

Course Syllabus



Edit



College of Health Sciences | MA in Clinical Counseling

PSY6025: Counseling Theories and Faith Integration I

3 Units

Summer 2026 | Quad 2

July 6 – August 30

In-Person

Meeting Days: Tuesday and Thursday

Instructor: Ju Ann Kim

Meeting Times: 2:00 – 4:45 p.m. PST

Email: jkim2@pointloma.edu

Meeting location: Mission Valley Campus, Room 302

[\(mailto:jkim2@pointloma.edu\)](mailto:jkim2@pointloma.edu)

Office Location and Hours: By appointment

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Course Description



The University catalog describes this course as: Major counseling theories and techniques are examined and applied in the context of the helping relationship.

This course includes an overview of the historical relationship between religion and psychotherapy, differing models of the therapeutic relationship, and various models for integrating psychotherapeutic theory with theological issues. It introduces specific issues that arise in conducting therapy with religious persons, including criteria for evaluating healthy and unhealthy forms of religious belief.

The purpose of each class session is to highlight selected topics from the required readings and to supplement this material with related ideas. Students are responsible for all assigned readings, whether or not discussed in class. A “graduate style” discussion format will be used in the course. Each student is expected to have read the assigned reading for class discussion (course schedule below), and be prepared to think together about the reading in class.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Students will describe, explain, apply, and interact with key perspectives, concepts, and methods of foundational counseling theories.
2. Students will articulate and demonstrate counselor relational postures and skills that influence helping processes.
3. Students will utilize counseling / therapy models to conceptualize and communicate client presentation in order to consider the most suitable counseling interventions for their work with clients.
4. Students will deepen their awareness and integration of **personal and professional worldview** within the context of psychotherapy and counseling.
5. Students will practice thoughtfully considering how to adapt counseling theories to incorporate sociocultural, spiritual, developmental needs of clients or their agencies, as well as their own worldview and relational orientation.

Program Learning Outcomes

The educational goals of Point Loma Nazarene University's ***Masters of Arts in Clinical Counseling (MACC)*** are to develop graduate students and clinicians who are:

1. competent clinicians and professionals that practice from a wide-range of clinically valuable and research-based approaches;
2. able to cultivate self-awareness and apply professional ethics to the practice of clinical counseling; and,
3. providing services that are respectful of individuals and families as well as the cultural context that shape them, particularly focusing on those who are underserved.



PLO 1: Demonstrate competent application of theoretical models and research-based clinical interventions to therapeutic work with individuals, couples, groups and/or families

Competency 1: Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of theories, principles, and practices relevant to clinical counseling, particularly across the lifespan and in family systems.

Competency 2: Utilize assessment tools effectively to diagnose, develop treatment plans, and monitor progress.

Competency 3: Apply clinical knowledge by effectively implementing theory-informed intervention with individuals, couples, groups, and families.

Competency 4: Evaluate and apply relevant research to the practice of clinical counseling.

PLO 2: Develop and apply self-awareness and professional ethics to the practice of clinical counseling.

Competency 1: Demonstrate knowledge of the ACA/AAMFT code of ethics and identify ethical issues when they arise with clients

Competency 2: Demonstrate awareness and effective use of self in the therapeutic process

Competency 3: Develop personal characteristics that enhance professional competence, most importantly effective communication, empathy, boundaries, self-awareness, and respect for others

PLO 3: Demonstrate competence in working with clients from diverse backgrounds, particularly in settings where sociocultural factors influence treatment and there is limited access to care.

Competency 1: Integrate contextual factors, apply multicultural theories, and modify treatment approaches to effectively work with diverse client populations.

Competency 2: Demonstrate awareness of how personal values, beliefs, and sociocultural context impact work with clients.

Competency 3: Attend to the spiritual dimensions of clients and apply faith integration processes as clinically appropriate.

Institutional Learning Outcomes

1. Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ

Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits of the mind that foster lifelong learning.

2. Growing, in a Christ-centered Faith Community

Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of others as they negotiate complex professional, environmental, and social contexts.

3. Serving, in a Context of Christian Faith

Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings.



