

Gateway Seminary
Los Angeles – Ontario Campus
P2528 Law and Ethics in Christian Counseling - 3 Credit Hrs.
Thursdays, Jan 30 - May 19, 8-10:50 a.m.
Room 305
Dr. Guy Grimes
Spring 2017
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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to teach students the process of ethical and legal decision making in the practice of Christian counseling. Topics covered include: potential liabilities, practice management, emotional and spiritual concerns of the practicing Christian counselor. Students will gain experiential understanding regarding ethical responses related to boundary issues, moral issues, dual relationships, confidentiality, financial matters, termination process, case notes, and duty to report and warn.

II. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- That the student becomes familiar with issues related to certification as a counselor (F12).
- That the student understands prominent legal issues involved in counseling and ways to minimize legal liabilities (J4).
- That the student is introduced to administrative issues involved in practice management (R20).
- That the student develops his/her own personal position on selected ethical and moral issues in Christian counseling (J3).
- That the student displays a healthy respect for the ethical codes and standards of the major mental health professions (C10).

III. Course Assessment

1. ePortfolio Reflections - All degree-seeking students must reflect on the work completed as part of required courses by commenting upon the manner in which the course contributed to his/her **growth in relation to five Essential Leadership Characteristics** selected by the student and referenced in the syllabus under Course Learning Outcomes. These reflections must be recorded in the student's ePortfolio and a copy emailed to the professor no later than the last scheduled meeting of the class.

2. CoursEval Assessments – Each semester a link to a CoursEval survey for each course taken will appear in the student's MyGateway page. Students are required to complete this **online evaluation of course/instructor** no later than the last scheduled meeting of the class.

A summary of results (without student ID) is released to the professor only after grades have been submitted for the course.

3. ePortfolio Artifacts – The syllabi of certain courses identify specific assignments which the student will both turn in to the professor for a grade AND **attach to their ePortfolio as a "learning artifact."** The institution reviews these artifacts as a way of judging the effectiveness of the Seminary's academic program. The review normally occurs after the student's graduation and without reference to student identity. Students are encouraged to remove title page or header/footer containing their name prior to attaching the artifact to their ePortfolio.

Seminary Policy on academic credit and workload expectations: For each hour of academic credit granted for a Gateway course the Seminary assigns 15 hours of instruction and assigns 30 hours of instructional exercises to be completed outside of class meetings. For andrological reasons, individual courses may adjust the ratio of assignments inside and outside class meetings, but the same total workload expectation of 45 clock hours of academic learning activities per academic credit hour earned will be maintained in all classes.

IV. Course Requirements

- A. **Attendance/Participation** is required.
- B. **Class presentation.** Each student will develop and present in a case study reflecting an issue of law or ethical concern. The topic must be approved by the professor. The student is responsible for the presentation and discussion of the pertinent legal\ethical guidelines. Presentations should last 30-45 minutes, students may receive up to **60 points** for this assignment.
- C. **Forms - A Declaration of Practices and Procedures, and Client Intake Form.**
 - 1. Each student is required to create a Declaration of Practices and Procedures and Client Intake Form that reflects his/her personal approach to counseling, as well as other relevant legal and ethical issues.
 - 2. It will be important to review several Informed Consent samples to aid in the production of your document.
 - 3. **Due date is April 6th** Bring the completed assignment to class.
 - 5. **Total points = 50 points**
- D. **Research Articles Summary and Reflection** - Each student is responsible for reading four (4) research articles related to legal and ethical decision making in counseling.
 - 1. Write a 3-page summary and personal reflection of each of the four articles.
 - 2. See Appendix A for the list of articles.
 - 3. See course schedule for due dates.

4. Each article is worth 10 points for a **total of 40 points** for the assignment.
5. Please download the document to MLS.
6. Use Times Roman, 12 pt., double-spaced, 1” margins, and include a title page).

A. **Critical Book Review of Sanders, R. K., *Christian Counseling Ethics: A Handbook for Therapists, Pastors, & Counselors*** – Five to seven written pages in standard academic form, interacting with the major content, give critical analysis and personal reaction/feedback. Submitted by **April 27th** **Total points = 100 points.**

B. **Final Examination** – there will be a final exam that will be distributed the week of May 8th-12th. It must be completed and submitted by **May 18th**.

1. The completed final will be returned to guygrimes@gs.edu
2. Case studies will be given that require consideration based on ethical and legal guidelines.
3. Be sure to include state guidelines.
4. Be sure to include Biblical resources.
5. A thorough analytical response is requested.
6. **Total points = 100 points**

GRADES:

1. Declaration of Practices	50 points
2. Class presentation	60 points
3. Research Articles	40 points
4. Critical Book Review (1)	100 points
5. Final Examination	100 points
Total	350 points

<u>Letter Grades</u>	<u>Points</u>
A	343-350
A-	332-342
B+	325-331
B	311-324
B-	304-310
C+	294-303
C	280-293
C-	269-279
D+	262-268
D	252-261
D-	245-251
F	0-241

VI. Required Texts

AAMFT, Legal Guidelines for Family Therapists with Selected Ethical Opinions

Corey, G., M. Corey, and P. Callahan. *Issues and Ethics in the Helping Professions* (8th ed.)

Sanders, R. K., *Christian Counseling Ethics: A Handbook for Therapists, Pastors, & Counselors*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1997.

