

MASTER PROGRAMME IN SCHOOL COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

(All courses carry 7.5 ECTS)

COU700 Master's thesis I (15 ECTS)

COU701 Master's thesis II (15 ECTS)

The thesis is a student's individual project, completed in two to three semesters and involves a topic which is consistent with the area of interest of the program.

COU601 Ethics in School Counseling and Guidance

This course explores the ethical code and basic criteria involved in practicing the profession of school counselor. It discusses the contemporary dimensions of human behavior in a socio-political and historical context, enabling the student to obtain a well-rounded view of the most significant dimensions in the field of counseling and guidance. The course looks at the relevant legislation and covers ethical and professional issues usually faced by a school counselor. This course is a prerequisite for courses which are related to the development of clinical and professional skills (e.g. Practicum courses).

COU602 Introduction to School Counseling and Guidance

This course aims at introducing the student to the role and duties of a school counselor. The course includes a review of the relevant literature and studies the theories and principles underlying the profession of school counselor and is aimed at educators and psychologists who are beginning their postgraduate studies in this area. Issues relating to the assistive role of the professional school counselor and the development of counseling and guidance skills constitute the core of the class.

COU603 Methods and Tools for Assessment and Evaluation in Counseling

The course provides students with an introduction to the use of educational and psychological methods of assessments which can be utilized by school counselors. It covers the selection, administration, and scoring of a variety of tools and techniques for assessment, such as the use of standardized measures, control measures, structured interview, systematic observation – and the interpretation and effective use of the results obtained from the assessment. Emphasis is given to the application of a model of problem analysis for addressing students' educational and behavioral difficulties and needs. The model defines educational and behavioral problems within the

school context, studies the reasons behind them and examines potential problem solving strategies.

COU604 Research Methods in Education

The course focuses on study design, definition and testing of research hypotheses, procedures and measurement of variables, data collection, organization and analysis, statistical analysis (SPSS), and writing up of a scientific project.

COU605 Vocational Guidance and Counseling I

This course has as main goal the evaluation of topics of personal and professional development such as: Lifelong career development, theories of professional orientation, process of decision making and diversity issues. Another goal of the course is the understanding of basic counseling tools, more specifically, the interview, individual and group counseling and the instruction of the professional guidance class. An especially important aim of the course is the familiarity of the students with questionnaires regarding counseling and professional orientation, their administration and interpretation. Also, the course offers the chance for preoccupation with issues which may support or affect the process of counseling for example parent counseling, people with disabilities and people from various social groups. It is also important to note, that the information used for professional orientation is from multiple sources is checked for validity and reliability and is correctly utilized.

COU606 Learning Difficulties

Students with learning difficulties tend to present deficits in five basic areas: working memory, attention, applying strategies, knowledge of vocabulary and coding of speech. Weaknesses in these areas influence learning in many of the elements of the school curriculum. The guidance of students with learning difficulties needs special emphasis in these areas. This means that guidance and counseling must be utilized in such a way that the basis of the students' performance levels be defined by yearly goals and should be monitored continuously with the aim of personal development for the student. In this course, school counselors will learn about the characteristics of students with learning difficulties and the methods of teaching and intervention which can be utilized as well as specific strategies used to enhance the students at both individual and group level.

COU607 Prevention and Treatment of Crises in the School

This course focuses on designing, implementing, and assessing prevention and treatment programs for dealing with crises in the schools. Emphasis is given to the prevention and treatment of personal, interpersonal, and social problems through programs and processes which implicate and utilize the entire school system, the parents, educators, and students. Students in the course are trained in identifying the school system's needs, in the methodology of creating and implementing prevention and intervention programs and in the empirical evaluation of their effectiveness.

COU608 Intercultural Counseling and Minority Counseling

This course emphasizes the development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes for the most effective counseling and guidance by the school counselor for

individuals with diverse characteristics, such as culture, race, gender, sexual orientations, religious preferences, and special learning difficulties and developmental disorders. Special attention is given to the development of awareness and alertness of the school counselor with regard to the values and beliefs of various individuals as they pertain to counseling and guidance in the context of a diverse society. The course provides ways by which the student can conceptualize how diverse values, beliefs and traditions, forms of interaction, social circumstances and trends are related to cultural and ethnic differences which can influence counseling.

