

CNS 506 - Legal and Ethical Issues
Western Seminary-Portland Campus, Fall, 2010

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Ways to Communicate:

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Note: Syllabus may be subject to change through first week of class

“Western Seminary is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Western students are assisted individually as their needs dictate. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and the nature of the disability. Any student who has a disability should contact the seminary’s Disability (Section 504) Coordinator, Ken Epp, at 503-517-1815/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1815. His office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Carrie Priest (Student Services Coordinator – San José) or PJ Oswald (Director of Student Development – Sacramento), or they may contact Dr. Epp directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator’s office.”

Course Description:

This course will include an overview of professional ethics and state law as applied to counseling. Topics to be addressed will include professionalization, licensure and practice issues. 3 hours

Course Goals:

1. *The student will be stimulated to think about major issues related to professional counseling.*
2. *The student will develop a model for decision making to be used when confronted with ethical dilemmas.*
3. *The student will become familiar with the professional ethical codes.*
4. *The student will develop disclosure forms appropriate for use in professional practice.*

Course Objectives:

1. Consistent attendance at class sessions.
2. Participation in class discussions.
3. Completion of reading assignments.
4. Completion of ethical issues papers.
5. Compilation of forms and ethical codes pertinent to professional practice.
6. Preparation for and completion of final exam.

Texts and Major Readings:

Federal law now requires institutions to provide the ISBN numbers and retail prices for all required books. Western Seminary encourages students to visit our campus bookstore, Windows Booksellers, in order to obtain these titles at a reduced rate.

C = Corey, G., Corey, M. S., & Callanan, P. (2011). *Issues and Ethics in the Helping Professions (8th ed.)*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Brooks/Cole Publishing Company. ISBN# 0495812412, Price: \$114.95

Note: Students will be required to download course materials from the internet and the WSCLL Online Learning Center. The class webpage address is: <http://www.wscll2.net/classrooms/>

READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE PRIOR TO CLASS ON DATE LISTED BELOW

Week 1 Introduction

08/31/10 Prov. 29:18; Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Pet. 3:13-20

Week 2 Client Rights and Confidentiality

09/07/10 C - Ch. 5

Week 3 The Helping Relationship

09/14/10 C – Ch. 2 & 3

Week 4 Exceptions to Confidentiality

09/21/10 C – Ch. 6

Week 5 Crisis Intervention & Duty to Protect

09/28/10 Exam Question #1 due

Week 6 The Counselor as an Expert Witness

10/05/10

Week 7 Multiple Relationships

10/12/10 C – Ch. 7; Mark 6:1-6; Luke 4:16-30
Professional Disclosure Statement due

Week 8 Sexual Misconduct

10/19/10 Quiz #1 due

Week 9 Problem Cases in Sexual Misconduct

10/26/10 Prov. 23:7; 2 Cor. 10:5; Phil. 4:8; 1 Thess. 5:22; 2 Pet. 1:3-10
Reflection Paper due