Required Texts and Recommended Study Resources

Corey, Gerald. (2023). *Theory and Practice of Counseling and Psychotherapy*. 11th ed. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

(NOTE: 10th edition will be acceptable during 2024-2025 academic year)

McDowell, T., Knudson-Martin, C., & Bermudez, J. M. (2022). *Socioculturally Attuned Family Therapy Guidelines for Equitable Theory and Practice* (2nd ed). Taylor & Francis Group. (free for student electronic access at: <https://pointloma.on.worldcat.org/oclc/1341443812>  (<https://pointloma.on.worldcat.org/oclc/1341443812>).

Supplemental journal articles will be distributed as needed.

Recommended Study Resource

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 7th Edition. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

NOTE: *Students are responsible to have the required course textbooks prior to the first day of class. Students are also encouraged to begin reading the books in preparation for the class as soon as possible.*

Course Credit Hour Information

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3 unit class delivered over 8 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

This course meets PLNU and WASC credit hour policy requirements for contact hours as evidenced by the table below (3 credit units):

Distribution of Course Hours			
Assignments	Pre-Course Hours	Course Hours	Post-Course Hours
Face-to-face Class Sessions		40	



Distribution of Course Hours			
Assignments	Pre-Course Hours	Course Hours	Post-Course Hours
Online Participation in forums, groups, etc.	5		5
Reading	10	5	10
Writing		10	20
Other Assignments and Learning Activities	5	5	5
Exams & Quizzes	4	5	5
	24	65	45
TOTAL HOURS			134

Assessment and Grading

- 1. Attendance (50 points) and Professionalism (50 points):** Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential for professional training and development of professional work ethic and habits. A student may be absent from one class without grade penalty; if a student misses more than two classes, the student will need to work with the instructor to petition to remain enrolled in the course. See Academic Policies in the Graduate and Professional Studies Catalog for additional detail.
- 2. Theory Learning Checks (10 at 10-points each):** Learning checks are to be completed BEFORE each class session and are designed to assess understanding of the text material. Learning checks will offer students practice for final exam questions.
- 3. In-Class Theory and Clinical Skills Labs (10 at 5-points each):** Active learning of theories will take place in class through clinical labs to practice case conceptualization, theory posture and intervention practice, and theory-based treatment planning. Full points will be awarded for active participation and positive collaboration and teamwork with colleagues. No points will be awarded if student is absent from class session.



4. **POTT Theory Reflection Papers and Photo Montage Project (5 at 20-points each):** Students will write a 3-4 page, double-spaced, APA-formatted brief POTT reflection to personalize their interaction with the theories, as well as demonstrate theory-based case conceptualization skills. Theory-based conceptualization will offer students practice for final exam questions. Students will also create one theory overview photo montage project to personalize learning and remembering the essence of each theory.
5. **Signature Paper: Personal Worldview & Theory Integration Reflection (50-points):** Students will write a 4-6 page, double-spaced, APA-formatted, reflection paper, to explore and reflect on how they will work toward integrating your personal/spiritual worldview with one chosen counseling theory that you are interested in learning for clinical practice. See more specific guidelines and rubric for more details.
6. **Group Clinical Case Presentation and Theory-Based Role Play (50-points):** Groups will present a theory-based clinical case conceptualization and role play to enhance class engagement with select theories from the field (Person-Centered Therapy, Existential Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Solution-Focused Brief Therapy, Narrative Therapy, and Feminist Therapy). Each group will prepare a 10 min case conceptualization presentation, and 15 min of live role-plays of initial phase assessment and working phase intervention. The presentation must include engagement with course texts and at least one primary source for the assigned theory. Members should negotiate parts to ensure equitable participation in preparation and presentation, and presentation slides should be uploaded to Canvas by 12pm on the day of presentation. Please refer to the “Student Presentation Rubric” for more specific requirements.
7. **Final Exam (100-points):** A comprehensive final exam will be objective and will include multiple-choice questions based on knowledge of key theories as well as their application to clinical vignettes. The exam will include assigned readings and lectures.
8. **Pre-Course and IDEA Surveys (2 at 5-points each):** Pre-course and final evaluation surveys will assist the instructor in collaborating with students to optimize student learning.

APA Papers

All papers written in the Graduate Counseling program should be in APA style. Here are some helpful websites to help you write and format your paper:

- [APA 7th Edition Help File \(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/86315/pages/apa-7th-edition-help-file\)](https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/86315/pages/apa-7th-edition-help-file)
- [The OWL at Purdue: APA Style ↗ \(https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/\)](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/)

All papers should include the following sections unless indicated otherwise:

1. Title page
2. Abstract
3. Main body with headings
4. Reference page



Please check the *APA Manual* or the websites for further formatting helps.

