

---

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

---

# GRADUATE COURSE

## CNSL 291 COUNSELING/PRACTICUM IN CAREER COUNSELING AND DEVELOPMENT

### **Developed By:**

Thomas R. Stowell, MA, GCDF

### **Faculty Advisors:**

Pat Schwallie-Giddis, PhD  
Associate Professor of Counseling & Chair

Rebecca Miller Dedmond, PhD, LPC, GCDI  
Assistant Professor of Counseling &  
Director of School Counseling Program – Alexandria

Department of Counseling/Human & Organizational Studies  
Graduate School of Education and Human Development  
The George Washington University

## **CNSL 291 Practicum/Internship in Career Counseling and Development The George Washington University**

### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with intensive engagement in a career counseling and development placement in the student's intended community of practice (higher education, public education, business, or government). This engagement occurs through supervised participation in direct-service, research, teaching, and/or consultation.

### **Course Objectives**

- To demonstrate an understanding of the career counseling process; including the ability to understand and respond to the needs of diverse client populations.
- To demonstrate an effective grasp of career development theory and be able to apply the theory and related systems to the delivery of career counseling and related services.
- To demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate programs and services and offer recommendations for enhancement based on best practice.
- To demonstrate the ability to utilize information, interview techniques, and various resources in order to develop individual career/treatment plans.
- To demonstrate the ability to function in an ethical and professional manner as described by ACA, ASCA, and NCDA.
- To demonstrate the skills necessary to develop career materials in response to specific needs or requests.

### **Required Materials**

Baird, B. (2008). 5th Ed. *The internship, practicum, and field placement handbook: A guide for the helping profession*. Pearson Education.

Reardon, R., Lenz, J., Sampson, J., & Peterson, G. (2009). 3rd Ed. *Career development and planning: A comprehensive approach*. Cengage Learning.

Additional materials will be available online or from the instructor.

### **Practicum Hours**

Practicum/Internship students will work with his/her GW faculty practicum supervisor to identify and structure a practicum placement. Once a site has been selected, the practicum/internship student and the GW faculty supervisor will work with the onsite supervisor to establish a schedule of work. This schedule, along with various other specifics regarding the relationship between GW and the placement agency shall be detailed in a practicum/internship agreement (note: to be developed at a later date once the program is approved). Practicum experiences require a minimum of 120 total hours for every three-credits. In addition, of that 120 hours, a minimum of 60 hours must be in direct service to clients (individual, group, etc.).

### **Professional Supervision**

Practicum/Internship students will participate in two hours of supervision per week with their GW faculty supervisor. In addition, the practicum student should meet no less than once per week with the on-site supervisor to receive feedback on his or her practice.

### **Practicum/Internship Seminar**

Students participating in practicum/internship shall participate in group discussions once-weekly to share experiences and discuss difficulties, and share successes. This discussion may be conducted online, via conference call, or in person depending on the schedules of all students.

### **Co-requisite**

Students shall also be enrolled in CNSL 361 Seminar in Counseling and will work with a faculty advisor to develop a comprehensive individual project.

### **Readings**

Students are expected to complete all assigned readings including textbook chapters, additional articles, etc. prior to the date that they will be discussed.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

A student with a disability who needs accommodation should arrange a meeting with the professor and present his or her Accommodation Letter. Students with disabilities may be eligible for services through the GW Disability Support Services (Marvin Center, Suite 201C; 994-8250) web site <http://gwired.gwu.edu/dss/>.

### **Academic Integrity**

All work is to be completed by the student in accordance with the George Washington Code of Academic Integrity. [www.gwu.edu/~integrity/code.html](http://www.gwu.edu/~integrity/code.html).

### **Grade Points:**

Weekly Seminar Participation	10
Weekly Supervision	20
Reflective Journal (submitted each week)	20
Practicum/Internship Portfolio with Hour Log	50

### **Grading Scale:**

96 - 100	A
91 - 95	A-
86 - 90	B+
81 - 85	B
Below 76	C or F

---

Total Possible Points: 100

## **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Weekly Seminar Participation**

**10 points**

Students are expected to actively participate in the weekly seminars conducted by the GW faculty supervisor. Active participation includes asking questions of the instructor and other students and offering advice on dealing with issues/problems that may surface during the seminar.

### **Weekly Supervision**

**20 points**

Students are expected to participate in weekly supervision with both their GW faculty member and their on-site practicum supervisor. Students are expected to bring any and all issues that surface during the week to these supervision sessions. He/she must ensure that they are attending to the needs of the client, the practicum site, and to him/herself. It will be helpful for students to bring client notes to the meeting to discuss the progress of clients with the supervisors.

### **Reflective Journal**

**20 points**

Students are expected to keep a daily reflective journal that chronicles their experience, high and low points, and any other observations he/she would like to make with regard to the practicum placement. This journal will be shared each week with the GW faculty supervisor.

### **Practicum/Internship Portfolio with Hour Log**

**50 points**

Students are required to develop a final practicum/internship portfolio that showcases their learning in the internship/practicum and the program as a whole. As such, this portfolio should contain work and resources gathered throughout the program. Specific requirements for this assignment and grading criteria will be shared during the first practicum/internship supervision session. In addition, students are required to keep detailed and accurate records of their activities as a practicum/internship student. These hour logs must be signed each week by the on-site supervisor.

**Note:** A more detailed syllabus with rubrics and specific requirements will be developed once this course and corresponding degree program (EdS degree) are approved and will utilize established best-practice in practicum/internship experiences and will draw from the syllabi of other faculty members who oversee similar courses and programs.

\*Adapted and revised from the following sources:

Dr. James P. Sampson Jr., Florida State University, Fall 2002.

Dr. Monica Megivern, the Graduate School of Education and Human Development, Fall 2008

Dr. Billy Molasso, the Graduate School of Education and Human Development, Fall 2008