I. Title: GUI 684 Problems

II. Catalog Description: This course is designed for advanced graduate students who want to work on special problems in guidance and counseling according to individual needs. Staff supervision should be arranged prior to enrollment. Approval of instructor is required. May be repeated for credit.

III. Purpose: The purpose of this course is to provide the basic knowledge and skills in assessing (appraising) an individual’s cognitive, affective, academic and behavioral performance. This course is intended to assist students in their counseling and educational evaluation/diagnosis of developmental disorders in children in preschool through high school.

IV. Course Objectives:

A. Investigate the current issues facing school counselors.
B. Review the literature on the issue related to school counseling.
C. Relate the practical implications and practices.
D. Present the results in a *PowerPoint* format.

*Orientation/Perspective*
This course is an independent study where you and the instructor agree on the specific content area that will be of benefit to you and your work. Besides specific knowledge there may be development of action steps and plans for implementation of the ideas you have found. But remember this is the equivalent of a class. Time and high quality work are expected. You will need to work with the instructor in the development of your project. There are four main areas to the problems course and you must get the instructors approval as you work through each phase of your project. (See agreement sheet) Your work must demonstrate your commitment to doing quality work on your own. Besides the major paper you will be required to develop a power point presentation to be posted to the blackboard. **Major paper means 20-22 pages (double spaced 12 point font, and 1 inch margins) for a B and-30 pages for an A grade. This does not include bibliography, cover page or table of contents.**

**Phase I: The General Area of Study**
This phase requires you to think carefully about what you are interested in studying. This is the big picture. Examples of this might be “at-risk youth.” You must get the instructor to agree that this is indeed an area worth your time and attention. You must have the instructor sign off before you move on. **You must have this completed by the end of the first 2 weeks!** Failure to have this completed by this time may result in a lower grade!
**Phase II: Information Gathering**

This phase requires you to do a preliminary library search. You must look up at least 10 articles on the subject that you agreed to in I above. In the example from I above at-risk youth was your area. After looking at 10 articles you should get a much clearer focus of the specific area you want to study about at-risk youth. To demonstrate this you must do the following: 1. List the bibliographic data; 2. Summarize the article. You then meet with the instructor to decide on the definite focus and specifics of your work. **This must be completed by the end of the next two weeks. ‘DATE’!** Failure to miss this deadline may result in lowering of your grade.

**Phase III: Specific Target and Focus**

With the help of your instructor list the specific focus of your work. **For example:** Educational Strategies for Increasing At-risk Youth’s Basic Academic Skills. You then will get this signed off on by the instructor. You will also agree to the specific content areas. Example: 1. The Problem…this is where you have your introductory remarks and lay the stage for what you will do in this paper; 2. Review of current relevant research. Remember you must do an extensive job; 3. Practical implications and practices that you can implement or “how to make it work”; 4. Concluding remarks and reflection on what you have learned; 5. Bibliography 6. Power Point Presentation posted to the blackboard. **This should be agreed upon with specifics by ‘DATE’**.

**Phase IV: The Professional Paper & Power Point Presentation on blackboard**

Final paper of high quality- well written and in APA Style! Due by ‘DATE’

**Power Point posted by ‘DATE’**

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**THE FORMAL AGREEMENT SHEET**

For Gui 684

**NAME:** ________________________________________________

**PHASE I: General Area** Due ‘DATE’

Instructor Signature___________________________________ Date___________

**PHASE II: Information Gathering** Due ‘DATE’

Ten articles reviewed ____ Date___________
PHASE III: Specific Target Area and Focus Due by ‘DATE’

The area:____________________________________________________

Specifics To Be Included: Problem____ Review of Literature____ Implications____
Applications_______Conclusion__

Other additions:

Instructor Signature_____________________________________ Date___________

PHASE IV: A. Professional Paper  Due by ‘DATE’.

Number of pages_______ High quality_____ APA Style_______
All Specifics from III above____

Date___________________

B. Power Point Presentation  Due by ‘DATE’

Develop a Power Point Presentation to be posted to the blackboard. You are also
required to read and react to others presentations.

Date Power Point Posted__________________

CONTRACT COMPLETELY SATISFIED ON

DATE___________________

GRADE______

Comments: