

DQE Fall 2014 Questions

Domain 1: Theory

Explain the key concepts and processes involved in healthy and unhealthy development and therapeutic change according to your preferred theoretical orientation. Discuss the adequacy of these key elements of development and change in addressing issues of diversity. Compare and contrast these elements of your theory with one other distinct theoretical orientation of the three provided below. Review research that supports four aspects of your preferred theory. Be sure that some of the research that you review addresses issues of diversity.

The 3 theoretical orientations from which you are to **choose one** to compare with your preferred theory are as follows:

1. Feminist
2. Object relations
3. ACT (Acceptance and commitment)

Domain 2: Ethical Dilemma

For the ethical dilemma provided below, please do the following:

- a. Explain why it is a dilemma (e.g., present relevant code or principles that are in conflict),
- b. Present any relevant research literature that addresses both sides of the dilemma and offers recommended action, and
- c. Explain a cogent rationale and plan for the action you would take to address the dilemma.

The American Psychological Association's (APA) Guidelines and Principles for Accreditation of Programs in Professional Psychology state that "all accredited programs will articulate and implement a specific plan of learning with regard to diversity that is integrated throughout its didactic and experiential training, consistent with each program's goals and objectives." However, the following footnote (Footnote 4) is also included: "This requirement does not exclude programs from having a religious affiliation or purpose and adopting and applying admission and employment policies that directly relate to this affiliation or purpose so long as: (1) Public notice of these policies has been made to applicants, students, faculty, or staff before their application or affiliation with the program; and (2) the policies do not contravene the intent of other relevant portions of this document or the concept of academic freedom. These policies may provide a preference for persons adhering to the religious purpose or affiliation of the program, but they shall not be used to preclude the admission, hiring, or retention of individuals because of the personal and demographic characteristics described in Domain A, Section 5 of this document (and referred to as cultural and individual diversity). This footnote is intended to permit religious policies as to admission, retention, and employment only to the extent that they are protected by the United States Constitution. It will be administered as if the United States Constitution governed its application." One intention and consequence of Footnote 4 is that religious institutions that view

same-sex sexuality to be inconsistent with their values and have policies and practices that reflect this value can seek and garner APA accreditation. How do you make sense of this current state of affairs? Does the coexistence of the Guidelines and Footnote present an ethical dilemma?

Domain 3: Research (3 hours, closed book)

Sullivan, T.P., McPartland, T., Price, C., Cruza-Guet, M.C., Swan, S.C. (2013). Relationship self-efficacy protects against mental health problems among women in bidirectionally aggressive intimate relationships with men. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, 60(4), 641-647.

Write a review of the above identified article, a copy of which is attached. In your review, be sure to address each of the following content areas and questions. Your answer should be no longer than **ten pages excluding references**, with one-inch margins and 12-point, double spaced, Times New Roman font:

1. Theoretical Perspective
 - a. Describe and critique the author's conceptual framework
 - b. Comment on the need for this study and its importance
 - c. How effectively does the author tie the study to relevant theory and prior research?
 - d. Describe and evaluate the clarity and appropriateness of the research questions or hypotheses.
2. Research Design and Analysis
 - a. Critique the appropriateness and adequacy of the study's design in relation to the research questions or hypotheses.
 - b. Critique the adequacy of the study's sampling methods (e.g., choice of participants) and their implications for generalizability.
 - c. Critique the adequacy of the study's procedures and materials (e.g., interventions, interview protocols, data collection procedures)
 - d. Critique the appropriateness and quality (e.g., reliability, validity) of the measures used.
 - e. Critique the adequacy of the study's data analyses. For example: Have important statistical assumptions been met? Are the analyses appropriate for the study's design? Are the analyses appropriate for the data collected?
 - f. Critique the adequacy of the study's consideration of cultural differences and other issues of diversity.
3. Interpretation and Implications of Results
 - a. Critique the author's discussion of the methodological and/or conceptual limitations of the results.
 - b. How consistent are the author's conclusions with the reported results?
 - c. How well did the author relate the results to the study's theoretical base?
 - d. In your view, what is the significance of the study, and what are its primary implications for theory, practical application, and future research?

Domain 4: Thematic Review and Critical Analysis of Contemporary Counseling Psychology Literature (6 hours, open book, internet access).

Select one of the following two topics that have been recurrent or current themes in the counseling psychology literature. Provide an integrative review and critical analysis of the literature relevant to the theme. Conclude your answer with directions for future development of theory and research in this area. Your answer should be no longer than **ten pages excluding references**, with one-inch margins and 12-point, double spaced, Times New Roman font.

1. Therapy process and outcome has been a traditional foci of counseling psychology research. In what ways does the current state of therapy process and outcome research address or fail to address the growing social justice commitments in counseling psychology? What are some future directions in which therapy process and outcome research could address social justice issues?
2. The role of work in people's lives is complex. What does recent research in counseling psychology tell us about how people make career decisions and are happy at work? How, and in what ways, does a person's work life overlap with her or his mental health? What are some important areas of future research to understand the role of work from a social justice perspective?