



# Perspectives of a K-12 School Counselor

## Course Syllabus

### Course Description

The purpose of this professional development course is to delve into the multifaceted roles of K-12 school counselors and their relationships with key stakeholders: administrators, teachers, parents, and students. Participants will gain diverse perspectives on how each stakeholder group impacts and is impacted by the counseling process. By exploring these dynamics, counselors will learn how to adapt their practices to effectively address the unique needs of each group, fostering positive communication and collaboration. Through case studies and practical examples, the course will equip participants with the skills to strengthen these partnerships and create a more supportive, effective educational environment for all students.

This course enhances classroom teaching effectiveness and supports improved student outcomes by introducing new knowledge in building collaborative relationships between K–12 school counselors and key stakeholders to support student success.

### Course Objectives

At the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Describe the definition and purpose of school counseling.
2. Describe the role of administrators in supporting counseling practices.
3. Develop effective strategies for collaborating with teachers to support the academic, social, and emotional needs of students, while enhancing communication and teamwork skills to build productive relationships and utilizing resources to foster student success.
4. Demonstrate the skills to recognize the critical role of parent involvement in student development, implement effective communication strategies with parents, and foster trust while addressing sensitive issues to enhance collaboration and support student success.
5. Identify diverse needs and experiences, empower their peers' voices in counseling processes, and develop strategies to build rapport and foster positive, supportive relationships.
6. Evaluate strategies for advocacy, resource allocation, and promoting equity and inclusion, while collaborating effectively with community resources to support students within the school environment.
7. Analyze the impact of relationships on school climate, identify best practices for fostering a supportive environment, and evaluate the effectiveness of counseling programs in promoting student well-being.
8. Examine the importance of ongoing professional development for counselors, learn how to navigate ethical considerations and dilemmas in school counseling, and stay informed about best practices and emerging research in the field.



### **Modules**

- Module 1: Introduction to School Counseling, Quiz 1
- Module 2: Building Relationships with Administrators, Quiz 2
- Module 3: Collaborating with Teachers, Quiz 3
- Module 4: Engaging with Parents and Guardians, Quiz 4
- Module 5: Understanding Student Perspectives, Quiz 5
- Module 6: Advocating for Student Needs, Quiz 6
- Module 7: Creating a Supportive School Environment, Quiz 7
- Module 8: Professional Development and Ethics in School Counseling, Quiz 8

### **Grading:**

Each quiz must be passed at an 80% or higher (three attempts allowed).

### **Format**

This is a self-paced, asynchronous (no required live meetings) course. Throughout the PD course, you will find it helpful to take notes along the way to assist with the quizzes. Within each module, you will find reflection assessments that are not graded but will help in your journey through the course. There is an interactive forum in the course to help you connect with peers and instructors, share ideas, and collaborate on best practices throughout your learning journey.