Course description: This course is geared for students with a psychology background and an interest in entering a helping profession (e.g. psychology, psychiatry, medicine, social work, supportive counseling, religious counseling, etc.). We will provide a broad overview of the practical considerations for working in a clinical relationship with a client or patient. Topics addressed include: forming a relationship with a client, working on goals together, addressing barriers and resistance, and repairing ruptured relationships. These topics will be addressed with readings, written responses, and hands-on practice exercises.

Goals: For students to develop a broad understanding of what alliance in clinical relationships are and to begin to learn how to build such relationships, as can be applied across a broad range of clinical settings.