Recommended Text

Clinton & Ohlschlager, *Competent Christian Counseling, VI: Foundations & Practice of Compassionate Soul Care*. Publisher: WaterBrook Press - 2002-04-16

Gladding, C., Huber, C., Rembley, T., & Wilcoxon, S. *Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy* (4th ed.). Columbus, OH: Prentice Hall, 2007.

Wilson, *Counseling & Community: Using Church Relationships to Reinforce Counseling*. Publisher: Regent College Publishing - 2003-04-02

V. Course Schedule

Date	Class Topic
Feb. 2nd	Overview of syllabus Introduction to Professional Ethics
Feb. 9th	Professional Ethics Research Articles # 1 Due
Feb. 16 th	The Counselor as a Person
Feb. 23th	Values and the Helping Relationship Articles #2 Due
March 2 nd	Multicultural Perspectives

March 9 th	Client Rights/Counselor Responsibilities Informed Consent, Record Keeping
March 16 th	Confidentiality: Ethical/Legal Issues Duty to Protect
March 23 rd	SPRING BREAK
March 30 th	Boundaries and Multiple Relationships Research Articles # 3 Due
April 6 th	Research Articles #4 and Forms Due Sexual Misconduct/Abuse of Power
April 13 th	Professional Competence and Training
April 20 th	Issues in Theory, Practice, Research Issues in Supervision and Consultation
April 27 th	Ethical Issues in Couples/Family Therapy Book Review Due
May 4 th	Ethical Issues in Group Work
May 11 th	Ethical Issues in Community Work FINAL EXAM DISTRIBUTED
May 18 th	FINAL EXAM DUE

VIII. Bibliography

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Anderson, Neil T., Terry Zuehkle, and Julianne Zuehkle. *Christ-Centered Therapy*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.

Clinton, Timothy, and George Ohlschlager, eds. *Competent Christian Counseling, Volume One: Foundations & Practice of Compassionate Soul Care*. Colorado Springs: WaterBrook Press, 2002.

Collins, Gary. *Christian Counseling: A Comprehensive Guide. Revised and Updated Third Edition*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2007.

Corey, G., M. Corey, and P. Callahan. *Issues and Ethics in the Helping Professions with Ethics Action CD-ROM*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole, 2007.

Jones, Ian. *The Counsel of Heaven on Earth: Foundations for Biblical Christian Counseling*.

- Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2006.
- Sanders, Randolph. *Christian Counseling Ethics: A Handbook for Psychologists, Therapists, and Pastors*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2013.
- Thomas, John, and Lisa Sosin. *Therapeutic Expedition: Equipping the Christian Counselor for the Journey*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2011.
- Wilcoxon, S. Allen, Theodore Renley and Samuel Gladding. *Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2012.
- Wimberly, Edward. *Prayer in Pastoral Counseling*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1990.
- Yarhouse, Mark A., and Sell, James. *Family Therapies: A Comprehensive Christian Appraisal*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008.
- Zuckerman, Edward L. *The Paper Office, 4th Edition*. New York: Guilford Press, 2008.

Appendix A

Ethical Decision Making

- Barnet J, S Behneke, S Rosenthal, G Koocher. In case of ethical dilemma break glass: Commentary on ethical decision making in practice. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 38:7-12, 2007.
- Smith D. Ten ways practitioners can avoid frequent ethical pitfalls. *Monitor on Psychology*, 50-55. <http://www.apa.org/monitor/jan03/10ways.html>
- Smith D. In an ethical bind? Here are things every psychologist can do. *Monitor on Psychology*, 61. (continued from previous link)

Competence, Confidentiality and Informed Consent

- Fisher M. Protecting confidentiality rights: The need for an ethical practice model. *American Psychologist*, 63:1-13, 2008.
- Fisher M. Replacing “who is the client?” with a different ethical questions. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 40:1-7, 2009.
- Barnett J, E Wise, D Johnson-Greene, S Bucky. Informed consent: Too much of a good thing or not enough? *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 38:179-186, 2007.
- Zur O, et al. Psychologist self-disclosure and transparency in the internet age. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 40:22-30, 2009.

Legal Mandates

- Knapp S, M Gottlieb, J Berman, M Handelsman. When laws and ethics collide: What should psychologists do? *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 38:54-59, 2007.
- APA Committee on Professional Practice and Standards. Legal issues in the professional practice of psychology. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 34:595-600, 2003.

Multiple Relationships and Professional Boundaries

- Younggren J, M Gottlieb. Managing risk when contemplating multiple relationships. *Professional Psychology: Research and practice*, 35:255-260, 2004.
- Campbell C, M Gordon. Acknowledging the inevitable: Understanding multiple relationships in rural practice. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 34:430-434, 2003.
- Harti T, et al. Clients’ sexually inappropriate behaviors directed toward clinicians: Conceptualization and management. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 36: 674-681, 2007.
- Birrell P. An ethic of possibility: Relationship, risk, and presence. *Ethics and Behavior*, 16:95-115, 2006.

Clinical Supervision

- Barnett J, E Cornish, J Goodyear, J Lichtenberg. Commentaries on the ethical and effective practice of clinical supervision. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 38:268-275, 2007.

Diversity

Sue D, et al. Racial microaggressions in everyday life: Implications for clinical practice. *American Psychologist*, 62:271-286, 2007.

High Risk – Life Endangering Clients

Jobes D, M Rudd, J Overholser, T Joiner. Ethical and competent care of suicidal patients: Contemporary challenges, new developments, and considerations for clinical practice. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 39:405-413, 2008.

Borum R, M Reddy. Assessing violence risk in Tarasoff situations: A fact-based model of inquiry. *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 19:375-385, 2001.