



COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Grace and Truth

Candidacy Writing Sample

Directions: As part of your application, in a total of 750 to 1250 words, utilizing Times New Roman 12-point font, please answer the following two essay prompts:

1. Counseling is a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families, and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education, and career goals. How have your academic, professional, and/or personal experiences and achievements influenced and prepared you to be successful as a professional counselor?
2. Listed below are the 2014 ACA Code of Ethics Preamble and six ethical principles of the counseling profession. Select one of the six ethical principles and describe how you believe this value will influence your work as a professional counselor.

2014 ACA Code of Ethics Preamble

The American Counseling Association (ACA) is an educational, scientific, and professional organization whose members work in a variety of settings and serve in multiple capacities. Counseling is a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families, and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education, and career goals. Professional values are an important way of living out an ethical commitment.

The following are professional principles of the counseling profession:

- Autonomy, or fostering the right to control the direction of one's life;
- Nonmaleficence, or avoiding actions that cause harm;
- Beneficence, or working for the good of the individual and society by promoting mental health and well-being;
- Justice, or treating individuals equitably and fostering fairness and equality;
- Fidelity, or honoring commitments and keeping promises, including fulfilling one's responsibilities or trust in professional relationships;
- Veracity, or dealing truthfully with individuals with whom counselors come into professional contact.