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Introduction to School Counseling Services Articles

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Lisa Shaw

The School Counseling Services class is a graduate course taught each fall semester. Under the supervision of Dr. S. Lenoir Gillam, I worked with twelve school counseling students to identify today's hot topics for school counselors. The graduate students contacted the 14 schools within Columbus State University's College of Education Partner School Network and interviewed the lead school counselor to determine the topics that most impact academic achievement: truancy, loss and grief, alcohol and drugs, children in foster care, a lack of social skills, and eating disorders.

Throughout the semester, students utilized the school counselors within the Partner School Network to research their topics. School counselors were invited to class one evening to meet students and hear more information about the roles and responsibilities of school counselors. Data were collected on each school counselor in order to effect a successful practicum and internship pairing. School counselors have indicated that they benefit from meeting with graduate students and sharing topic ideas with both students and College of Education faculty.