MSE Counseling Learning Agreement

Welcome,

The need for counselors is growing in school and mental health agencies. Faculty and students at Wayne State College are embarking on a shared experience of learning to fill this need. We are working to develop competent, ethical, and confident counselors.

Students often enter the program with experiences that suggest they will be effective as counselors. Within the program, students will learn how to provide professional counseling services beyond the intuitive, through the study of ethical practice, social and cultural diversity, human growth and development, helping relationships including theories and techniques of counseling, group work, assessment, research, and evaluation.

You should expect faculty to be knowledgeable about both theory, practice, and teaching. You should expect us to be thoughtful in creating learning experiences that will facilitate your acquisition of knowledge, skills, and ethical practice. You should expect a syllabus at the beginning of classes that indicates the key concepts and the learning activities. You should expect us to respect the experiences you bring with you and allow you to develop them and increase their meaning. You should expect faculty feedback on your work. You should expect faculty to be knowledgeable about ethical and professional standards of counselors.

Your faculty want to be sure you understand our expectations of you. We expect you to read the syllabi at the beginning of classes. In your learning, we expect you to read the texts, attend classes, and complete assignments as they are scheduled. Late assignments often lose meaning. We understand that you are adults and will have life events that will interfere in your study. We will attempt to assist. When you miss class, however, you miss both significant content and the social construction of meaning that occurs in the classroom. We believe that interferes with your learning.

We believe honesty, including academic honesty, is a core value of counselors. We expect you to develop responsibility and skills serving in counseling roles, including dressing professionally. We expect you to participate, through group work and discussion, in the preparation of all students.

We expect that you will be developing a professional identity while a graduate student. This is a process that takes time. We see this as a journey we are taking together. We invite your questions. We all need to be engaged in the questions, the curiosity, the skepticism, and the passion. “To do this you will have to agree to participate, to do your part by reading and thinking about the ideas addressed. Together we can work to make this experience one that matters in your life” (Warren and Fassett, 2011, page 4).

I have read the MSE Counseling Learning Agreement and have an understanding of the expectations of student and faculty.

Student signature ________________________

The counseling faculty: Cody Dickson, Steven Dinsmore, Adam Hardy, Branislava Knezevic, and Katherine Murphy