Assignment Distribution

Assignments	Points	Percentage
Attendance and Professionalism	100	20%
Theory Learning Checks (10 at 10 points each)	100	20%
In-Class Theory & Clinical Skills Labs (5 at 10 points each)	50	10%
POTT Theory Reflections & Projects (5-entries at 20-points each)	50	10%
Personal Worldview & Theory Integration Reflection Paper	50	10%
Group Clinical Case Presentation and Theory-Based Role Plays	40	8%
Final Exam	100	20%
Pre-Course and IDEA Surveys	10	2%
Total	500	100%

Grading Scale

- 93 – 100% = A
- 90 – 92% = A-
- 87 – 89% = B+
- 83 – 86% = B
- **80 – 82% = B-**
- 77 – 79% = C+
- 73 – 76% = C
- 70 – 72% = C-
- 67 – 69% = D+



- 63 – 66% = D
- 60 – 62% = D-
- Below 60% = F

Students must achieve a minimum grade of B- to pass this class.

Incompletes and Late Policy

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

Assignments submitted up to 24 hours past the due date will be deducted 25% of the grade.

Assignments submitted up to 48 hours past the due date will be deducted 50% of the grade. Any assignment turned in after 48 hours past the due date will receive no credit. Students are encouraged to alert the professor if an assignment is anticipated to be late. Professors can extend these late penalties if arrangements are made in advance.

Professionalism

Student professionalism will be assessed in each course, constituting 10% of the total course grade.

Professionalism indicators include class participation, interactions with peers and instructors, and self-awareness. The full rubric can be found here: [PLNU MACC Professionalism Rubric](#) 

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1osLcREXhNvA9EJSp1XW0SISi8-l0szbqS4we1d3KohQ/edit>.

Course Rules

Together, we will create a dynamic learning environment where:

1. Learning is challenging but safe.
2. Learning is experiential and active.
3. Communication is open . . . opposing viewpoints are welcomed.
4. All are learners, and all are teachers . . . we will learn from each other.
5. Mistakes are okay . . . this is a no-guilt, no-blame zone.
6. The point is to learn and grow . . . grades are a by-product and not the goal.
7. Integrity and honesty are expected.

Please jot down some of your expectations for this course.



Course Policies

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

1. Academic Honesty

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. As explained in the university catalog, academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. Violations of university academic honesty include cheating, plagiarism, falsification, aiding the academic dishonesty of others, or malicious misuse of university resources. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or b) the course following the procedure in the university catalog. Students may appeal also using the procedure in the university catalog. See Academic Policies in the [current PLNU catalog](https://catalog.pointloma.edu/) (<https://catalog.pointloma.edu/>) for further information.

2. Identity Fraud

Committing identity fraud is considered particularly serious and could have legal as well as institutional implications. Any student who has another individual impersonate or in any other way commit identity fraud in any course, assignment, exam, or any type of academic exercise will be permanently suspended from Point Loma.

3. Final Examination Policy

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](http://www.pointloma.edu/experience/academics/class-schedules) (<http://www.pointloma.edu/experience/academics/class-schedules>) site. No requests for early examinations will be approved.

4. Participation

Your participation (think of this as 'contribution') in the course is monitored and graded. Your interaction with the course content, the instructor, fellow students, and the learning process directly influences your level of success in the course. You need to demonstrate that you have truly completed the assigned readings, shared what you learned from them, and demonstrate understanding and application of the concepts presented. Participation in the course will benefit your overall online experience as well as the experience of others in the course.

5. Classroom Etiquette

Students are expected to actively engage in an adult learning environment. Behaviors that disrupt the classroom environment and interfere with the learning of others are prohibited. Examples include talking with other students during a presentation or when others are speaking, texting, gaming, internet browsing, or reading non-course related materials. All pagers, cellphones, and other electronic communication devices will be turned off at the beginning of class. Tablets and computers are allowed in class for note-taking purposes only, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.



Arriving late and leaving early are strongly discouraged and disruptive to the class.

Respect each person's opinions. Be considerate while your peers are speaking and actively engage them only when they have completed their point. Discourteous comments and side conversations will not be tolerated and will be addressed openly and directly by the instructor. Should a student's behavior become disruptive to the productivity of the course they will be asked to leave the classroom and not receive credit for attendance.

