INSTRUCTOR
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OFFICE HOURS
Mon. 2:30 - 4:30 (MPLX) 2:30 -4:30
Wed. 2:30 - 4:30 (Bin) 2:30 – 4:30
Thur, 2:30- 4:30 (Bin) 8/30 – 9/27
(MPLX) 10/4 – 11/1
(CCHE) 11/8/- 12/13

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Ethics in Professional Counseling. One credit hour course.
Examines ethical and legal issues in counseling and the behavioral sciences. Includes theories of
moral philosophy and the development and application of professional codes.

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION
Examines ethical and legal issues in counseling and the behavioral sciences. Includes theories of moral
philosophy and the development and application of professional codes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES include, but are not limited to, the following.

Upon completion of this course, the participant will be able to:

1. Provide an explanation of the purpose of the ACA Code of Ethics for Counselors.
2. Describe the difference between values, morality, and ethics.
3. Describe the relationship between key counseling values, the ethical principles, and the
decision making process.
4. Identify and apply the five ethical principles that provide the foundation for professional
behaviors.
5. Apply the ACA Code of ethics as a guide to decision making.
6. Understand and apply the concepts of privacy, confidentiality and privileged
communications.
7. Recognize the difference between an ethical issue and an ethical dilemma.
8. Apply an ethical decision making model to guide the resolution of an ethical dilemma.

CONTENT AREAS include, but are not limited to, the following:

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION
Lecture, discussion and discussion
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

• **Attendance:** All students are required to attend classes (students are required to attend the entire class to avoid absence). If for some reason you will not be able to attend, please notify the instructor prior to the absence, preferably by email. The TAMU-C attendance policy is outlined in the Graduate Catalog. After 2 unexcused absences students will be dropped from the class. Students are responsible for all material covered in the class. If a student is tardy it is his/her responsibility to ensure the instructor is aware of his/her presence.

• **Class participation:** Students are expected to make an active and personal effort to contribute to class. In order to gain full benefit of the material covered, participation is essential. “All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedure, Conduct). All phones, pagers, and other communication devices are to be turned off or placed on silent mode during class.

• **Complete All Assignments on Time:** Students are expected to complete all assignments as instructed and ON TIME. Late assignments will be considered only in cases of exceptional circumstances. In all cases, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor to discuss special considerations/modifications of assignments or completion of missed work.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES

The student performance will be determined as follows:

- A = 100-90
- B = 89-80
- C = 79-70
- D = 69-60
- F = > 60

REQUIRED TEXT(S) AND/OR READING(S)

TBA

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library
Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
CONDUCT AND ACADEMIC HONESTY
"All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student's Guide Handbook, Polices and Procedures, Conduct) “Graduate students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work.” (See Section A13.12, Academic Honesty, A&M-Commerce Procedures.)

UNIVERSITY CLOSING DUE TO WEATHER
Check http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/ regarding class cancellations. Also, KETR radio on 88.9 FM and television channels 4, 5, and 8 (channel 7 for Tyler & Longview Area).

Tentative Class Schedule
Ethics in professional Counseling
Counseling 549

Date

8/30
Orientation and course overview
ACA Code of Ethics (2005)
Assignment: Rewrite (by headings) what the ACA Codes mean in your own words
Due 9/6

9/6
Licensure and credentialing
Basic Law for the Counselor
Texas Law pertaining to Counseling
Assignment: Research the following and write a brief 2-3 page summary of each.
Texas Occupational Code Ch. 503 LPC
Health & Safety Code Ch. 681, 573, 611
Due 9/13

9/13
Ethical principles & theories
Assignment: Pick an ethical theory based on today’s lecture and describe how you may use it. (2-3 pages)
Due 9/20

9/20
Court Cases
Tarasoff
Thapar v Zezulka
Abrams v Jones
Jaffe v Redmond

9/27
Ethics and end-of-life decision making
10/4
Orientation and course overview
ACA Code of Ethics (2005)
Assignment: Rewrite (by headings) what the ACA Codes mean in your own words
Due 10/11

10/11
Licensure and credentialing
Basic Law for the Counselor
Texas Law pertaining to Counseling
Assignment: Research the following and write a brief 2-3 page summary of each.
Texas Occupational Code Ch. 503 LPC
Health & Safety Code Ch. 681, 573, 611
Due 10/18

10/18
Ethical principles & theories
Assignment: Pick an ethical theory based on today’s lecture and describe how you may use it. (2-3 pages)
Due 10/25

10/25
Court Cases
Tarasoff
Thapar v Zezulka
Abrams v Jones
Jaffe v Redmond

11/1
Ethics and end-of-life decision making

11/8
Orientation and course overview
ACA Code of Ethics (2005)
Assignment: Rewrite (by headings) what the ACA Codes mean in your own words
Due 11/15

11/15
Licensure and credentialing
Basic Law for the Counselor
Texas Law pertaining to Counseling
Assignment: Research the following and write a brief 2-3 page summary of each.
Texas Occupational Code Ch. 503 LPC
Health & Safety Code Ch. 681, 573, 611
Due 11/29
11/29
Ethical principles & theories
Assignment: Pick an ethical theory based on today’s lecture and describe how you may use it. (2-3 pages)
Due 12/6

12/6
Court Cases
Tarasoff
Thapar v Zezulka
Abrams v Jones
Jaffe v Redmond

12/12
Ethics and end-of-life decision making