



**BAKER COLLEGE**  
**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**CSL5310 Clinical Counseling Skills**  
**3 Semester Credit Hours**

---

**Student Learning Outcomes and Enabling Objectives**

1. Examine counseling skills that are required to be a proficient counselor.
  - a. Practice fundamental counseling skills such as active listening, empathy, and paraphrasing.
  - b. Adapt communication strategies to engage diverse clients and address individual needs effectively.
  - c. Apply basic counseling skills effectively in simulated counseling sessions.
  - d. Translate feedback from peers and instructors to improve counseling skills.
  
2. Integrate counseling theory into practice.
  - a. Compare various counseling theories, including but not limited to psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioral, and humanistic approaches.
  - b. Apply counseling theories to case studies and role-play scenarios
  - c. Evaluate strengths and limitations of different counseling theories in clinical practice.
  
3. Apply cultural competence in counseling.
  - a. Explore cultural factors such as ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status that impact the counseling process.
  - b. Research how to adapt counseling approaches to meet the needs of clients from diverse cultural backgrounds.
  - c. Explore “Issues of Difference” that occur within the therapeutic relationship.
  - d. Investigate one’s own cultural biases for developing strategies to address them in counseling practice.
  
4. Examine the ethics and legal requirements in the practice of Counseling.
  - a. Explain ethical principles and standards relevant to counseling practice as outlined by professional organizations such as American Counseling Association (ACA), American Psychological Association (APA), or National Association of Social Work (NASW).
  - b. Apply ethical decision-making models to resolve ethical dilemmas commonly encountered in counseling practice.

- c. Examine relevant laws and regulations governing counseling practice in a given jurisdiction.
5. Explore the importance of self-reflection and professional development for the professional counselor.
  - a. Explain the need for ongoing self-reflection to identify areas of strength and areas for growth in counseling practice.
  - b. Examine how feedback can be used to enhance counseling skills and professional competence.
  - c. Explore opportunities and the need for continuing education and professional development to stay current in counseling.

## **Big Ideas and Essential Questions**

### **Big Ideas**

- Counseling Skills
- Personal Theory of Counseling
- Cultural Competence in Counseling
- Self-Reflection
- Professional Development

### **Essential Questions**

1. What are the counseling skills necessary to develop to meet professional expectations?
2. What is the role of theory in developing counseling skills?
3. What is a personal counseling theory and how is it developed?
4. How does a counselor develop cultural competence to work with diverse populations?
5. What is necessary for continuing professional development in counseling?

---

These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit.

**Effective: Fall 2024**