CORE COURSES (SEMESTER 1)

**PSY 5333 - Introduction to Counseling Techniques (3 hours)**
An introduction to the basic helping skills and the role of professional counselors. Students are introduced to specific and nonspecific variables in the counselor, the client and the counseling environment that produce change in clients. An overview of the historical development of the counseling profession is explored as well as future directions for the profession of counseling. Foundations are explored for developing a worldview of counseling, inclusive of a Christian view of persons. Students will practice basic helping skills and learn to conduct initial interviews. Students will initiate use of library research to develop hypotheses for empirical research.

**PSY 5313 - Lifespan Development (3 hours)**
Theoretical and research approaches to the study of development of human abilities and behavior throughout the lifespan. The course will focus on such theorists as Piaget, Freud, Erikson, Kohlberg, Peck, Vaillant, Schaie, and Sternberg. Topics include developmental research methodology, variables influencing development, and basic developmental processes in physical, motor, perceptual, cognitive, linguistic, emotional, social, and personality development. Applications of developmental theory to counseling are emphasized.

**PSY 5263 - Psychopathology (3 hours)**
Examination of techniques used in defining and classifying deviant behavior syndromes, according to DSM-IV classification. Theoretical and empirical literature dealing with etiology and treatment of various disorders is examined. Areas of coverage are situation reactions, anxiety disorder, personality disorders, psychoses, organic disorders, and child adolescent onset disorders.

**PSY 5283 - Professional Orientation (3 hours)**
This course is designed to provide a survey of ethical, legal and professional issues facing counselors and others in human services. Emphasis is given to raising awareness of the complexities of ethical issues in professional practice.
CORE COURSES (SEMESTER 2)

PSY 6133 - Research Methods I (3 hours)
An overview of the various research methodologies used to study behavior. The focus is on application, especially to counseling research. This course is closely tied to development of the thesis. The prospectus is begun during this module.

PSY 6333 - Theories of Counseling (3 hours)
This course provides an overview of the major viewpoints underlying various approaches to counseling. It shows how these viewpoints developed as well as the ways of influence outlook and technique in counseling. You will have opportunity to see the various viewpoints in action as used by others, and to apply them in role-played counseling sessions. Critique of the theories will include emphasis on Christian perspectives.

PSY 5143 - Family and Psychological Assessment (3 hours)
Testing theory and statistical considerations in the construction of psychological measurements. Coverage is given to administration and interpretation of various assessment tools. The course also includes diagnostic interviewing techniques, report writing, direct observation techniques, and self report scaling.

PSY 6263 - Family Crisis Intervention (3 hours)
An applied psychotherapy lab course that engages the student in both the theoretical foundations for crisis intervention and in the actual and practical experience of implementing crisis intervention techniques. Students will be instructed in the stages of emergency and crisis situations and the theoretical frameworks for describing crisis events.
CORE COURSES (SEMESTERS 3 & 4)

PSY 6303 - Counseling Children and Adolescents (3 hours)
An advanced counseling course focused on specific techniques used in diagnosis and
treatment of children and adolescents. Normative and nonnormative aspects of
development are examined to assist in understanding appropriate interventions. DSM IV
diagnoses found in children and adolescents are evaluated. Legal and ethical issues
related to intervention with minors are also explored.

PSY 6393 - Multicultural Treatment Planning (3 hours)
This course is a synthesis of the student’s clinical training. The student is taught how to
coordinate diagnostic interviewing, psychological assessment techniques and diagnosis to
assist in developing appropriate treatment plans for clients. Students will demonstrate
appropriate use of DSM-IV diagnostic skills and illustrate an awareness of the growing
body of literature on empirically based treatment planning. Multicultural aspects of
counseling and treatment planning are investigated.

PSY 6293 - Philosophy of Interpersonal Relationships (3 hours)
Considers worldviews with regard to situations that are an inherent part of the human
condition, such as suffering, change, trauma, and so forth. Focus is on an understanding
of such conditions and the garnering of resources for coping with these situations. Special
emphasis will be given to the ways in which the various philosophical positions give rise
to ethical considerations.

PSY 6353 - Counseling the Elderly (3 hours)
A major emphasis for this course will be the multitude of changes that elderly adults
experience and how these changes can result in issues that are addressed in a counseling
setting. Normal and non-normal physiological changes and memory changes will be
identified and discussed. Depression, substance abuse, and the high incident of elderly
suicide will be highlighted.
CORE COURSES (SEMESTER 2-4)

Internship (6 hours)
The internship experience is based on the assumption that classroom study becomes more meaningful and relevant when it is integrated with planned hands-on field experience. In the internship, therefore, the Graduate Programs in Counseling student acquires direct experience working in a supervised counseling capacity. The internship experience emphasizes application of the principles and concepts learned through the Graduate Programs in Counseling coursework. Both the GPC Internship Coordinator and an agency supervisor supervises the internship. Both supervisors work with the Graduate Programs in Counseling student to insure that the internship provides a setting in which maximum learning may occur. Internships must be approved by the program. The internship occurs concurrently with course work and follows guidelines set forth in licensure preparation. Students are required to obtain at least 450 total hours of internship, 225 of which should be direct client contact hours.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SYSTEMS CORE

PSY 6243 - Marriage and Family Therapy (3 hours)
This course addresses the practice of marital and family therapy. It is designed to teach theory application, technique formation, technique delivery, and follow through in marital and family therapy. Techniques in marital and family therapy such as joining, relabeling, reframing, structure change, pattern enhancement, first and second order change, power word unpackaging, and faith language framing will be taught. Instruction in the assessment and utilization of the family’s language, rules and structure will be provided.

PSY 6343 - Marital and Family Systems (3 hours)
This course is the foundational material for discovering how Marital and Family Therapy approaches human relationship problems. Marital and Family Therapy utilize systemic theory as problems and problem resolution in a different way. This “different way” brings focus on the processes or context that is giving meaning to events instead of the individuals or the events themselves. Examination of marriage and family in the context of a system will be the theme of this course.