

**COUNSELING AND EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**  
**COU 891 ISSUES AND TRENDS IN COUNSELING**  
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Critical examination of current issues and trends in counseling research.

**PRE-REQUISITES:** None. (This is an elective course which will transfer to most programs)

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Access to most recent edition of the APA Publication Manual  
Online access through ECU library to past 12 months of ACA's Journal of Counseling and Development (or appropriate substitute for discipline as approved by instructor)

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** At the conclusion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify general current issues and trends in the greater discipline of counseling through journals, research materials, and conference attendance.
2. Identify general current issues and trends in a specialty area of counseling (such as school or mental health counseling) through journals, research materials, and conference attendance
3. Write a research paper on the general current issues and trends in counseling
4. Submit a research paper for publication on a specific current issue and trend in counseling to a state, regional or national juried journal..
5. Conduct a professional development training on a specific current issue and trend in counseling.

**COE NCATE MODEL:** "Effective Counselors as Effective People"

**COURSE OUTLINE AND REQUIREMENTS:**

**COU 891 Issues and Trends in Counseling: Spring Conference**

COU 891 is an **elective, online course** that will utilize the Spring Kentucky School Counselor Association (KSCA) conference, journals, and other research to evaluate the current issues and trends in counseling. The student **MUST** register and attend the entire KSCA conference plus register **AND** attend a one day pre-conference program at KSCA. KSCA conference registration information is available on their website at: [www.kyschoolcounselor.org](http://www.kyschoolcounselor.org). The class will have an initial organizational meeting at the KSCA conference at Thursday at noon in front of the registration desk, and will finish the course online by the end of the Spring semester. This is an elective course that is open to all graduate students in school counseling or the mental health field. If you are not a current ECU student, you will need to take the course as a non-degree seeking/visiting student and contact the ECU graduate school for special admission questions. ECU's school and mental health counseling programs are accredited through CACREP which

enhances the transferability of this course **as an elective** to other graduate degree or certification programs. Registration for the course automatically creates access to the COU 891 Blackboard course which contains the syllabus. For other questions, contact [SUE.STRONG@EKU.EDU](mailto:SUE.STRONG@EKU.EDU) and check the EKU online schedule book for course information and details.

1. Write a ten page minimum research paper (using APA style) on one specific current issue or trend in counseling and (You may work with other people inside or outside the class and have additional authors of the paper) **HOWEVER, ALL STUDENTS MUST PREPARE A PAPER AND BE THE PRIMARY AUTHOR OF THE PAPER.**
2. Submit your paper for publication in a state, regional, or national journal and submit it for instructor and peer review on Discussion Board in Blackboard. (see Blackboard for publication tips).
3. Present your research paper as a power point presentation (in an appropriate professional development format) for your work setting, to the community, to a class, or at a conference. In addition, submit your power point presentation for instructor and peer review on Discussion Board in Blackboard.
4. The presentation **MUST** be evaluated by the attendees using any evaluation instrument of your choosing, and you must submit a brief, summative report of the evaluation results for peer review on Discussion Board in Blackboard.

**EVALUATION:**

Paper 200 points, presentation 50 points = 250 total points for the course. (90%=A, 80%=B, 70%=C, Below 70%=F)

**LAST DAY TO DROP:**

See EKU website and schedule book.

**ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY:**

The Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology does not knowingly engage in any activities that discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or age. We welcome diversity in our students, faculty, supervisors, and clients.

**OFFICE OF SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** See Blackboard for statement.