COU650 Innovation and Creativity in Education

This course explores the importance of creativity and innovation, as current social and educational themes, to the extent to which skills such as flexibility, adapting to change, and lifelong learning are promoted on an international level in response to the crises and challenges of the current era.

COU651 Theory and Practice of Educational Science

This course addresses the following topics: Concept and areas of Educational Science; Fields of Education; The pedagogic relationship: Features and conditions; Research methods in Educational Science; The evolution of Educational Science; Psychological development of the child and the educational process; Goals and means of teaching; Factors of teaching (family, preschool, and secondary education); Free time and education; Play; Discipline; and The pedagogical role of the educator.

COU652 Skills development at school

Social and emotional skills. Skills and school success. Skills and didactic models. Skills and current approaches. The dynamics of groups. Ways of including social skills in teaching. The role and skills of the educator. Putting skills into practice (e.g. self-esteem, conflict resolution, empathy, self-worth). Skills and non verbal communication. Benefits of education in socio emotional skills.

COU653 Technologies of Information and Communication in Education

Theories of learning and Technologies of Information and Communication (TIC). Benefits of the use of TIC in the educational process. Methodology of Blended Learning. Tools of TIC for the development of educational themes (logistics, platforms, visual learning environment, videoconferencing, etc.). Communication tools and cooperation. Games for electronic learning. Exploiting interactive whiteboard learning. The role of TIC in the Analytic School Program.

COU654 Human Resource Management in Education

In the season of postmodernity, the importance of investment in human resources in education (both private and public) is being acknowledged, with the main aim of maximizing returns. The selection of appropriate staff, training and education, motives, increase of production, evaluation of results and current methods of stimulation for better results in education units, comprise of the most important didactic themes of the course.

COU655 Social Education

This course aims at discussing the socio-psychological bases of the educational process. Students will have the opportunity to learn about basic theories regarding the development and reduction of prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination and how these apply to the educational context. The phenomenon of immigration as well as that of national conflict will be discussed, in addition to the role of the educational system in establishing peace with the implementation of theories. A discussion will take place regarding the role of counselors in the educational system, special education legislation, the relationship between ideology and education policy, as well as developing intervention programs in relation to intercultural education.

COU656 Curriculum Development and Micro-teaching

The course covers the design, evaluation, and revision of Curriculum Plans as well as how micro-teaching (i.e., mini lessons) can be used as a vehicle of providing in-service teachers with an opportunity to improve their teaching skills. During the design and organization of the lesson plan, the educator is expected to rely on the knowledge relating to micro-teaching. Students attending the course will practice the techniques of micro-teaching and micro-lessons.

COU657 Current Issues in Education

Current Issues in education (e.g. education of peace). Programs in education (health education, environmental education, cultural themes, etc.). The European distention in education. The school environment and its effect on learning. Free time and its utilization in learning. Home schooling: the teaching of the future. School Abuse and bullying. Alternative teaching strategies for students in danger. Effect of economic situation on learning and teaching.

COU661 Minority groups, social exclusion and life-long learning

The aim of this course is to help students develop methods for supporting minority students and families (immigrants, refugees, single parents, individuals with socially problematic behavior, individuals with disabilities, individuals with issues such as substance abuse, released ex-prisoners, etc), and generally, groups that are socially excluded and have difficulties in adjustment. Some other goals of this course have to do with the development of educational approaches that promote the communication and cooperation with the above groups and the elimination of social stereotypes against them.

COU659 Sociology of Education

The aim of this course is to study education as a multifaceted social institution for transferring knowledge but also for reproducing existing social, economic, and cultural structures. The course explores the development of the educational institution through the basic theories explaining the structure and most importantly the functions of education, as well as its relation to the broader changes in educational systems on an international level. Furthermore, the course examines the school class as a

social subset and explores the main factors and the relationships between these factors in the context of school action.

