



Dispositional Values

Dispositions are the values, commitments, and professional ethics that influence behaviors toward others, and, if sincerely held, dispositions lead to actions and patterns of professional conduct of counselors in training (CITs). The Grand Canyon University Counseling Program's dispositions adhere to the University's mission statement, as well as to the established counseling profession codes of ethics. **Students who fail to adhere to or demonstrate such dispositions may be subject to referral to the Professional Practices Committee for developmental support or Code of Conduct for disciplinary action.**

Counselor Dispositions

- **Psychological Fitness:** CITs strive to maintain holistic wellness across multiple domains of their mental, relational, and professional lives while focusing on interpersonal values that promote positive growth. CITs engage in activities that promote openness, self-awareness, and self-acceptance. CITs proactively practice self-care and are committed to mental health support to maintain psychological fitness.
- **Self-Awareness:** CITs intentionally reflect on how their value systems influence their personal and professional relationships. CITs demonstrate authenticity in relation to themselves and others. CITs bracket personal beliefs and values when faced with ideas different from their own to avoid inflicting harm on others.
- **Cultural Diversity:** CITs demonstrate respect for and engage in honoring and embracing diversity and multiculturalism while supporting the dignity and worth of clients within their unique contexts. CITs do not support or engage in any act of discrimination against others while simultaneously acknowledging how their cultural identity impacts their relationships with others.
- **Acceptance:** CITs work to foster a nonjudgmental professional environment while embracing change and others as they are. CITs avoid value imposition, uphold ethical standards, and remain conscious of their own attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors while being sensitive, receptive, and considerate to those of their clients.
- **Empathy:** CITs demonstrate compassion, understanding, and clemency towards all persons while simultaneously avoiding infliction of harm. CITs honor the uniqueness of all individuals while promoting dignity and respect in an ongoing therapeutic effort. CITs reflect on their experiences while mindfully working to understand an individual's personal experience.



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- **Genuineness:** CITs exhibit qualities of being honest in their interactions with others and in the behaviors they display. CITs have a sincere desire to better themselves when they experience incongruence between their beliefs, actions, and professional standards.
- **Flexibility:** CITs embrace ambiguity with an open-mind and have the courage to form innovative solutions when facing challenges. CITs are able to work with others in a way that is open and inviting to multiple points of view and diverse cultural situations. CITs are open to shifting their perspective and embracing change.
- **Patience:** CITs respect autonomy of self and others while fostering growth. CITs encourage a relational environment that promotes respect, flexibility, and self-exploration. CITs model calmness within various contexts in a steadfast, fluid, and enduring manner.
- **Amiability:** CITs display humility, compassion, and kindness in their interactions with others. CITs portray unconditional positive regard even when they have differing views. CITs remain cordial and calm in multiple contexts and when presented with frustrating situations.
- **Professional Identity:** CITs demonstrate professional conduct through mandatory attendance, promptness, and active participation to meet and exceed programmatic requirements. CITs maintain professional membership in counseling organizations and develop their understanding of self both personally and professionally while engaging in mentorship, supervision, and continuing education. CITs stay informed of current trends, research, and practices.