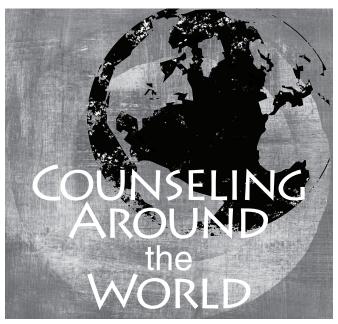


An International Handbook

Editors

Thomas H. Hohenshil Norman E. Amundson Spencer G. Niles





An International Handbook

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FOREWORD

In their comprehensive text *Counseling Around the World*, Thomas H. Hohenshil, Norman E. Amundson, and Spencer G. Niles provide something that never has been attempted: a snapshot of the counseling profession from a global perspective. The scope of the book is impressive in that countries from all continents are included and the range of knowledgeable authors spans a diverse scope of educators, professional counselors, and scholars worldwide. The chapters are uniformly engaging, thought provoking, and informative.

Early in the book issues of diversity are defined and contribute to a clearer understanding of the need for global literacy. Readers of this book will experience an enormous increase in their own global literacy. Thus, we highly recommend the book as required reading for all who aspire to become or who already have become professional counselors. The subtle influences of culture in the development and implementation of counseling services requires that one have a full awareness of these issues prior to reading the other chapters in the book.

The editors' introductory and concluding chapters are not to be missed, as they provide an overview of the challenges to the globalization of counseling and a succinct yet comprehensive and in-depth analysis of similarities and differences across nations. The scope of similarities is at once surprising in its simplicity and complex in its implications. Whereas counselors in the United States might imagine that their challenges to forming a clear professional identity are unique to their culture, the authors note that counselors in other countries face similar challenges. These include educating various publics about the counselor's wellness, preventive, developmental approach to helping; establishing educational standards and recognition for those who call themselves counselors; and overcoming professional competitiveness and jealousies. Though counselors in many countries face similar challenges to the development of the profession, issues of language, culture, and diversity combine to make these challenges unique in each setting. The editors extend their analysis to a discussion of future challenges, defining both the state of counseling globally and directions for the future.

Credence is given to the valuable leadership of NBCC International and the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (the International Registry of Counsellor Education Programs) in the global development of the counseling profession. Chi Sigma Iota within its mission and practice also seeks to support the goals identi-

fied in the final chapter, especially networking and sharing between and among countries and practicing professional counselors, counselor educators, and counseling researchers and scholars. This book provides a strong foundation for such networking and allows readers to grasp the nuances of the counseling profession as it has evolved and continues to evolve within varying cultural contexts.

This book is destined to be a classic cited for generations to come, as it establishes the evolution of the counseling perspective to this point in time, identifies challenges and barriers to its advancement, and proposes needs to be addressed as counselors move into the future. *Counseling Around the World* merits integration into core counseling programs and courses that deal with all aspects of diversity and professional practice. East meets West in very basic, practical ways when theories of counseling are challenged as to their applicability in more collectivist cultures or when spirituality and counseling are thought of as one in the same for helping. Continuing education programs for professional counselors will also find this book to be an important resource for planning continuing education. In the coming years, counselors in settings from schools to private practice will find more children, family members, and persons of other countries of origin coming to them for assistance. The editors of this book are to be commended for providing a resource that is global in scope, in depth in content, and at once both realistic and aspirational in terms of defining both the challenges and potential for the globalization of the counseling profession. *This is essential reading for all counselors!*

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Thomas H. Hohenshil

It has been an exciting and extraordinary learning experience working with my excellent coeditors and the contributing authors of this book. Both coeditors have contributed significant editorial assistance and many excellent suggestions. The 100+ contributing authors collectively contributed international knowledge about the counseling profession that is not available anywhere else. To the contributing authors I extend a hearty thank you for helping transform me into a more globally literate counselor. Thanks to Carolyn Baker and the other members of the American Counseling Association publications staff, whose expertise was quite helpful throughout the publication process. And finally, a special thanks to my wife Sue for her encouragement and assistance throughout the development of this book. Sue was a professional counselor for more than 20 years and, thanks to her undergraduate major in English, is an excellent editor in her own right.

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Norman E. Amundson

The breadth of this project is truly quite remarkable and much needed in a time of increasing globalization. Pulling all of this together has required ongoing support from the American Counseling Association as well as a team of editors and international writers who have committed themselves fully to the task. I am thankful to be part of such a team, and I look forward to continued collaboration. Like Tom, I also must acknowledge the help of my wife Jeanette, who works as a spiritual director and is someone I can turn to on an ongoing basis for editorial and technological support. The creation of any new product is truly the result of many minds and hands, and I am very thankful to be part of the process.

. . .

Spencer G. Niles

I am grateful to my coeditors for their excellent work and leadership on this project. I am also especially grateful to the international colleagues with whom I have had the honor of working (many are contributors to this book). They have taught me much about the international perspective on counseling in the 21st century. We are fortunate to have such leaders in our global profession.

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