2014 MF Emphasis Comprehensive Exam Score and
Site Supervisor Evaluation Summary
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A summative evaluation of counseling program students usually occurs by two methods, an academic examination and an evaluation of actual counseling skills demonstrated in practicum and/or internship coursework. The following data and analyses of the data represent the summative evaluation of the 27 Marriage and Family (MF) Emphasis students in the 2014 cohort group (one student deferred graduation and also the MF Comprehensive Exam until December 2014, thus reducing the N value by one for the Comprehensive Examination part of this report).

Comprehensive Examination

The same comprehensive examination used with last year's MF cohort was used again in 2014. This exam had previously been subjected to several reliability and item analyses and found to be reliable. The mean score of the 50 item, multiple choice exam was found to be 35.85 with a standard deviation of 6.36 with N = 26. The KR-20 reliability coefficient was found to be 0.83. This compares to a mean score of 38.44 (SD = 5.61, N = 37, KR-20 = .80) the previous year (2013). Three students missed the cutoff score this year compared to three students the previous year. These students were retested and subsequently passed. The percentage of students passing this test the first time administered decreased slightly from 91.6% in 2013 to 88.5% in 2014. All of these data can be interpreted as representative of excellent performance.

Site Supervisor Evaluations

These 27 MF students were also rated by their Practicum and Internship A and B site supervisors. Some students may have had different site supervisors for each of these three field experiences and/or more than one practicum/internship site, thus more than one site supervisor. Therefore, ratings across all three field experiences (Practicum, Internship A and Internship B) were used in the analysis of this cohort group. The Supervisor's Evaluation of Student Form has 15 items rated on a 1 to 5 Likert scale as follows: 1. Far Below Expectations; 2. Below Expectations; 3. Acceptable; 4. Above Expectations; and, 5. Far Above Expectations. The means and standard deviations for each of the items across all three field experiences were calculated. The results are shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Means and Standard Deviations of Site Supervisor Ratings

Item	Mean	SD
The student…		
1. Displays understanding of the basic principles of human growth and how this facilitates learning and the counseling process.	3.95	.747
2. Demonstrates a clear and concise understanding of the various counseling theories, techniques and procedures.	3.81	.779
3. Has developed a therapeutic style of counseling that is theory-based.	3.84	.807
4. Understands the dynamics of the individual behavior in the counseling process and is knowledgeable about techniques of behavior change.	3.95	.787
5. Is able to accurately assess client needs, reach an appropriate diagnosis and develop a coherent treatment plan.	3.82	.806
6. Can communicate effectively with clients and assist clients in integrating information into their current lifestyle.	4.07	.804
7. Is empathetic, understanding and genuine in interactions with client behaviors and value systems even when different from their own.	4.29	.718
8. Develops and maintains supportive relationships with others including staff, supervisors and other professionals.	4.13	.740
9. Demonstrates emotional stability, security, confidence and an ability to take initiative.	4.13	.868
10. Recognizes personal limitations and is open to appropriate supervision.	4.18	.815
11. Demonstrates understanding and respect for diverse cultural, ethnic, sexual and social backgrounds.	4.21	.754
12. Conducts oneself in a professional manner with clients; respects the rights of others.	4.22	.755
13. Establishes and maintains relationships consistent with ethical standards.	4.07	.729
14. Completes assigned responsibilities in a timely and competent manner; maintains accurate records on clients and their own professional practice.	3.97	.758
15. Is willing and able to make referrals to other professionals when faced with issues beyond their level of training or expertise.	3.87	.846

Overall mean ratings on the 15 items ranged from 3.81 to 4.29 indicating student performance in the "Acceptable" to "Above Expectations" range across all items. The three highest rated items included: "Is empathetic, understanding and genuine in interactions with clients; projects acceptance of client's behaviors and value systems even when different from one's own" (M = 4.29). "Conducts oneself in a professional manner

with clients; respects the rights of others" (M = 4.22). "Demonstrates understanding and respect for diverse cultural, ethnic, sexual and social backgrounds" (M = 4.21).

The lowest three rated items included: "Has developed a therapeutic style of counseling that is theory-based" (M = 3.84). "Demonstrates a clear and concise understanding of the various counseling theories, techniques and procedures" (M = 3.81). "Is able to accurately assess client needs, reach an appropriate diagnosis and develop a coherent treatment plan" (M = 3.82).

Conclusion

The analyses of these data confirm that this 2014 student cohort has demonstrated excellent understanding of the academic material presented in the MSCP MF Emphasis as exhibited by the Comprehensive Examination results. It also illustrates the students' successful demonstration of counseling skills and competencies taught in the program as evaluated by independent, licensed field supervisors.