

AMBERTON UNIVERSITY
e-COURSE SYLLABUS

CSL6779.E1 Counseling in Schools
Winter 2026

PROFESSOR INFORMATION:

Name: Dr. Debra Hurbough
Phone Number: 972-279-6511 ext. 255
Email Address: **DHurbough@Amberton.edu**

COURSE INFORMATION:

CSL6779.E1 Counseling in Schools
Level: Graduate
Beginning Date of Session: Saturday, December 6th, 2026
Ending Date of Session: Thursday, February 26th, 2026

Student access available to the Student Portal: Saturday, December 6, 2025

Winter Holiday Break:

Saturday, December 20th, 2025, through Friday, January 2nd, 2026.
(Classes resume on Saturday, January 3rd, 2026)

Students enrolled in distance learning courses are not assessed any additional fees for security or identity verification.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

No Prerequisites

TEXTBOOK(S) AND REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Title: Transforming the School Counseling Profession
Author: Bradley T. Erford
Publisher: Pearson
Year Published: 2026
Edition: 6th
ISBN: ISBN-13: 9780135354797 or 9780135354322 (paperback)
Price: Available at <http://amberton.ecampus.com>

Title: The ASCA National Model: A Framework for School Counseling Programs
Author: American School Counseling Association
Publisher: American School Counseling Association
Year Published: 2019
Edition: 4th
ISBN: 13: 9781929289592 or 9781929289745 (paperback)
Price: Available at <http://amberton.ecampus.com>

Title: The Texas Model for Comprehensive School Counseling Programs
Author: Texas Counseling Association
Publisher: Texas Counseling Association
Year Published: 2018
Edition: 5th
ISBN: 13 139781732000308
Price: Available at <http://amberton.ecampus.com>

Amberton University has an agreement with eCampus.com to provide a full-service online bookstore to students. The Amberton University Virtual Bookstore is accessible through the University's website, www.Amberton.edu. There is also a bookstore link in the Student Portal.

The AU Virtual Bookstore provides an easy-to-use interface, online buyback of books, and same-day shipment of most titles with an average delivery time of 2-3 days depending on the student's location. Textbook options include new, used, rental, and electronic media as available.

Since no books are sold on campus, students should plan accordingly and purchase their books in advance of the first day of class, allowing time for shipping. Be certain you are enrolled in the course before purchasing your book(s). All textbook information (Title, Author, ISBN, etc.) is available in the course syllabi so students can shop competitively. Most textbooks can be purchased from many different textbook vendors. Some textbooks may only be available on the University's Virtual Bookstore. Students should be careful to obtain the exact resource(s) required for the course.

LINKS TO COUNSELING HANDBOOKS

MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

https://amberton.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/LPC_Handbook_2023_2024.pdf

MA in Marriage and Family Therapy

https://amberton.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/MFT_Handbook_2023_2024.pdf

MA in School Counseling

<https://amberton.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/MA-SC-Handbook-June-2025.pdf>

APA Requirement

APA (American Psychological Association) style is most commonly used to cite sources within the social sciences. This resource, revised according to the 7th edition, offers examples for the general format of APA research papers, in-text citations, endnotes/footnotes, and the reference page. For more information, please consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, (7th ed.). All coursework at Amberton University will comply with the standards contained in the APA Publication Manual.

SCHOOL COUNSELING PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM CHANGE

Beginning Fall 2019, there will be three practicums: CSL6870, CSL6875, AND CSL6880. The TExES (Texas Examination of Educator Standards) must be passed before enrolling in CSL6870. The TExES application form and practice tests are located in the TExES Review Course in Moodle. The Application and Contract are required at the first meeting of CSL6870 Practicum I and are in the Review Course. Effective September 1, 2019, the Master of Arts School Counseling degree will be a forty-eight (48) hour degree program for students entering the program.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

The course presents a comprehensive review of counseling in schools for those wishing to get their school counselor degree online. Students will define the roles and functions of school counselors. Emphasis is placed on a learner-centered process that includes organizing, planning, designing, implementing, and evaluating comprehensive counseling and guidance programs at elementary and secondary levels. The Texas Developmental Plan, as well as the American School Counseling Association Models, will be reviewed as related to the school counselor job. The course presents a comprehensive review of counseling in schools. Students will define the roles and functions of school counselors. Emphasis is placed on a learner-centered process that includes organizing, planning, designing, implementing, and evaluating a comprehensive counseling and guidance program. The Texas Developmental Plan, as well as the American School Counseling Association Models, will be reviewed as related to the school counselor job.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, THE STUDENT WILL BE COMPETENT IN:

1. Understanding the roles and responsibility of the school counselor along with other professionals in the school with regard to the guidance and counseling program.
2. Demonstrating knowledge of components of a developmental guidance and counseling program, procedures we're implementing, evaluating, and modifying the developmental guidance and counseling program as necessary to meet the needs of all students.
3. Demonstrating how to assess the needs of students in a school and plan a proactive program that reflects student needs.

