Counselor Education Traverse Outreach Program

Building bridges between the community and the university through a service-training model

Student Packet
Counseling 545 School Counseling
Counseling 521 Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Traverse Outreach Program Requirements

Traverse Outreach Program

The Traverse Outreach Program (Traverse) is the designated service-learning program for the UNM Counselor Education Program. It serves to provide graduate counseling students with quality field experiences early in their academic careers. Your participation in Traverse is a requirement of Counseling 545: School Counseling and Counseling 521: Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Traverse Learning Objectives

The objectives of Traverse are to:

- Increase your knowledge of the roles and functions of clinical mental health counselors or professional school counselors; and
- Increase your awareness of the professional relationships between clinical mental health counselors or school counselors and other helping professionals.

Traverse Requirements

- 30 volunteer hours at a clinical mental health site or school site
- A satisfactory evaluation from the site supervisor
- Full attendance and participation in the in-class processing group
- A report/reaction paper on your Traverse experience
- Compliance with Traverse procedures:
  - timely procurement of site;
  - professional behavior when contacting sites and supervisors;
  - consistent communication with Traverse Class Coordinator; and
  - on-time submission of required forms and papers.

Report/Reaction Paper on the Traverse Experience

- Paper must be 3 to 5 pages in length and turned in on due date.
- Please word process (double space) your paper and use Times Roman or Courier (12-pt) and one inch margins. Check spelling and grammar.
- Use the following 6 headings for your paper:

1. Description of School, Work and Students

   Describe your site and what you did there. Tell about the clients and your site or students at your school. What are some of their strengths? Describe one thing that you learned from a client or student.

2. Description of an Incident

   Describe or tell a story about a meaningful incident that occurred during your Traverse experience.
3. Impact of Diversity

How were your relationships with clients, students, parents/guardians/families, your supervisor and other school personnel impacted by issues of diversity? (Consider issues of age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, gender, physical appearance, income, family wealth, sexual orientation, religion, etc.)

4. Learning

What did you learn about a) the school community, b) yourself, c) professional school counseling, and d) systemic interventions?

5. Influence on the Future

Do you plan to continue at the school after completing your 30 hours? Explain. How did this experience impact your academic and/or career plans?

6. Suggestions

What suggestions do you have for improving the UNM Traverse school counseling service learning experience?

Reminders

• Please keep your school site supervisor, your instructor, and the Traverse Class Coordinator informed of your field activities.

• Let the Traverse Class Coordinator know when you have completed your 30 hours.

• Please respond to phone calls and emails from the Traverse team in a timely manner.

• Contact the Traverse Class Coordinator if you will not be available by phone or email for an extended period.

• The 30 volunteer hours must be completed in the same semester that you are enrolled in the School Counseling class.

• Paperwork and forms must be turned in on time.

• Your responsibilities at the school must not exceed what is appropriate to your education and training. In other words, you are not to provide counseling services. Contact the Traverse class coordinator, professor and/or Dr. Keim if you have any questions or concerns or if you are being asked to perform duties that you are uncomfortable with.
Traverse Outreach Program: Contact Information

The Traverse Program Class Coordinator and Director are available to help facilitate your successful Traverse experience.

**Traverse Class Coordinator**: Michael Verrilli

Name: Michael Verrilli  
Phone: emergencies only before 9pm 551.804.7450  
Email: mverrill@unm.edu  
Best way to reach me: e-mail or phone

**Traverse Program Director**: Jean Keim, PhD

Phone: 277-1353  
Office: Simpson Hall  
Email: jkeim@unm.edu

Please contact us immediately if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

* The Traverse Class Coordinator is a counselor education doctoral student who works under the supervision of Dr. Keim and the class professor. To ensure that students’ concerns are adequately addressed, all communications (e-mails, phone calls, conversations, etc.) between the Traverse Class Coordinator and students are shared with Dr. Keim.

**All forms are available on the counselor education website**