

Lewis & Clark College
Professional Mental Health Counseling & Professional Mental Health Counseling –
Specialization in Addictions
MHC 532
Ethical & Legal Issues in Professional Counseling
Syllabus Cover Sheet

Required Objectives:

Professional Counseling Identity (CACREP 2016 Standards)

1i. ethical standards of professional counseling organizations and credentialing bodies, and applications of ethical and legal considerations in professional counseling

Entry-Level Specialty: Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CACREP 2016 Standards)

C2i. legal and ethical considerations specific to clinical mental health counseling

Key Required Assignments/Student Learning Outcomes

These assignments are required for the course, but **will not be the only requirements/expectations.** The chart below lists the assignment, method of submission, and benchmark score/grade. These assignments are set up for upload to Taskstream and/or instructor provides rating for assignment. See syllabus for details.

Ethical Practice		Proficient (A)	Benchmark (B)	Emerging (C)	Inadequate /Fail	As evidenced by:	Review and Remediation
Goal 1 of 1							
Understands, and follows ethical standards	Early Program	90-100% cumulative quiz score	80-89% cumulative quiz score	70- 80% cumulative quiz score	Below 70% cumulative quiz score	MHC 532/MHCA 525 Ethics: Passes ethics quizzes with 80% minimum	First Year Portfolio Review/Advisor: Referral to Benchmark Review Committee

Methods of Instruction for this Course

Instruction Method	Mark All That Apply
Lecture	Yes
Small Group Discussion	Yes
Large Group Discussion	Yes
Course Readings	Yes
Group Presentation	
Individual Presentation	Yes
DVD/Video Presentation	
Supervised Small Group Work	Yes
Individual/Triadic Supervision	
Group Supervision	
Case Study	Yes
Debate	
Class Visitor / Guest Lecturer	
Off-Campus / Field Visit	
Other:	
Weekly Discussion / Question cards	Yes
Weekly Reflection cards	Yes

Ethical and Legal Issues in Professional Counseling

MHC 532-01

Spring, 2019

Instructors:

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Course credit: 2 semester hours

Textbook required:

Ethics in Counseling and Psychotherapy; Standards, Research, and Emerging Issues, 6th Edition,

Elizabeth Reynolds Welfel

(2016)

Overview:

This course will help you develop a strong knowledge base, critical thinking and ethical decision making skills in all aspects of your counseling work. In our class, you will learn about specific ethical and legal issues and develop ways of thinking that enhance your professionalism. You will be challenged to increase your level of awareness, sensitivity, and understanding of ethical principles in counseling. The goals for this class are to increase your achievement of high levels of ethical awareness and help develop strong ethical performance in your professional counseling.

Readings:

Most of our class discussions and assignments will be from readings in our textbook. The assigned chapters offer a wide scope and understanding with many illustrations of ethical challenges. As new counselors entering a very complex and highly ambiguous field, it is critically important to recognize and understand the ethical dimensions of our profession. As you will see, strong ethics are the foundation for competent counseling services. This class will help develop your professional ethics and enhance your skills and competence with the primary goal being the safety of your future clients. In this course, you are expected to keep up with the assigned readings and to actively contribute in each and every class session.

Class assignments:

Participation in weekly class discussions: In this class, our expectations are that every student will share questions and ideas in each class session. We want you to find your voice and express yourself. Since we rely heavily on student participation in class discussions, missing a class means earning no discussion question points for that evening.

Discussion questions: For each class, you will write two (2) discussion questions. These questions, written on 3 X 5 inch index cards, will come from your assigned chapters. Your questions and their answers will form the foundation of our class discussions. Due at the beginning of each class, you will receive partial credit for late cards. These cards will be worth up to **2 points** each (maximum of **4 points** per class), for a total of **18 cards (36 points)** during the semester.

Reflection cards: For each class, you will also write one (1) reflection card. These statements, on 3 X 5 cards, will be based on your thoughts, reactions, and the integration of information discussed in our classes. You will be asked to consider the topics discussed, and write a brief reaction or reflection on the relevance of that topic. You may also discuss practical applications of those ideas and their importance to your future practice and specialty. These cards are worth **1 point** each, for **9 points** in the semester.

Important influences exercise: Ethics are inspired and influenced by many events, places and people in our lives. You will create a 10 minute class presentation, selecting from a variety of options, illustrating important influences on your professional ethics. Students can earn up to **10 points** for your construction and presentation of this individual exercise. Students will select the week for your brief presentations. More information will follow.

Mid-terms I, II, and III: We will have three mid-term exams, one in week 4 (**15 points**), one in week 7 (**15 points**), and one in week 9 (**10 points**), covering material in that segment of class.

Article on Ethics: You will select an article and lead a brief, 10 minute class discussion on this ethics topic of your choice. Please provide a copy for each of your instructors (**5 points**).

Grading: For a total of up to **100 points** on your final grade, scoring will proceed as follows:

A = 100 to 93 points A - = 92 to 90 points

B + = 89 to 87 points B = 86 to 83 points B - = 82 to 80 points

C + = 79 to 77 points C = 76 to 73 points C - = 72 to 70 points

Please note: A score of 69 points or below is registered as a failing grade for this class.

Attendance and courtesy: Class attendance is expected and required. If you are going to miss any class, you will be given make-up assignments. Please inform your instructor(s) as soon as possible if you anticipate missing a class. If more than one class is missed, you will be referred to a Counseling Psychology Department Academic Review Panel with the outcome to be determined.

As a professional courtesy to your classmates and instructors, any non-class-related or disruptive use of electronic devices in our class is prohibited. We can make exceptions if you have informed us of a pending critical incoming communication.

If you require any educational accommodation based on ADA standards, as early as possible in the semester, please provide evidence of written approval by the Professional Mental Health Counseling staff in the Counseling Psychology Department at Lewis & Clark College.

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Spring, 2019

Date	Topic	Readings	Pages	Assignments & Expectations
January 10, 2019	Introduction to Ethics	Chapter 1 and Chapter 2	Pages 2 to 26 Pages 27 to 56	Attendance and Participation*
January 17, 2019	Ethical practice in a multicultural society	Chapter 3	Pages 57 to 83	Discussion cards* Reflection card*
January 24, 2019	Confidentiality	Chapter 5	Pages 111 to 158	Discussion cards* Reflection card*
January 31, 2019	Informed Consent	Chapter 6	Pages 159 to 182	Discussion cards* Reflection Card* Important Others 1 Midterm I
February 7, 2019	Sexualized Relationships	Chapter 7	Pages 183 to 213	Discussion cards* Reflection card* Important Others 2
February 14, 2019	Nonsexual Multiple Relationships	Chapter 8	Pages 214 to 242	Discussion cards* Reflection card* Important others 3
February 21, 2019	Competence and Preventing misconduct	Chapter 4 and Chapter 11	Pages 86 to 110 Pages 296 to 318	Discussion cards* Reflection card* Important others 4 Midterm II
February 28, 2019	Groups, couples and families	Chapter 9	Pages 243 to 265	Discussion cards* Reflection card* Important others 5
March 7, 2019	The Ethics of supervision	Chapter 14	Pages 385 to 414	Discussion cards* Reflection card* Important others 6 Midterm III
March 14, 2019	Special topics	Article on Ethics	2 copies, please	Discussion cards* Reflection card* Important others 7

*Each class

Two Discussion cards, up to 2 points each, total = 4 points class;

One Reflection card, 1 point each, total = 1 point per class;

Important Influences exercise, up to 10 points per student;

Article (and discussion) on ethics, up to 5 points student.