

Dr. Leon DeSecottier

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Philosophy of Education

“To teach is to learn twice” is a statement which is at the center of my belief in teaching and my philosophy of education. Each course I teach and each student I meet gives me the opportunity to learn something new about our world and then to pass that information on to others. Teaching is an art which requires great skills, talents and strengths. These special characteristics, although arguably innate, require continuous development and practice in order to perfect.

My path toward teaching and the helping profession was not as direct as some who enter our field. Although always my dream to teach and work with those in need, I chose an early path of business. I clearly see that I used my talents in teaching which enabled me to be successful in business. In business, I learned to be firm, but fair in my treatment of others. This is a skill which I also use in the classroom. I firmly believe that the student must take an active role in their education and cannot simply sit and absorb information if they are to truly learn what is presented.

I believe in an esoteric manner of teaching in that I should be teaching what students should want to know. This creates the need for me to be ever present and responsive to the needs of students and the community. This also requires that I keep abreast of current and changing events and that I be able to present these new facts to others without bias towards old and outdated ideology. An open mind is required to be this type of instructor as well as an acknowledgement that I have more to learn each and every day. Teaching is an opportunity for learning and one which I take seriously.

Professional Experience

- Caring Professional Associates: Director and Therapist 1996-2017
- South Plains College: January 1993-December 2000
- Texas Tech University: January 1995-December 2000
- Northwestern Oklahoma State University: June 2001-May 2012 Professor Emeritus
- Mid-America Christian University: July 2012-Present 2017

Education

- **Texas Tech University-Doctorate Educational Psychology**

Licenses and Certifications

- **Nationally Certified Counselor, Internationally Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor/Co-Occurring, LPC, LADC/MH**

Research and Scholarly Activities

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS:

Munsch, J., DeSecottier, L. & Liang, S. (1995). Adolescent relationships with adult

relatives: A comparison of Anglo American and Mexican American adolescents.

Paper presentation at the 1995 Meeting of the Texas Council on Family Relations, Houston, Texas.

Munsch, J., Liang, S. & DeSecottier, L. (1996). Kin as mentors in the lives of Mexican-

American adolescents. Paper presented at the 1996 Meeting of the National

Council on Family Relations, Portland, Oregon.

DeSecottier, L. (1995). Mentors in the lives of adolescents. Masters Thesis. Texas Tech Library, Lubbock, Texas.

DeSecottier, L. (1998). Non parental adults in the lives of Mexican American and Anglo American adolescents: A Comparative study. Dissertation abstracts. Texas Tech University

DeSecottier, L. (2003). Research in Counseling. Research Seminar presentation Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Fall 2003.

DeSecottier, L. (2005). The impact of Research on Counseling. Seminar presentation Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Fall 2005.

DeSecottier, L (2011). Ethical Considerations in Research. Research Seminar Presentation Northwestern Oklahoma State University. Fall, 2011.

DeSecottier, L (2012). Topics in Research in Counseling Psychology. Research Seminar Presentation Mid America Christian University, Fall 2012,

Professional Memberships

MEMBERSHIPS:

- American Counseling Association
- Texas Certification of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors
- Texas Association of Addiction Professionals
- National Association. of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors
- American Psychological Association

CIVIC AND FRATERNAL SOCIETIES:

Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity Chi Sigma Iota: Zeta Zeta Chapter