6. **Withdrawal**

If you need to withdraw from the class, please notify the instructor **and** your Point Loma advisor immediately. A student may withdraw by the end of the first week of class and receive a grade of W. If a student withdraws from the program, he/she must submit a letter for withdrawal. A last date to withdraw is posted in the Academic Calendar on the PLNU website. Students will be assigned a grade of W or WF consistent with Point Loma Nazarene University policy in the grading section of the catalog. Failure to attend class does not constitute a withdrawal and students will receive an "F" if not properly withdrawn. Withdrawing from a class may result in a graduated refund and may affect your financial aid. Be sure to contact your financial aid counselor.

7. **Use of Technology**

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements page](https://help.pointloma.edu/TDClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349) (<https://help.pointloma.edu/TDClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349>). Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work. If you do need technical help you may click on the HELP button (located on the top-right corner of Canvas) and choose from whom you want assistance, or you may contact the campus help desk (619.849.2222).

8. **University Catalog**

For additional Point Loma policy items, review the latest [Point Loma Nazarene University Catalog](https://catalog.pointloma.edu/index.php) (<https://catalog.pointloma.edu/index.php>).

9. **Accessibility of Historical Data in Point Loma Classes**

PLNU strives to protect and preserve student data in accordance with FERPA laws. It is important for students and faculty to note that due to the nature of digital information, no data transmitted via emails or online learning management systems is entirely free from observation. The contents of this class, including the class discussion, may be monitored by PLNU faculty and staff at any time for the purposes of assisting students, gathering data, instructor training, or assessing the program.

10. **Confidentiality of Course Discussion and Assignments**

Materials posted to the class discussion or to an assignment thread are for class use only. Students and faculty are to protect the confidentiality of all classroom materials and should never transmit any classroom materials without specific written permission of the person quoted and the instructor.



PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end, we provide resources for our Graduate students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. At the Mission Valley (MV) campus we have an onsite chaplain who is available during class break times across the week. If you have questions for or a desire to meet or share any prayer requests with the onsite chaplain, you may email Dr. Sylvia Cortez Masyuk at scortezm@pointloma.edu (<mailto:scortezm@pointloma.edu>).

In addition, on the MV campus, there is a prayer chapel on the third floor. It is open for use as a space set apart for quiet reflection and prayer.

PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Recording Notification

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Graduate Academic and General Policies](https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/grad-catalog/academic-general-policies/#text) [🔗\(https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/grad-catalog/academic-general-policies/#text\)](https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/grad-catalog/academic-general-policies/#text) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

During the first week of class, you will be asked to submit an Academic Honesty Verification Statement. Submitting the statement is a requirement of this course. By submitting the Academic Honesty



Verification Statement, you will be verifying all assignments completed in this course were completed by you. Carefully review the Academic Honesty Statement below.

Statement: "In submitting this form, I am verifying all the assignments in this course will be completed by me and will be my own work."

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

- [MLA Style Center: Citing Generative AI](https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/) ➦ (<https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/>)
- [APA Style: How to Cite ChatGPT](https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt) ➦ (<https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>)
- [Chicago Manual of Style: Citing Content Developed or Generated by AI](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/qanda/data/faq/topics/Documentation/faq0422.html) ➦ (<https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/qanda/data/faq/topics/Documentation/faq0422.html>)

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu (<mailto:EAC@pointloma.edu>) or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. The EAC makes accommodations available to professors at the student's request.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any special accommodations.



Language and Belonging

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars, we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice-free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced a bias incident regarding language, you can find more information on reporting and resources at [PLNU Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy \(http://www.pointloma.edu/bias\)](http://www.pointloma.edu/bias).

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at [pointloma.edu/Title-IX \(http://pointloma.edu/Title-IX\)](http://pointloma.edu/Title-IX). Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at [counselingservices@pointloma.edu \(mailto:counselingservices@pointloma.edu\)](mailto:counselingservices@pointloma.edu) or find a list of campus pastors at [pointloma.edu/title-ix \(http://pointloma.edu/title-ix\)](http://pointloma.edu/title-ix) or as shown in the PLNU Spiritual Care section of this syllabus.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources at [www.pointloma.edu/bias \(http://www.pointloma.edu/bias\)](http://www.pointloma.edu/bias).

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy



Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation in each course are minimal requirements.