COU660 Educators as Professionals

The course discusses topics pertaining to the daily practices and routines of the educator in the school and his/her relation with organizations and externally organized entities. Emphasis is given to analyzing the standard and essential qualifications which a successful educator needs to possess in order to maintain a safe and effective school environment for the benefit of students.

20 ECTS

COU789 Practicum I (in Public Schools)

COU790 Practicum II (in Public Schools)

COU791 Practicum I (in Private Schools and other sites)

COU792 Practicum II (in Private Schools and other sites)

This course brings the student in direct contact with the work place and places him/her in the school unit. In addition, it provides students with the opportunity to synthesize and integrate the knowledge and skills they have acquired during the program and implement them in the school environment. Thus, this course acts as a medium for the professional development of the school counselor.

COU 610 Psychology of Education

This course presents the contribution of psychological and counseling research and educational practice. It aims to discuss relevant issues which involve Psychology and Counseling that concern educators. It critically examines contemporary theories regarding human development (cognitive, ethical, social and emotional development) as well as current learning theories. Additionally, it examines topics such as individual differences which may present themselves in the above themes and the factors which influence these. Finally, it evaluates the relationship between family and school, the opportunities for cooperation between the teacher, the parent and the school board.

COU 611 Counseling Psychology

This course aims to present the major theories of Counseling Psychology and to help the student become familiar with the corresponding counseling techniques. More specifically, the following theories and methods of counseling are critically discussed: Psychoanalytic theory (Freud), Neo Freudian/egopsychological theories (Erikson, Adler), rational-emotive (Ellis), Transactional (Burns), Behavioral (Wolpe, Dollard & Miller), Person-centered (Rogers), Existentialist (May, Frankl) and Gestalt (Perls). Special emphasis is placed on the process, theoretical and practical, of the psychological interview.

COU612 Contemporary Theories of Human Development

The main theories of human development from conception to the end of life will be critically presented and discussed. There will also be discussions concerning intra-personal and inter-personal influences on biological, cognitive, emotional, and social development.

COU613 Child and Adolescent Psychopathology

This course will review the most common disorders of childhood and adolescence with an emphasis on diagnostic criteria, developmental course, possible etiologies and the role of the environmental factors in the presentation and maintenance of the problem. Scientifically based treatments for these disorders will also be discussed.

COU614 Psychology of Instruction

This course is designed for graduate students in School Counselling and Guidance program who are interested in applied research and/or practice that aims to support and improve the effectiveness of instruction and the learning that takes place in schools. Teaching of students and guidance of teachers is examined in specific educational contexts and contents, and in relation to factors that have been found to influence it. Specific topics are organized into themes that include: (a) nature and conditions of classroom learning; (b) models of instruction, domain-specific instructional approaches, instructional effectiveness; (c) aptitude – treatment/method interactions; (d) alternative instructional and assessment approaches; (e) teacher knowledge and beliefs, expertise in teaching; (f) evaluation and intervention at the level of the school, the classroom, and the teacher.

COU615 Family and Child Development

This course examines the influence of structural and functional characteristics of the family microsystem on the developing child. The broader theories of development and function of the family are discussed, with particular emphasis on the systemic perspective. Current research on the interaction between intra and inter-individual variables that are related to the child's cognitive, psycho-social and personality development are also presented.

COU616 Vocational Guidance and Counseling II

The objective of this course is to educate students on matters of vocational education and career development, through the study of contemporary sources which are useful tools widely used by career counselors. Students will be able to create their personal database through presentations from internal or external partners of the University community. Emphasis is placed on the learning of classroom management skills and innovation - entrepreneurship skills and on their application in the educational system. This is the continuation course of COU605 - Vocational Guidance and Counselling.

COU609 Adult Education

The Education of Adults internationally: problems and issues. Basic representatives and their Theories. Strategy and Educational Techniques. Critical Thought and Art. Experiential Activities. Program Development for Adult Education. Micro-teaching and micro - learning in Adult Education.