

**CPSY 421: PROFESSIONAL ISSUES**  
**Fall 2011**  
**Loyola University Chicago**

Mo 4:15-6:45 PM  
Corboy Law Center Rm. 304

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**Required Text**

Welfel, E. R. (2010). Ethics in counseling & psychotherapy (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole.

**Course Descriptions and Objectives**

This course will provide students with an overview of the current ethical and professional issues in the practice of counseling. Students will learn ethical principles and standards in counseling and apply them to hypothetical ethical, legal cases. Students will learn to be critical thinkers through the use of an ethical decision making model. They will learn how to apply ethical principles and standards across different settings (e.g., community, school) and clients.

The primary objectives of this course are for students: (1) to understand ethical principles and standards in counseling, (2) to use ethical decision making models to work through ethical dilemmas, (3) to understand how ethical principles and standards apply across different settings and clientele, and (4) to understand how their own values, beliefs, and cultures contribute to ethical decision making.

**School of Education Conceptual Framework**

**Professionalism in the Service of Social Justice:** As a professional counselor you can be a vehicle for justice in whatever setting you work. Issues of oppression, privilege, access, opportunity, inclusion, exclusion, discrimination and bias occur throughout our society. You will be in a unique position to apply the knowledge base of your profession and the skills that you will acquire in an ethical and reflective manner that promotes self-development and self-determination of others. Your ability to make ethical decisions will be assessed through the case analysis on the final exam.

**Technology:** In this course you will use technology to aid you in communicating and locating resources. The email listserve will provide a convenient way for us to communicate with one another in between class meetings. You will be able to locate professional resources on the internet.

Diversity: Your program is committed to issues of diversity including but not limited to, race, gender, sexual orientation, social class, ethnicity, and ability status. Ethical practice requires an awareness of the sociocultural context. In this course you will learn that issues of diversity in terms of multicultural competence represent an ethical mandate. Your awareness of the concept of multicultural competence will be assessed on the final exam.

### Evaluation

#### Grading Scale:

93-100:	A	76-79:	C+
90-92:	A-	73-75:	C
86-89:	B+	70-72:	C-
83-85:	B	69 & below:	F
80-82:	B-		

Criteria	Total Points
Participation	100
Examination	100
Practitioner interview	100
Final Exam/Presentation	<u>200</u>
Total	500 points

**Late work will have 10% deducted from the total possible score for each day past due date.** No papers will be accepted 4 days after the due date without prior permission from the instructor. In case of urgent personal emergencies, the instructor should be contacted as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements. Please note, computer and work related difficulties are not considered personal emergencies. Plan accordingly!

### Course Requirements

1. Participation: Attendance, promptness, and active participation are essential to this class. I do expect students to come prepared to actively discuss the assigned readings. I also expect students to arrive on time and to contact me in advance if they will be absent. Students will receive 5 points for attendance starting with a baseline of 30 points. Students missing more than 20 minutes of class will be considered "absent."
2. Exams: We will have two exams. The first will be a comprehensive essay exam covering class material and assigned readings. The exam will be designed to allow you to demonstrate your learning through analyses, syntheses, and evaluation of course materials. You will receive the questions approximately 2 weeks before each exam. (CF6, CF7, CF8)
3. Practitioner interview: You will be required to interview a professional working in counseling regarding the types of ethical issues they find to be prominent in their work,

as well as the ethical practices to which they adhere. You should select someone who you consider to be a positive role model for your own personal practice, as well as someone who would be comfortable sharing his or her thoughts with you on this topic. Do not tell or otherwise reveal the person's name to the instructor to preserve confidentiality for any disclosures which may occur. Please present a 6 page paper summarizing the interview.

4. Final Exam/Presentation: In order to help you develop critical thinking and ethical decision making skills, you will submit an analysis of one case involving potential ethical and legal issues. Each case analysis will be about 6-8 pages, double-spaced. Case analyses will follow the format for ethical decision making that will be discussed in class. Students will present their case analysis during the final two weeks of class. General questions will be presented at least two weeks prior to the presentations. Students are encouraged to use PPT as this will be evaluated for LiveText.

### **CLASS SCHEDULE**

August 29	Introduction and overview	
September 5	Labor Day No Class	
September 12	Introduction of professional ethics	W. Ch.1,2
September 19	Ethics in multicultural society	W. Ch.3
September 26	Competence	W. Ch 4
October 3	Midterm Review	
October 10	Fall Break No Class	
October 17	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	
October 24	Confidentiality/Informed Consent	W. Ch 5 & 6
	<b>Practitioner interview due</b>	
October 31	Sexual, non-sexual multiple relationship	W. Ch. 7, 8
November 7	Group and family assessment	W. Ch. 9, 10
November 14	Ethics in community counseling Ethics in school counseling	W. Ch. 11, 12
November 21	Ethics in supervision, teaching, and research	W. Ch. 13, 14

November 28	Professional responsibilities and liabilities	W. Ch. 15
December 5	Case presentations	
December 12	Case presentations	

### **Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is an expression of interpersonal justice, responsibility and care, applicable to Loyola University faculty, students, and staff, which demands that the pursuit of knowledge in the university community be carried out with sincerity and integrity. The School of Education's Policy on Academic Integrity can be found at: [http://www.luc.edu/education/academics\\_policies\\_integrity.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/education/academics_policies_integrity.shtml). For additional academic policies and procedures refer to: [http://www.luc.edu/education/academics\\_policies\\_main.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/education/academics_policies_main.shtml)

### **ACCESSIBILITY**

Students who have disabilities which they believe entitle them to accommodations under the Americans with Disability Act should register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) office. To request accommodations, students must schedule an appointment with an SSWD coordinator. Students should contact SSWD at least four weeks before their first semester or term at Loyola University Chicago. Returning students should schedule an appointment within the first two weeks of the semester or term. More information is available at: <http://www.luc.edu/sswd/register.shtml>.

### **HARASSMENT**

It is unacceptable and a violation of University policy to harass, discriminate against, or abuse any person because of his or her race, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, age or any other characteristic protected by applicable law. Such behavior threatens to destroy the environment of tolerance and mutual respect that must prevail for this university to fulfill its educational and health care mission. For this reason, every incident of harassment, discrimination or abuse undermines the aspirations and attacks the ideals of our community. For specific definitions of discrimination, abuse, and harassment refer to p. 25-26 in Loyola University Chicago Student Handbook, located at <http://www.luc.edu/studentaffairs/pdfs/LoyolaStudentHanbook2006.pdf>. If you believe you are a subject to harassment, you should notify your instructor. If you believe you are subject to harassment by your instructor, contact the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at 312-915-6464.

## Use of Electronic Devices in the Classroom

Cell phones: Silent or off.

Computers: May be used for note taking or educational support of class material.  
Using a computer for social networking, unrelated surfing, etc. is strictly prohibited.

**\*This syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to check on announcements made while you were absent.**