4. Applying knowledge from procedures for developing a guidance curriculum (e.g., establishing learning goals and objectives, indicators of competence, expected results, and evaluative criteria).
5. Understanding the use of prevention approaches and intervention strategies to address student concerns.
6. Guiding students to develop age-appropriate knowledge and skills in the areas of self confidence, motivation to achieve, decision making and problem solving.
7. Discussing effective referral procedures to facilitate the use of special programs and services.
8. Explaining strategies for effective internal and external communication.
9. Illustrating consultant and/or coordinator roles of school counselors.
10. Demonstrating how to work collaboratively with the school community to promote the integration of the guidance and academic curriculum.
11. Demonstrating personal assessment of leadership aptitudes and capabilities for a school counselor on the academic leadership team.
12. Demonstrating knowledge of procedures for consulting with teachers, administrators, and others to provide professional expertise and enhance their work with students.
13. Applying school data to guidance curriculum development.
14. Integrating national and state models into guidance curriculum development.
15. Accessing national and state legislation related to school counselor job description.
16. Articulating methods of school counselor accountability.
17. Demonstrating knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of a comprehensive school counseling program that emphasizes college and career readiness and postsecondary option for all students, including college admissions, college financial aid resources, application procedures, and workforce and career opportunities.
18. Exploring how AI (Artificial Intelligence) technologies can enhance productivity, streamline workflows, and facilitate communication between counselors, students, and parents.
19. Discussing the ethical implications and responsibilities of using AI in school counseling, including issues related to privacy, bias, and decision-making.

ACQUIRED SKILLS:

1. Classroom Guidance Lesson Planning
2. Graduation Plan Development
3. Legislative Analysis for School Counseling

COURSE POLICIES:

Don't hesitate to contact the Professor concerning extended work completion. All exams must be completed as assigned. Late assignments received past the due date will be deducted 10 points per day.

Student's Responsibilities

This syllabus contains information, policies, and procedures for a specific course. By enrolling, the student agrees to read, understand, and abide by the policies, rules, regulations, and ethical standards of Amberton University as contained in the current university catalog and schedule of classes.

Attendance Policy:

Regular and punctual class attendance and engagement is expected at Amberton University. In case of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the professor as soon as possible. If a student intends on withdrawing from a course, it is the student's responsibility to follow the university's policy on formally withdrawing from a course. **Ceasing to attend classes does not constitute an official withdrawal.**

Attendance in a lecture course is defined as punctual arrival to, and engagement in, a full lecture session. A Student in a lecture course missing more than 20% (two class periods for weekday classes or one class period for Saturday classes) of the class meetings may be assigned a grade of an "F" or withdrawn at the discretion of Amberton University.

Attendance in a distance learning course is defined as active participation in the weekly online class sessions. "Active participation" can be defined as: submitting an academic assignment, taking an exam, engaging in an interactive tutorial, participating in an online discussion forum (or chat session), or initiating (or responding to) a

communication with a faculty member about an academic assignment or the subject matter of the course. A student not meeting these requirements may be assigned a grade of an “F” or withdrawn at the discretion of Amberton University.

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else’s work as though it were your own. If you use another person’s words, ideas, or information; or if you use material from an outside source – whether a book, magazine, newspaper, business publication, broadcast, speech, or electronic media – you must acknowledge that source. Plagiarism is a violation of the University’s code of student ethical conduct and is one that is taken seriously. Amberton University operates on an honor system; therefore, honesty and integrity are essential characteristics of all who are associated with the institution. All Amberton students are expected to abide by the honor system and maintain academic integrity in all their work. Amberton University and its instructors monitor student work for plagiarism and reserve the right to submit such work to technology-based plagiarism detection services and applications at any time.

Self-plagiarism means reusing work that you have already published or submitted for a class. It can involve:

- Resubmitting an entire paper
- Copying or paraphrasing passages from your previous work

Self-plagiarism misleads your readers by presenting previous work as completely new and original. Students may not submit the same paper in substance in two or more classes without prior written permission of the instructors involved.

