**Wayland Mission Statement**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Contact Information**

**Course**

: CNSL 5317 VC01 – Child Counseling

**Campus**

: WBUonline

**Term/Session**

**:** Summer 2025

**Instructor**

**:** Dr. Thomas H Thomson

**Office Phone Number**

**:** 806-773-3264 (This is my cell phone. Feel free to call or text. Please identify yourself in your voicemail or text message.)

**WBU Email Address**

**:** thomas.thomson@wayland.wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location**

**:** Virtual

**Class Meeting Time and Location**

**:** Virtual

**Course Information**

**Catalog Description**

**:** Survey of different approaches in counseling children; application of counseling models to children with varying social/emotional problems; diagnosis, assessment, case formulations/treatment plans and ethical consideration; parent and child interviewing strategies; play therapy; current research trends, theoretical and legal considerations, and practice-related issues.

**There is no prerequisite for this course**.

**Textbook Information**

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials**

**:** Donna A Henderson. **Counseling Children**.  Cengage: 9th edition, 2016. ISBN: 9781285464541

*The textbook for this course is part of the* ***Wayland’s Automatic eBook*** *program. You will have access to an eBook and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this Automatic eBook will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Automatic eBook program, you will have the first 12 days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Automatic eBook program, visit the Wayland Bookstore* [*Automatic eBook FAQ*](https://bookstore.wbu.edu/site_inclusive.asp) *page.*

**Optional Materials**

**:**  None

**Course Outcome Competencies**

**:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

* Understand the development of children—physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual
* Examine major problem areas for children—and recognize types of pathology and make proper judgments regarding the need for consultation and /or referral
* Examine techniques used in counseling the child
* Examine alternatives to traditional “talk therapy” for working with people 2 years to 12 years.
* Evaluate the need for special counseling techniques for children and less verbal clients
* Demonstrate and apply knowledge of the social, educational and legal issues/considerations concerning individuals with exceptionalities
* Demonstrate and apply knowledge of socio-cultural and linguistic factors that influence perceptions of disability, quality of life, and services for person with special needs from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

**Attendance Requirements**

WBUonline

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 2 or more weeks of an 8-week session, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given session is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

**University Policies**

[Link to Statement on Academic Integrity , and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:](https://www.wbu.edu/academics/writing-center/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement%20Pol%208.4.1%20Attch%20Oct%2020222.pdf)

1. No use of any generative AI tools permitted.
   1. Students are required to create and produce all work themselves or with assigned group members. Any work submitted that has used an AI generative tool like Chat GPT will be in immediate violation of the academic integrity policies for the course and WBU.
   2. All assignments must be fully created, designed, and prepared by the student(s).
   3. Any work that uses generative AI will be treated as plagiarism.

**Disability Statement**

**:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Disability Services Coordinator and Academic Coach serves as the coordinator of students with disabilities and must be contacted concerning accommodation requests (office (806) 291-1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Rick Hammer, [hammerr@wbu.edu](mailto:hammerr@wbu.edu) or call (806) 292-9150.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria**

**Online discussions (100 points)**

Students will participate in online discussions each week. Students are expected to submit postings with punctuality and are expected to check the online class at least three to four times each week and complete weekly postings in the discussion board. This averages out to be about 5-7 hours per week of online activities, as well as navigating and conducting research over the web. All initial posts should be submitted by 11:59 p.m. each Sunday. Students are expected to respond each week to two or more of the posts of classmates from the posts of the previous week. Responses to other students should be submitted by 11:59 p.m. each Sunday. For example, the Week 1 Discussion Board for Chapters 1, 2, and 4 is due on Sunday, June 8th. On Sunday, June 15th, the Week 2 Discussion Board is due and the responses to the Week 1 Discussion Board are also due at the same time. If you have questions, let me know.

**Child Counseling Research Assignment (100 pts)**

According to the Centers for Disease Control, one in five children experience a diagnosable mental health disorder during childhood or adolescence. When this occurs, it impacts an entire family including parents, siblings, extended family, and other persons who provide care for the child. As a professional in the field of mental health, you may need to provide resources and information about organizations that can give support to a family and/or a child who is experiencing the mental health issue.

Below is a list of organizations with their websites that can easily be found on the internet who are committed to providing help for children and their families. Your assignment is to choose one of the organizations, explore their website, find out what kind of resources and support they provide, and write a report of 4 to 6 pages evaluating how you could use this information in working with a family and a child in need.

There is no specific report style that is required.  Use your best judgment and your creativity in producing the report.

**Child Mind Institute**

[**childmind.org**](https://childmind.org/)

**Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut**

[**kidsmentalhealthinfo.com**](https://www.kidsmentalhealthinfo.com/)

**Association of Children's Mental Health**

[**acmh-mi.org**](http://www.acmh-mi.org/)

**National Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health**

[**ffcmh.org**](https://www.ffcmh.org/)

**Midterm Exam (100 pts)**

The midterm is an open book exam and will cover the learning blocks of materials from Chapters 1-9.

**Final Exam (100 pts)**

The final is an open book exam and will cover major learning blocks of materials from Chapters 10-20.

**Grading Criteria:**

**Weekly online discussion board assignments 100 pts**

**Midterm 100 pts**

**Final exam 100 pts**

**Child Counseling Research Assignment 100 pts**

**Total 400 pts**

**A = 360-400**

**B = 320-359**

**C = 280-319**

**D = 240-279**

**F = below 240**

**The University has a standard grade scale:**

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term, within the last week of an 8-week session, or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long 16-week term or 8-week session, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion.  If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

**Student Grade Appeals**

**:** Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Tentative Schedule**

CNSL 5317 Child Counseling Class Schedule

Spring 1 2025

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| Week | Readings | Assignment Due |
| Week 1  June 2-8 | Welcome to Child Counseling (In Blackboard)  Ch 1 Introduction to a Child’s World  Ch 2 Developmental and Cultural Considerations  Ch 4 Legal and Ethical Considerations for Counselors | **First Required Assignment is due by June 5th**  Week 1 Discussion Board |
| Week 2  June 9-15 | Ch 3 The Counseling Process  Ch 5 Psychoanalytic Counseling  Ch 6 Person-Centered Counseling | Week 2 Discussion Board  Week 1 Responses |
| Week 3  June 16-22 | Ch 7 Gestalt Therapy  Ch 8 Behavioral Counseling  Ch 9 Reality Therapy Counseling with Choice Theory | Week 3 Discussion Board  Week 2 Responses |
| Week 4  June 23-29 | Ch 10 Brief Counseling  Ch 11 Individual Psychology  Ch 12 Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy | Week 4 Discussion Board  Week 3 Responses |
| **June 20-29** | **Midterm** | **Midterm** |
| Week 5  June 30-July 6  July 4 Holiday  No assignments due | Ch 13 Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy  Ch 14 Transactional Analysis  Ch 15 Family Counseling | Week 5 Discussion Board  Week 4 Responses  July 7 Last day to drop class with “W” |
| Week 6  July 7-13 | Ch 16 Consultation and Collaboration  Ch 17 Play Therapy  Ch 18 Group Counseling with Children | Week 6 Discussion Board  Week 5 Responses |
| Week 7  July 14-20 | Ch 19 Counseling Children with Special Concerns  Ch 20 Counseling Children with Disabilities | Week 7 Discussion Board  Week 6 Responses  Feb 18 Last day to drop class with a “WP/WF” |
| **Week 8**  **July 21-26** | **Child Counseling Research Paper Due July 25th** | **Paper due by July 25** |
| **July 18-26** | **Final Exam** | **Final Exam** |

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