



CED PST 313 Student Development (for Resident Assistants) (3)

Fall & Winter, 2003 & 2004

Instructor: Wendy Thomas

Contacting the Instructor

Class Times:

Class Location:

Office Phone:: 571-2550

Office:

Office Hours:

Email Address: wthomas@cbhcts.ca

Course Objectives

To provide orientation and preparation for the responsibilities of R.A. ministry.

To extend opportunities to evaluate personal strengths and weaknesses for ministry of this nature.

To examine various leadership styles and to determine the leadership skills that are necessary for effectively fulfilling the student-life goals established by the faculty.

To provide teaching on basic helping skills needed for affective peer counselling.

To communicate various Biblical principles applicable to personal growth issues or interpersonal relationship concerns.

To understand the history and philosophy of student development.

Course Requirements

Job Description and Class

Peer Counselling is an academic class with practical applications for the role of the Resident Assistant. It is important that the student in this class recognize that the R.A. position has a job description as well as particular criteria for this class. Peer Counselling has a syllabus that is to be viewed as an academic course for college credit. While the job of an R.A. is to be viewed as a ministry position for pastoral care development, leadership experience, community involvement and personal growth, there are also the requirements of class credit that cannot be overlooked. This is a three-credit course over the two semesters. There will be one skip per semester.

Summer Assignments

(30%)

The following summer assignments are given to help the R.A. in his/her preparation for the leadership responsibilities of the position.

- Floor Meetings (4)
- Socials (2)
- Personal Reflection Paper
- Read "In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership", by Henri Nouwen
- Community Guidelines

Floor Meetings (4)

The R.A. is required to submit a detailed outline for the first four floor meetings of the year. **Please note the following:**

Floor Meeting #1. **Community Guidelines** will need to be included in the first floor meeting. This meeting has the potential to set the atmosphere for the entire year, so plan carefully. (Please leave your email address on the form being passed around this afternoon so any changes to the Community Guidelines can be sent).

Floor Meeting #2. Your second floor meeting will need to include some time for administering a **Personal Profile** measure that will take approximately 15 minutes to fill out.

Other areas to keep in mind when planning floor meetings are: a floor vision, theme, purpose, and goals, length, unity building exercises, special guests, music....

Floor Socials (2)

Plan in detail two quality socials that will occur in the first semester: include date, time, length, location, and vehicles, etc. Include the following: a "to do" check list that will include activities, resources, personnel, etc.

Personal Reflection Paper and Calgary Residence

This paper is to be a recollection of your first days in residence. It will cover insights of your own journey including: your feelings at the time, what things were very positive and what things were difficult or troubling, your first impressions of your R.A., and your general impressions of what the R.A. could have done to make your introduction to college life a more positive experience. (2-3 pgs)

New to us this year I would like you to take a page to consider life in Calgary and your part in creating our new residence community. (2-3 pgs)

Assignment must be typed, and double-spaced.

Community Guidelines and Changes

Acknowledge with your signature that you have read over the Community Guidelines outlined in the Student Handbook and changes, in preparation for discussion during Leadership Retreat.

Summer Assignments

Floor Meetings (4), Socials (2), Reflection Paper & Community Guidelines:

Due July 25th

(will contact you with mailing address but encourage you to email me by this date)

Leadership Retreat and Orientation

Leadership Retreat (5%)

All Resident Assistants are required to attend this time of team building and training. We will begin on Thursday, August 28, 2003 in Calgary. (Location & time TBA)

Orientation (5%)

Resident Assistants have several strategic and vital roles to play during the entire orientation week.

Peer Counselling Class (30%)

Classes will take place on Fridays. Classes are not every Friday and the classes for the year will be emailed to each R.A. once they are finalized. Throughout the year the R.A. will be asked to do assignments. These assignments will be explained in class. The book, *In the Name of Jesus*, will be a part of the class discussion during the year.

R.D. Meetings (30%)

Each R.A. will meet with the R.D. throughout the entire year. These meetings will be set up after consultation with the R.D. Each R.A. will also be asked to submit reports in written and verbal format as deemed appropriate by the R.D.

Course Grading

Marking Grid

Summer Assignments	30%
Leadership Retreat & Orientation	10%
Peer Counselling Class	30%
R.D. Meetings	30%

Final Mark

End of First Semester	Pass/Fail
End of Second Semester	% & letter grade

Important Notes

The instructor will adhere to all the academic regulations as printed in the current Catalogue and Student Handbook. The student is responsible to be familiar with these regulations.