

COUC 504

CULTURAL BACKGROUND PAPER ASSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

OVERVIEW

In this paper, you will describe the background of your parents or primary caregivers in regards to family culture and how this background impacts you both personally and professionally as a counselor. If you have a multi-racial background, pick the 2 most predominant cultures represented from your family background. You will consider how your cultural background influenced the family system patterns found in your family of origin, your identity development, and the role of culture and social justice in your counseling theoretical perspective. Specifically, you will look at some of the research describing people from your background, explore internet resources related to your culture, and interview your parents/significant care givers or other significant family members to get information. Below you will find further information.

INSTRUCTIONS

Please utilize the guidelines noted below in completing this assignment:

- This paper should be around 2000 words. Please note that the quality of your answer is important, and use the approximate words count noted in each section (#1 - #4) as you craft your responses for each section.
- Please use the current APA style which is the 7th edition of the APA publication manual that includes information on appropriate formatting for section headings, levels of section headings, in-text citations (narrative and parenthetical), and references. In addition, review the sample professional paper for further specifics on APA formatting. For more information on APA formatting and sample papers, use **APA Format Quick Guide** located in the **Cultural Background Paper Resource** section.
- Scholarly (peer-reviewed) sources are required and must be published within the last 5 years. A minimum of five scholarly (5) sources are required for this assignment, and you are welcome to use more as needed in your research.
- Acceptable scholarly sources include journal articles, scholarly websites, relevant chapters from the McGoldrick et al. supplemental e-book. (E-book link for McGoldrick et al. located in syllabus.) NOTE: The Hays and Erford can be used as one of required sources.
- In addition to the five (5) scholarly (peer-reviewed) sources, a minimum of two (2) Internet/media sources related to your culture should be utilized. These can include (but not limited to) periodical websites (newspapers, magazine) and organizational websites. (Online journal databases would be scholarly sources and not internet/media sources.)
- First person may be used in this paper.
- **For clarification, the Cultural Background Paper is not a focus on your family history, family genealogy, or family biography, but rather a focus on your cultural identity as it relates to the questions you will address in the assignment.**

For the two parts of this assignment, address the following prompts, and organize the paper based on the prompts using appropriate section heading and sub-section heading format:

Cultural Background Paper

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