

Texas A&M University-Texarkana  
COUN 512 Career Development & Information

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Office hours: Mon. 12-4; Tue. 3-7; Thu. 4-6  
Class times: Tuesdays 7-9:45  
Credits: 3 semester hours.

**Catalog Description:** Combines the use of current career information and career development theories in career counseling. Provides an overview of evaluating educational, occupational, and personal social information for career development. The course will cover the nature of work, the dynamics of vocational choice and development, psychological and sociological factors in job selection, manpower trends occupational surveys, job analysis and recent publications dealing with these topics. May be taken concurrently with COUN 525 for Elementary School emphasis.

**Course Delivery Method:** This course will include didactic, lecture, small group work and one-on-one exercises to enhance the learning process while helping students anchor major theoretical underpinnings related to career counseling processes and strategies. Also included in this course are student-driven projects and assignments, reviewing professional career theory and analyzing career development websites. Students are expected to be self-directed learners/readers of the text and other associated materials.

**Text book required:** Brown, D. (2011). *Career information, career counseling, and career development* (10<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon. ISBN: 0132821397

**Purpose:** The purpose of the course is to expose the graduate student to all aspects of the career counseling field, including self-awareness of one's own career development and choices. The state legislature of Texas recently passed into law that school counselors focus and address on career development at all grade levels in public schools, including the transitioning stages of high school senior to community college or 4 year colleges/universities. The Texas legislature also recently passed into law that in order for a professional to refer to oneself as a career counselor, the counselor has to also be licensed by the state of Texas. That law emphasizes that graduate counselor education includes a graduate course on career development and information.

**Student Learner Outcomes:**

1. identify and/or describe components of various career development theories and decision-making models, including, but not limited to, those of Parsons; Holland; Super; Krumboltz; Gottfredson; Lent, Brown, and Hackett; Peterson, Sampson, Reardon, and Lenz; Brown; and Hansen.
2. list, identify, describe, and/or demonstrate the utilization of computer based career development applications and strategies, including computer-assisted career guidance systems.

3. describe, list, and/or identify the components of career development programs including, but not limited to, planning, organization, implementation, administration, and evaluation.
4. identify and/or describe the interrelationships among work, family, and other life roles and factors including, but not limited to, multicultural and gender issues, as related to career development.
5. list, identify, and/or describe examples of career, avocational, educational, and labor market visual and print media.
6. identify and/or describe the tests in the processes of career and educational placement, follow-up, and evaluation.
7. list, identify, and/or describe assessment instruments and their usefulness and techniques relevant to career planning and decision-making.
8. list and/or identify and describe and/or demonstrate the utilization of career, avocational, educational, and labor market information resources.
9. identify, describe, and/or demonstrate career counseling processes, techniques, and resources including, but not limited to those applicable to specific populations.
10. identify, describe, and/or demonstrate a knowledge of ethical considerations related to career planning, guidance, placement, and counseling.
11. list, identify, describe, and/or demonstrate the utilization of computer-based career information systems.

**Method of evaluation**

1. Personal Career Assessment Paper 100 pts.
2. Career Resource Center for School  
or Private Practice 100 pts.
3. Journal Article Reviews 50 pts each = 100 pts total
4. Final Exam 100 pts.

**Grading**

A = 400-360  
 B = 359-319  
 C = 318-278  
 D = 277-237  
 F = 236 & below

**Assignments:**

**Personal Career Assessment Project:** On this self-awareness exercise, students will specifically apply one of the career theories to their own career development. Students will analyze the influences on their own career development and career decisions/choices via theories of career development and career choice discussed in class, described in the text, or detailed in supplemental literature, and handouts. Rubric for completing the assignment will be handed out. Use Ch. 2&3 for helpful information about theories. Incorporate the career-o-gram and career genogram from Chapter 6 to help you develop your project.100 points. (Pages 102-103 in the text may be of help here.)

Answers must be complete and demonstrate thought and effort. Proper grammar is expected at the graduate level. Students may use other resources, such as the internet, other textbooks, and journal articles, to help them develop and complete the project.

**2. Career Resource Center for School or Private Practice:** Students will identify a specific population (elementary, college, student athletes, adults in transition, high school, older adults, people or students with special needs, homeless people, battered women/men, etc) and develop a

career-related educational and counseling career resource center designed to address the particular occupational/career needs of the chosen population(s). Highlight the career information on a Poster Session (poster board with 18 size font). Students will present their poster sessions the last 2 days of class.

Use the criteria found on pages 198-203 in Chapter 7 for the organization of your center.

Information for private practice counselors can be found in Chapter 16.

Describe, narrate, and formulate how you would develop and operate a career center for your students/clients. Justify your decisions. Show and describe examples of what you would incorporate into your center and why on the poster.

Chapters 11&12 will help school-oriented counselors as well as those students seeking the LPC.

Don't forget about CACGS, assessments, online resources, budget, placement issues, furniture, etc. 100 points.

**3. Journal Article Reviews:** Students will write two (2) journal article reviews from academic-oriented journals pertaining to counseling, careers, work, and/or occupations. Look in the library and on the web for the National Employment Counselor Association, the National Career Development Association, The Texas Career Development Association, the Texas Association for Adult Development and Aging (at the national level too). Some of these associations have corresponding professional journals. Do not forget the Department of Labor 50 points each, 100 points total. A format for the review will be given to you. Submit reviews electronically.

**4. Final Exam:** 100 points. Will include multiple choice and short essay.

**Disability Accommodations:** Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism will not be tolerated at the graduate level. Students will be confronted concerning any possible plagiarizing of the work of others. Dismissal of the student from the class is probable. Please investigate <http://www.turnitin.com> for information about plagiarism. Please refer to the Texas A&M University-Texarkana catalog regarding **Academic Dishonesty.** Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source, constitutes academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of F in the course and/or disciplinary actions. For additional information see the university catalog.

**A&M-Texarkana Email Address:** Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

## **Class schedule**

- 8/30:** Introductions, review of course, discuss assignments, overview of career counseling, small group discussion of the current global economy
- 9/6:** Chapters 1 and 2, Trait-Factor and developmental theories, discuss and learn about the history of career counseling, review Holland, Super and Gottfredson's theories
- 9/13:** Chapter 3, Learning Theory, Socioeconomic theories, Krumboltz's theory
- 9/20:** Chapter 5, Multicultural career counseling, developing and utilizing your own career counseling theory
- 9/27:** Chapter 6, Career counseling with clients with special needs, individuals with disabilities, women in the workforce, the economically disadvantaged, ex-offenders  
*First article review due*
- 10/4:** Chapter 7, the use of tests and assessments in career counseling, Holland's SDS, MBTI, Strong Interest Inventory
- 10/11:** Chapter 8, effectively utilizing information in the career counseling process, interviewing client's
- 10/18:** Chapter 9, enhancing the career development process through the use of technology, CIS, GIS, DISCOVER, ONET
- 10/25:** Chapter 10: the relationship between education and career development, effective ways to enhance the career development process through education  
*Personal career assessment paper due*
- 11/1:** Chapter 11, effecting a positive job search, issues that mitigate against a successful job hunt
- 11/8:** Chapters 12 and 13, developing a comprehensive K-12 career development program in a school system, career development issues and construction in post-secondary educational systems  
*Second article review due*
- 11/15:** Chapters 14 and 15, career development in the private sector, career issues in business, becoming a career counselor/coach/consultant
- 11/22:** Chapter 4, Ethics and basic competencies necessary for career counseling practice
- 11/29** Poster sessions (*career resource center project due*)
- 12/6:** Final exam, course wrap-up