Amberton University students who use Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated content must adhere to the following policies:

Originality: Students must avoid presenting AI generated content as their own original work. It is essential to acknowledge the involvement of AI in the content creation process in order to maintain academic and ethical standards.

Paraphrasing: When using AI generated content, students must rephrase and/or modify the generated text. Paraphrased AI generated content should also be properly cited.

Acknowledgement: When using AI generated content in any assignment, proper credit must be given to the AI system that generated the content. <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Students agree that by taking this course, all required assignments may be subject to submission for a textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism and self-plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in future papers. Use of Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com website.

Turnitin is a writing improvement and plagiarism prevention tool which uses special algorithms, to compare text-based student submissions to the Turnitin database and other online sources. Turnitin produces a detailed **similarity report** that can be customized and viewed by instructors and students.

Turnitin “Draft Coach” is a Google based add-on to Turnitin which supports students in developing high-quality academic writing; and serves as an integrity coach. Draft Coach helps address errors and improve the quality of student’s writing by highlighting grammar mistakes, identifying incorrectly cited sources, and scanning for similarity across several databases. By providing formative feedback on how to address citation issues, incorrect grammar, and matches with the Turnitin database, Draft Coach provides explanations to help students become more confident writers, capable of producing higher quality work both in academics and in the workplace.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR:

Week	Topic	Assignment	Competencies Covered	Due Date
Week One: December 6-12	Responsibilities of a School Counselor and Professionalism	Read ASCA xiii and pgs. 1-15 TX Model Section 1 Chapter 1 (Erford)	1,2,9,12,16	Complete the student information form and reflection: Reflection due: December 13th
Week Two: December 13 th – December 19 th	Ethical Standards	Read ASCA 15- 28 Chapter 5 (Erford)	1,6,9	Article Review: Topic: Ethical Issues Regarding AI in the World of AI: Due: December 19th See Moodle for Rubric Reflection Due December 19th
December 20th – January 2nd	Enjoy Your Break	Eat lots of good food and enjoy fellowship with friends and family		NOTHING
Week Three: January 3 rd – January 9 th	Multicultural and Developmental Issues	Read Chapter 6 (Erford)	6,7	Reflection Due: January 10th
Week Four: January 10 th – January 16 th	Leadership, ASCA Model, Texas Model	Read Chapter 7 & Chapter 8 (Erford) ASCA Section 2 TX Model Section 2	8,10, 13,14,15	Reflection Due: January 17th

Week Five: January 17 th – January 23 rd	Midterm Exam	Review Week 1-4		Midterm Due: January 24th
Week Six: January 24 th – January 30 th	Group and Individual Counseling	Read Chapters 10 & 11 (Erford)	8.10,13, 14, 15	Review Moodle for Expectations for Guidance Lesson Reflection Due January 31st

Week Seven: January 31 st – February 6 th	Guidance Planning	ASCA Model III and IV Texas Model 3-4 Chapter 8 (Erford)	4,16	Guidance Lesson Due February 7th. Refer to Moodle for the Rubric Reflection Due February 7th
Week Eight: February 7 th – February 14 th	Crisis Counseling	Read Chapter 12 (Erford)	8,10,13,14,15	Reflection Due: February 15th
Week Nine: February 15 th – February 20 th	Preparing Students for College Readiness and Preparing for the Role of a School Counselor	Read Chapter 9 (Erford) Read Assigned Articles (Reference in Reflection Page)	17	Reflection Due February 21st Graduation Plan and Narrative Due: February 21st

Week Ten: February 21 st – February 26 th	Final Exam and Final Reflection	Final Exam and Final Reflection	Final Exam: Please Note the Due Date for the Final Exam and Reflection	Final Exam Due: February 24th Reflection Due: February 24th
---	------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---	--

GRADING CRITERIA:

School Counseling Ethical Debate, Article Review 10%
Chapter Reflections 30%
Mid-Term Exam 10%
Graduation Plan/Narrative 20%
Classroom Guidance Lesson Plan 20%
Final Exam 10%

Graduate

92 – 100	A
82 – 91	B
72 – 81	C
62 – 71	D
Below 62	F

GRADE NOTIFICATION AND INSTRUCTOR FEEDBACK:

A successful distance learning experience requires a flow of communication between instructor and student throughout the session. Instructor comments are considered essential to the learning process. Therefore, each assignment/exam submitted will be reviewed, graded, and returned to the student in a timely manner along with the appropriate commentary. Students should carefully review all comments. Final grades are processed approximately one week after the last day of the session and may be located in the My Grades section of the online registration portal as well as being emailed to the student's Amberton University email. Amberton University staff will not release grades over the phone. University instructors will not leave a message with comments or grades in any type of media that is not secure.