Week 10 Professional Competence, Training, & Supervision

11/02/10 C – Ch. 8 & 9
Exam Question #2 due

Week 11 Issues in Couples, Family, & Group Therapy

11/09/10 C – Ch. 11 & 12; Matt. 19:3-6

Week 12 Issues in Theory, Practice, & Research

11/16/10 C – Ch. 10
Quiz #2 due

Week 13 Issues with Special Populations

11/23/10 C – Ch. 4 & 13; 1 Cor. 12; Gal 3:26-28
Reading Report due

Week 14 Pretest

11/30/10

Week 15 Final Exam

12/07/10

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance. (2 points per class, with point deduction for partial attendance, 30 points possible)
2. Reading. (1 point per completed reading assignment, 9 points possible) (Prep. time 31 hours)
3. Professional Disclosure Statement. (4 points possible) (Prep. time 10 hours)
4. Exam Question. (1 point per question, 2 points possible) (Prep. time 2 hours)
Students will create two exam questions, one for each due date. The questions will include the answers
And the sources for the answers (e.g. statute or text page number) and will be submitted electronically.
5. Quizzes. (5 points per quiz, 10 points possible) (Prep. time 10 hours)
Students will complete two on-line quizzes.
6. Reflection Paper. (10 points possible)
Students shall write a 7 page paper (single-spaced, in outline format, cover page comprises the first page) exploring what personal needs one might be tempted to fulfill by counseling others. How might those needs get in the way of providing effective therapy? How can those needs be recognized and met in a way that prevents interference with the counseling process? Develop a specific plan to meet those needs in a healthy way. Explain specific methods to be employed preventing sexual misconduct in counseling. The plan should include a discussion of multiple relationships, the place of touch in therapy, appropriate use of supervision, possible limitations of settings or clientele, personal well-being maintenance, and spiritual implications. The last page is a condensed checklist of your well-being plan. (Prep. time 15 hours)
7. Research Project. (10 points possible)
Each student will select one topic (from a list circulated in class) to research and present regarding the steps and procedures necessary to become a Licensed Professional Counselor in an ethical Christian practice. When combined, the class presentations should describe the necessary steps from graduation to clinical practice and licensure. Research should cover prerequisites necessary to satisfy state, professional, business, and licensing board requirements. Further consideration should be given to practices which ensure the rights of clients, confidentiality, consideration of multiple relationships, liability protection for counselors and their respective practice, and provision of adequate training and supervision. Students shall create a handout and make a ten-minute presentation of their findings to the class. (Prep. time 15 hours)
8. Final Exam. (25 points possible) (Prep. time 7 hours)

Grading:

100 - 99	=	A+
98 - 95	=	A
94 - 93	=	A-
92 - 91	=	B+
90 - 88	=	B
87 - 86	=	B-
85 - 84	=	C+
83 - 81	=	C
80 - 79	=	C-
78 - 77	=	D+
76 - 74	=	D
73 - 70	=	D-
69 ≥	=	F

Late assignments will result in a 2-point reduction per late assignment per week.

Sample Excerpt from Reflection Paper

1. Personal Need – to know that I am liked by people
 - A. Interference
 1. may be reluctant to appropriately challenge clients
 2. soft on boundaries (e.g. overtime on sessions or allow bill to accrue) to please
 3. demeanor may be fake, compromising genuine responses
 4. may become a cheerleader for clients rather than helping them to evaluate
 5. client may try to please therapist rather than genuine work
 6. client may feel discouraged that they cannot match idealized therapist
 - B. Warning signs
 1. reluctance to challenge
 2. overtime in sessions, reducing fees, allowing bills to accrue, excess accommodation in scheduling
 3. a feeling of “putting on a face” or performing in sessions
 4. excessive use of encouragement or touch
 5. client is overly cooperative, diligent, complimentary
 6. client’s idealization of therapist
 - C. Plan for health
 1. Volunteer every other week in a care center where I can enjoy people liking me
 2. Memorize Scripture that highlights my strength and value in God’s eyes
Rom 8:37-39; Psa 139; Phil 2:3-11; Eph 3:14-21
 3. Ask specific friends/colleagues to help me affirm my value once per month
 4. Pray at the beginning of my counseling day that I will find my value in Him
 5. Explore in personal counseling my need to be liked
 6. Request that my supervisor be particularly attuned to this issue
 7. Work through the Search for Significance workbook
 8. Write a letter to myself about a proper view of self
 9. Maintain of log of times when challenges by others prompted personal growth

Attendance & Reading Report

___	08/31/10	No assignment
___ & ___	09/07/10	C - Ch. 5
___ & ___	09/14/10	C - Ch. 2 & 3
___ & ___	09/21/10	C - Ch. 6
___	09/28/10	Exam Question #1 due 9/28/2010
___	10/05/10	No assignment
___ & ___	10/12/10	C - Ch. 7; Mark 6:1-6; Luke 4:16-30 Professional Disclosure Statement due 10/12/2010
___	10/19/10	Quiz #1 due 10/19/2010
___ & ___	10/26/10	Prov. 23:7; 2 Cor. 10:5; Phil. 4:8; 1 Thess. 5:22; 2 Pet. 1:3-10 Reflection Paper due 10/26/2010
___ & ___	11/02/10	C - Ch. 8 & 9 Exam Question #2 due 11/02/2010
___ & ___	11/09/10	C - Ch. 11 & 12; Matt. 19:3-6
___ & ___	11/16/10	C - Ch. 10 Quiz #2 due 11/16/2010 Group Presentations due
___ & ___	11/23/10	C - Ch. 4 & 13; 1 Cor. 12; Gal 3:26-28 Reading Report due 11/23/2010 Group Presentations due
___	11/30/10	Group Presentations & Pretest
___	12/07/10	Final Exam

___/30	___/9	Total Points
Attendance	Reading	

By signing my name to this page, I am hereby affirming that I have earned the points indicated above. Each completed reading assignment has been read in its entirety. I have deducted one point for each reading or exercise assignment not completed by the date due. Additionally, I have deducted one point for each incomplete assignment.

Signed _____ **Dated** _____

Printed Name