

Bowie State University Ujima Center for School Counseling Scholars Research Agenda

Research Objective 1: Cultivating Culturally Responsive and Sustaining School Counseling

The research projects under this objective will be based on Gloria Ladson-Billings' (1994) culturally responsive pedagogy. They will focus on the effectiveness of culturally responsive and inclusive school counseling practices. They will then evaluate the role of cultural competency of counselors in enhancing the wellbeing of students from different cultural backgrounds through culturally responsive interventions.

Research Objective 2: Examining the Efficacy of Interventions Aimed at Promoting Equity and Inclusion in School Counseling

Promotion of diversity among school counselors is an important aspect of ensuring equity and inclusion for diverse student populations. Therefore, this area seeks to find out the effects of various strategies in increasing diversity among school counselors. The study will look into what inhibits this diversification, if there are any, as well as possible ways to bring about diversity in school counseling.

Research Objective 3: Measuring the Impact of Culturally Responsive Mental Health Services within Schools

This objective shall have research projects that seek to determine how mental health services availability impacted high-need schools. Projects should use suspension rate, absenteeism rates, and other factors indicative of student well-being to establish how effective counseling services tend to improve student mental health as well as academic success records.

Research Objective 4: Evaluating the Efficacy of First Aid Mental Health Training and Multi-Tiered Support Systems through Quantitative Measures

This objective aims at improved performance and optimization of First Aid Mental Health through a Multi-Tiered Support System used in high-needs schools. This section identifies where it got it right or wrong so as to set up best practices while also assessing its effectiveness.

Research Objective 5: Creating and Verifying Assessment Tools for Evaluating the Efficacy of Culturally Responsive Mental Health Services in Educational Settings

This research objective focuses on the development and validation of evaluation tools for its activities. These instruments will be aimed at examining the effects of the project, with a particular emphasis on diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA).

Ladson-Billings, G. (1994). *The dreamkeepers: Successful teachers of African American children*. Jossey-Bass.