For questions regarding grades after the semester has ended, students should use their university email account and contact the instructor at the faculty email address as provided above in *Professor Information* area.

Incomplete Grades

An "I" (incomplete grade) is given at the discretion of the professor and may be given only when an emergency or illness prevents the student from completing course requirements. Should an "I" be granted, the student has 30 days from the end of the session to complete the conditions of the incomplete. An "I" which is not properly removed within 30 days following the session enrolled will become an "F" grade.

How To Withdraw From a Course

To be official, the class withdrawal must be in writing and signed by the student requesting the withdrawal; no withdrawal is accepted verbally. Please review the "Schedule of Classes" (online or in-print) for procedures for class changes or withdrawals and the refund policy and schedule.

COURSE DELIVERY METHODOLOGY:

This course is offered as a distance-learning course through the Moodle Learning Platform. Amberton's distance learning courses, called e-Courses, are identical to classroom courses in terms of learning outcomes, competencies, and instructor expectations. A student choosing to take an e-Course must have the following skills and technical capabilities:

1. Access to the Internet
2. General knowledge in:
Internet browser settings and configuration

- e-mail and file attachments
- Uploading and downloading files
- Using a word processing package
- 3. Ability to conduct on-line research

Students who have not mastered these skills should not enroll for this course but should consider enrolling in MIS2110 Computer Concepts and Internet Technologies for instruction in these areas.

HOW TO ACCESS YOUR COURSE:

Through the Amberton University Student Portal

Students enrolled in distance learning courses using the Moodle Learning Platform may access the course through the Amberton University Student Portal. The site may be accessed through the University's main page (<http://www.Amberton.edu>) or at <http://apps.Amberton.edu>. After selecting the "Student Portal" link, you will be prompted for a Username and Password.

Use your assigned **username and password** (AUID) as described below to enter the AU Student Portal:

Username = your capitalized firstname **initial**+lastname+last 3 digits of your SSN.

* Use your name exactly as it is listed on the University's records, including any suffixes or hyphenations, such as Jr, Sr, or II, as a part of your username.

For example: James Jones, Jr. SSN: 123-45-6789
Username: JJonesJr789

Password = your Amberton University ID# (AUID) **including the dashes**

For example: 04-999-999

Once your login has been validated, you may select from a variety of menu options, including your individual E-Course, email account, Remote Research, General Tools, all Syllabi and Research Tutorials.

If you are accessing the Student Portal from a public or shared computer, close the browser completely when finished, or click on the Logout button. For security purposes, no other person should have access to your Username or Password. If you feel your information has been compromised or if you experience technical difficulties, contact the e-course system administrator at: e-sysop@amberton.edu

If you have lost or do not know your Amberton ID#, please contact the Student Services Office 972/279-6511 or advisor@Amberton.edu for a replacement AUID card. You must know your Amberton ID# to gain access to the course and to send an email to your professor.

Through the Amberton University Moodle Website

Students enrolled in distance learning courses using the Moodle Learning Platform may also access the course by going to: <http://moodle.Amberton.edu>

For those utilizing Moodle for the first time, the **username and password** for the Moodle Learning Platform will be emailed to the student's University email account prior to the start of the course. For those returning to Moodle who do not remember their username and password, click on the link "*Forgotten your username or password*" available on the Moodle log in page (<http://moodle.Amberton.edu>). Otherwise use the same username and password as previous session.

Moodle Tutorial:

Upon successful log in and access to the Moodle learning platform, there is a *Student Moodle Tutorials* course available, to learn about the basics of Moodle. Simply click on the link for the *Student Moodle Tutorials* and read through the various learning topics: Navigating; Communicating; Assignments & Exams; Grades; and Student Resources.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS:

Students will communicate with faculty through the Moodle Learning Platform or the Amberton University email

system.

Email Communication

Each student enrolled is assigned an Amberton email account, which gives the student access to the Amberton email system (my.Amberton.edu). This email account is provided by Google Apps for Education. Students are encouraged to check their email regularly for University news, notices, and to communicate with instructors.

The student's assigned email address would be Username@my.Amberton.edu

Example: LJones-Smith789@my.Amberton.edu

The student Username is determined by:

firstname initial+lastname+last 3 digits of student ssn.

