: Research

Week 12 (November 18)
Group Presentation 1 (75 minutes)
Group Presentation 2 (75 minutes)

Due:
Reflection Paper: Family Systems Therapy
Research Papers due (Groups 1 & 2)
Week 13 (November 25)
Group Presentation 3 (75 minutes)
Group Presentation 4 (75 minutes)
**Due:**
Research Papers due (Groups 3 & 4)

Week 14 (December 2)
Group Presentation 5 (75 minutes)
Group Presentation 6 (75 minutes)
**Due:**
Research Papers due (Groups 5 & 6)

Week 15 (December 9)
Group Presentation 7 (75 minutes)
Group Presentation 8 (75 minutes)
**Due:**
Research Papers due (Groups 7 & 8)

**Grading**

**Point Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Counseling Theories Papers (9x20pts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Live Observation of Therapy Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Skills Video Presentation</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
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<td>Research Presentation</td>
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<td>Participation</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Grade Scale**

A  94-100  B-   80-82  D+   67-69
A- 90-93   C+   77-79  D    63-66
B+ 87-89   C    73-76  D-   60-62
B  83-86   C-   70-72  E    59 and lower

**University Policies**

**Honor Code**
In keeping with the principles of the BYU Honor Code, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic work. Academic honesty means, most fundamentally, that any work you present as your own must in fact be your own work and not that of another. Violations of this principle may result in a failing grade in the course and additional disciplinary action by the university. Students are also expected to adhere to the Dress and Grooming Standards. Adherence demonstrates respect for yourself and others and ensures an effective learning and
working environment. It is the university's expectation, and my own expectation in class, that each student will abide by all Honor Code standards. Please call the Honor Code Office at 422-2847 if you have questions about those standards.

**Sexual Harassment**
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education and pertains to admissions, academic and athletic programs, and university-sponsored activities. Title IX also prohibits sexual harassment of students by university employees, other students, and visitors to campus. If you encounter sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination, please talk to your professor or contact one of the following: the Title IX Coordinator at 801-422-2130; the Honor Code Office at 801-422-2847; the Equal Employment Office at 801-422-5895; or Ethics Point at http://www.ethicspoint.com, or 1-888-238-1062 (24-hours).

**Student Disability**
Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere that reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the University Accessibility Center (UAC), 2170 WSC or 422-2767. Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified, documented disabilities. The UAC can also assess students for learning, attention, and emotional concerns. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the UAC. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures by contacting the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895, D-285 ASB.

**Academic Honesty**
The first injunction of the Honor Code is the call to "be honest." Students come to the university not only to improve their minds, gain knowledge, and develop skills that will assist them in their life's work, but also to build character. "President David O. McKay taught that character is the highest aim of education" (The Aims of a BYU Education, p.6). It is the purpose of the BYU Academic Honesty Policy to assist in fulfilling that aim. BYU students should seek to be totally honest in their dealings with others. They should complete their own work and be evaluated based upon that work. They should avoid academic dishonesty and misconduct in all its forms, including but not limited to plagiarism, fabrication or falsification, cheating, and other academic misconduct.

**Plagiarism**
Intentional plagiarism is a form of intellectual theft that violates widely recognized principles of academic integrity as well as the Honor Code. Such plagiarism may subject the student to appropriate disciplinary action administered through the university Honor Code Office, in addition to academic sanctions that may be applied by an instructor. Inadvertent plagiarism, which may not be a violation of the Honor Code, is nevertheless a form of intellectual carelessness that is unacceptable in the academic community. Plagiarism of any kind is completely contrary to the established practices of higher education where all members of the
university are expected to acknowledge the original intellectual work of others that is included in their own work. In some cases, plagiarism may also involve violations of copyright law. Intentional Plagiarism-Intentional plagiarism is the deliberate act of representing the words, ideas, or data of another as one’s own without providing proper attribution to the author through quotation, reference, or footnote. Inadvertent Plagiarism-Inadvertent plagiarism involves the inappropriate, but non-deliberate, use of another's words, ideas, or data without proper attribution. Inadvertent plagiarism usually results from an ignorant failure to follow established rules for documenting sources or from simply not being sufficiently careful in research and writing. Although not a violation of the Honor Code, inadvertent plagiarism is a form of academic misconduct for which an instructor can impose appropriate academic sanctions. Students who are in doubt as to whether they are providing proper attribution have the responsibility to consult with their instructor and obtain guidance. Examples of plagiarism include: Direct Plagiarism-The verbatim copying of an original source without acknowledging the source. Paraphrased Plagiarism-The paraphrasing, without acknowledgement, of ideas from another that the reader might mistake for the author's own. Plagiarism Mosaic-The borrowing of words, ideas, or data from an original source and blending this original material with one's own without acknowledging the source. Insufficient Acknowledgement-The partial or incomplete attribution of words, ideas, or data from an original source. Plagiarism may occur with respect to unpublished as well as published material. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own individual work without proper attribution is a serious form of plagiarism.

E-mail
Please provide me with a working email address. There may be times when changes to assignments or readings will be necessary. Most likely, I will notify students of these changes via e-mail. You will be responsible for periodically checking your e-mail and responding to any course changes. It is the students’ responsibility to have a working e-mail and check it in a timely manner.

Respectful Environment
"Sadly, from time to time, we do hear reports of those who are at best insensitive and at worst insulting in their comments to and about others... We hear derogatory and sometimes even defamatory comments about those with different political, athletic, or ethnic views or experiences. Such behavior is completely out of place at BYU, and I enlist the aid of all to monitor carefully and, if necessary, correct any such that might occur here, however inadvertent or unintentional. 'I worry particularly about demeaning comments made about the career or major choices of women or men either directly or about members of the BYU community generally. We must remember that personal agency is a fundamental principle and that none of us has the right or option to criticize the lawful choices of another." President Cecil O. Samuelson, Annual University Conference, August 24, 2010 "Occasionally, we ... hear reports that our female faculty feel disrespected, especially by students, for choosing to work at BYU, even though each one has been approved by the BYU Board of Trustees. Brothers and sisters, these things ought not to be. Not here. Not at a university that shares a constitution with the School of the Prophets." Vice President John S. Tanner, Annual University Conference, August 24, 2010.