

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

PCPM 623 Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues

Jean Orr, Psy.D.
8:00am-12:00noon
May 29-June 1, 2007 8:00am-12:00noon

Summer May 21-25, 2007
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COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the ethical, legal, and professional issues involved in the practice of professional counseling and/or marital and family therapy.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

General Objectives

This course is intended to:

1. Familiarize students with relevant ethical, legal, and professional issues associated with the practice of counseling/therapy.
2. Familiarize students with the various codes of ethics for the helping professions, including ACA, APA, NASW, and AAMFT codes.
3. Familiarize students with the Missouri Code of State Regulations and Law for professional counselors.

Specific Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify and apply the ethical decision making steps to use in resolving ethical dilemmas.
2. Identify major components of ethical codes for clinicians.
3. Communicate how personal values influence ethical posture.
4. Understand and discuss relevant ethical issues including confidentiality, privacy, competence, informed consent, and multiple relationships.
5. Understand and discuss relevant legal issues including duty to warn/report, privileged communication, informed consent, client rights, and malpractice liability.

6. Communicate an understanding of the Missouri Code of State Regulations and Law.
7. Identify the necessary prerequisites, including education, examination, supervision, and application process, to apply for licensure as a professional counselor or marriage and family therapist in this state.
8. Identify and integrate one's own values and Christian worldview with ethics and legalities of the counseling profession.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Caudill, O. B., & Callahan, McCune, & Willis LLP. *Twelve pitfalls for psychotherapists*.
Department of Economic Development: State Committee of Psychologists.
(Will be provided to students on 5/21/07)

Corey, G., Corey, M. S., & Callanan, P. (2007). *Issues and ethics in the helping professions* (7th ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Division of Professional Registration: Committee for Professional Counselors. (2005).
Missouri committee for professional counselors code of state regulations and law.
Jefferson City, MO: Department of Economic Development.
(Will be provided to students on 5/21/07)

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK

American Psychological Association (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.). Washington DC: Author.

METHODOLOGY

The format of the course will consist of lectures, class discussions, multi-media presentations, ethical dilemma role plays, in class assignments, homework assignments, and examinations.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of all readings as assigned is expected.
2. Completion of all assignments on time is expected. Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day.
3. Participation in class discussions is expected.
4. Professionalism and courtesy in regard to attendance is expected. No more than 2 excused absences allowed.

5. Two comprehensive examinations are scheduled (60 points each).
6. Two interviews of Professional Counselors/Psychologists (3 points each) will be due 5/23/07. See attached forms.
7. A 2 page written critique plus title page and oral presentation (time permitting) of one journal article on a particular area of ethics (15 points) will be due depending on topic assigned (as it corresponds to course topic of the day). Critique and presentation is to include thesis of article, main points, conclusion/summary, implications for Christians providing counseling.
8. A 10 to 12 page position paper will be due on 6/15/07. You must first identify and describe five of your values. Then, following each value, you must discuss how your values and Christian worldview may create conflicts and dilemmas with the ethics and legalities of counseling/therapy. Provide at least 2 dilemmas for each value. How might you integrate your values and Christian worldview with ethics and law of counseling/therapy? How will you resolve these potential conflicts? The paper must be typed double-spaced, using Arial 12 font. The paper must use APA style (writing in first person will be permitted) and be organized by use of headings (each value will be a heading) (50 points). A listing of your five values will be due by 5/25/07. Examples of papers are on reserve in the library.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

This is a tentative schedule and subject to change if necessary. You will be notified of any changes.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapters in Corey</u>
Mon. 5/21	1 Introduction to Professional Ethics 2 The Counselor as a Person and as a Professional
Tues. 5/22	3 Values and the Helping Relationship
Wed. 5/23	Chapel 9:50-11:00am 8 Professional Competence and Training 2 Interviews Due
Thurs. 5/24	5 Client Rights and Counselor Responsibilities
Fri. 5/25	Exam I List of Values Due 4 Multicultural Perspectives and Diversity Issues

Mon. 5/28	Memorial Day – No Class
Tues. 5/29	6 Confidentiality
Wed. 5/30	7 Managing Boundaries and Multiple Relationships
Thurs. 5/31	11 Ethical Issues in Couples and Family Therapy
Fri. 6/1	Exam II

EVALUATION

The final course grade will be determined based on the combined scores on all exams, in class assignments, homework assignments, and papers. Grades will be calculated by dividing the total number of points accumulated by the total possible points. Students are expected to attend all classes and take exams on scheduled days. If an emergency arises, the student must be responsible to notify the professor before class. Attendance and class participation will be considered in the cases of borderline grades. Late assignments will be deducted 10% per day late/one letter grade per day.

A+	=	Publishable
A	=	94-100%
A-	=	90-93%
B+	=	87-89%
B	=	84-86%
B-	=	80-83%
C+	=	77-79%
C	=	74-76%
C-	=	70-73%
D+	=	67-69%
D	=	64-66%
D-	=	60-63%
F	=	59% and below

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any student who cheats or plagiarizes earns a failing grade for the course.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Available on student's request.

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Jean Orr, Psy.D., April 2, 2007