PLNU Policy: If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent (equivalent to two (2) classes in the MACC program), the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

Note: If a student incurs a third absence, they may petition the faculty to remain enrolled in class. The faculty will provide a make up assignment proportionate in length and difficulty to the class missed. This third absence may also result in a referral to the Student Development Committee.

In addition to the university policy, 10% of your course grade will reflect your attendance. Coming to class is mandatory and expected. As extenuating circumstances may happen that prevent you from attending class, a student may incur one absence without losing points. Each subsequent absence will drop this portion of the grade by 5% of the total course points (up to 10%). Note: absences are not categorized as excused or unexcused.

Attending class on time is essential to promote a respectful and professional learning environment. Arriving to class more than 15 minutes late is counted as a tardy. Two tardies count as one absence. Arriving 30 minutes or more late to a class will be considered an absence.

Refer to [Academic Policies](https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/grad-catalog/academic-general-policies/)  (<https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/grad-catalog/academic-general-policies/>) for additional detail.

Synchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

For synchronous courses that have specific scheduled meeting times (including in-person, hybrid, and synchronous online courses), absences are counted from the first official meeting of the class regardless of the date of the student's enrollment. For courses with specific attendance requirements, those requirements are outlined in the course syllabus.

Note: For synchronous courses with an online asynchronous week, refer to the Online Asynchronous Class Attendance policy listed below.

Online Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

Students taking online courses with no specific scheduled meeting times are expected to actively engage throughout each week of the course. Attendance is defined as participating in an academic activity within the online classroom which includes, but is not limited to:

- Engaging in an online discussion
- Submitting an assignment
- Taking an exam
- Participating in online labs



- Initiating contact with faculty member within the learning management system to discuss course content

Note: Logging into the course does not qualify as participation and will not be counted as meeting the attendance requirement.

Course Modality Definitions

1. Online Courses: These are courses with class meetings where all instruction and interaction is fully online.
 - Synchronous Courses: At least one class meeting takes place at a designated time.
 - Asynchronous Courses: All class meetings are asynchronous.
 2. Hybrid Courses: These are courses with class meetings that take place both in the classroom and online synchronously and/or asynchronously.
 3. In-Person Courses: These are courses that meet in person with the instructor and students in a physical classroom setting. With approval by the area dean, this may include up to 25% of qualified class interactions through a Learning Management System (such as Canvas).
-

Use of Technology

MACC is committed to a distraction-free learning environment. Students are welcome to bring devices to class, but they *must remain stored* throughout class time unless directed otherwise by the instructor. Phones, laptops, iPads/tablets, and other personal devices are not permitted to be passively used during lectures, discussions, or any other activity unless expressly communicated by the instructor.

GPS Academic Resources

PLNU offers the following free academic resources virtually for Graduate Professional Studies (GPS) Students. Visit myPLNU through the links below for more information.

- **The GPS Writing Center** (<https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/writing-center-gps>) offers:
 - **Zoom Writers Workshops** offered each quad on a variety of helpful topics
 - **One-to-one appointments** with the Writing Coach
 - **Microlearning YouTube Video Library** for helpful tips anytime
- **Research Help Guide** (<https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/research-help>) to help you start your research



- The physical office is located on the third floor of the [Mission Valley Regional Center](#)  (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/CRXuI8PJUnSkvokC9>) off the student lounge
- **Academic Writing Resources Course** (<https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/64301>): Found on your Canvas Dashboard, this course is non-credit with 24/7 access, no time limits, and self-paced content. **Watch a quick video run-through**  (<https://youtu.be/JB8MmVPznFI>) and take time now to explore!
- **Grammarly**  (<https://www.grammarly.com/edu/point-loma-nazarene-university-graduate-professional-studies>): Students have unlimited FREE access to Grammarly for Education, a trusted tool designed to help enhance writing skills by providing real-time feedback, identifying areas for improvement, and providing suggestions. Grammarly's Generative AI is NOT available with our student accounts.
- **Tutoring** (<https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/tutoring-gps>): Students have access to 24/7 live or scheduled subject tutoring through Tutor.com, including a Paper Drop-Off Service with feedback within 12 hours.

We are here to support you! Contact us anytime: GPSWritingCenter@pointloma.edu (<mailto:GPSWritingCenter@pointloma.edu>)

Course Schedule and Assignments

Please see the [Course Schedule](https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/86315/pages/course-schedule) (<https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/86315/pages/course-schedule>).