For example: Linda Jones-Smith SSN: 123-45-6789
Email Address = LJones-Smith789@my.Amberton.edu

Students will be prompted for a Username and Password when accessing their email account. Use the Username portion of the email address as the username (Example: LJones-Smith789) and your Amberton ID# (including the dashes) as the password.

If you already have a Google Gmail account, you might be prompted to add this account to your current account. Click 'Yes' and you will be logged into your my.Amberton.edu email account. It will be a separate email account from your personal Gmail account.

If you need assistance with your email account, please visit <https://support.google.com/mail>

Students are responsible for reviewing the "Communication Guidelines" provided on the individual E-Course for specific instructor requirements.

Upon completion of a session, all communication and course specific information is removed from the Moodle system. If a student needs to maintain a record of communications or assignments, the student is strongly encouraged to print out or download these items to a disk for their own records.

FORMAT AND SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignments are to be submitted to the appropriate assignment Drop Box in the Moodle system. Specific directions and guidelines for submission of assignments are located on-line in the "Communication Guidelines" of the e-course. Due to compatibility issues, Office 2007 files cannot be read by earlier versions of Microsoft Office. Before submitting an exercise file, confirm the file is in the proper format for grading by the instructor.

INSTRUCTOR/COURSE EVALUATION:

Each session, all Amberton students are provided with the opportunity to evaluate their courses and instructors. The evaluation process is an important one and provides students with an anonymous and confidential way to give meaningful feedback to the University. Summary information and comments are provided to faculty after the close of the session. All information provided is anonymous.

The Instructor/Course Evaluation will be open for completion during week 9 of the session. An evaluation assignment will be placed in week 9 of the Moodle course, along with the instructions on how to complete the evaluation. Prior to week 9, the University will send out an email containing instructions and dates for the evaluation period.

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY COMPETENCIES

This course addresses the School Counselor Competencies set forth by the Texas Education Agency.

RESEARCH RESOURCES:

The Library provides access to full-text, and peer reviewed articles, and digital research tools. Students can search Library holdings through the online catalog and databases search engines available on the Library

website or browse the physical library space and holdings located at the Garland campus.

Research items not contained in the Amberton Library collection can be located through interlibrary Loan (ILL) or through the TexShare program with the help of the Library staff. Students with questions about available services, resources, or research, may contact the Library via email at Library@amberton.edu.

RESEARCH ACCESS:

Databases can only be accessed by authorized users, and students at Amberton must enter their Amberton ID credentials-same as Moodle login-to gain access when off-campus. Use an Amberton website, such as the University site (Amberton.edu) or the library site (Library.amberton.edu) to find links to databased and digital books. Online resources are available all day, every day.

Library Live Chat Feature

Library staff are available to assist students with research problems or questions during Library hours through a live online chat feature, telephone, email, "How-to" videos, or in person. The library telephone is (972-279-6511 ext. 185. You can email questions to library@amberton.edu or visit the library in person on the Garland campus for assistance.

Microsoft Office 365 Education:

Amberton University students have access to a license for Office 365 Education, a comprehensive suite of productivity tools. This package includes:

- Microsoft Word for document creation
- Excel for spreadsheets and data analysis
- PowerPoint for presentations
- OneNote for digital note-taking
- Microsoft Teams for collaboration
- Additional classroom tools to enhance your learning experience

To set up your student account and access these resources, please follow the instructions provided in our step-by-step guide: https://amberton.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Office365_Setup_Students.pdf

Google Workspace for Education:

All students are assigned a Gmail account in Google Workspace for Education.

To set up your student account and access these resources, please follow the instructions provided in our step-by-step guide: https://amberton.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Google_Drive_Students.pdf

Once logged into your student account, you'll have access to a suite of tools designed to enhance your learning experience:

- Google Docs: Create and edit essays, reports, and other written assignments
- Google Slides: Develop engaging presentations for projects and class discussions
- Google Sheets: Perform data analysis, create charts, and manage calculations
- Google Drive: Store, organize, and easily access all your files in the cloud
- Google Calendar: Schedule study sessions, track assignment deadlines, and manage your academic timetable
- Google Keep: Take and organize quick notes during lectures or study sessions
- Google Meet: Attend virtual classes, participate in group study sessions, or meet with teachers
- Google Classroom: Access course materials, submit assignments, and receive feedback from instructors
- Google Forms: Create surveys for research projects or participate in class quizzes
- Google Sites: Build websites or digital portfolios to showcase your work