Credit: 3 semester hours

Description: This seminar is intended to acquaint the student with selected current issues and controversies in the areas of:

- Ethical standards for psychologists including the conduct of research with human participants,
- Conflicts, controversies, and dilemmas that arise in application of ethical principles to situations and problems encountered by psychologists,
- Professional and legal standards pertinent to provision of counseling, therapeutic, assessment or consulting services in institutional, educational or private practice settings,
- Dilemmas that arise due to potential and actual conflict between the assumptions and practices of the judicial system in interaction with applications of psychological ethical principles,
- Statutory regulation, via licensure laws, of psychological practice,
- Professional identity-who is a psychologist as defined by licensure law?

Goals and Objectives:

1. To foster student ethical sensitivities and problem solving skills in addressing ethical dilemmas associated with psychological practice and research;

2. To foster student knowledge and awareness of professional ethical codes and their applications for psychological practice and conduct of research;

3. To provide the student with basic information concerning legal regulation of the practice of psychology.

Seminar Format:

This seminar will emphasize and foster active group discussions, group problem solving with respect to ethical case simulations, formal oral presentation of topics by students, and the preparation and sharing, with other seminar participants and the instructor, of topically focused papers.
Professional Issues and Ethics Seminar Description

Requirements:

1. Be present at all meetings and actively contribute to discussions of topics and case simulations.

2. Complete and discuss assigned readings.

3. Each participant will write an integrative, 12-15 page paper on a topic, chosen in consultation with the instructor, relevant to the objectives of the seminar. The paper will be prepared in APA format for distribution to all seminar participants, as well as the instructor, and it should contain complete references so that information may be shared and disseminated. The theme of the paper can be the same as that for the oral presentation (see #4 below). Complete, appropriately edited papers are due Thursday, December 02.

4. Each participant will be expected to make a one-hour oral presentation of an ethics relevant topic and will serve as a facilitator for the ensuing discussion. Collaborative oral presentations are possible. Several students may choose to focus on separate aspects of a central theme or topic and make coordinated theme-related presentations. However, the seminar paper must reflect the unique ideas and integrative scholarship of the individual student. Presentations will start on October 07.

5. Participants, as individuals and as members of small groups, will be expected to lead and foster group discussion and problem solving with respect to ethical case simulations.

Grading:

The seminar is offered on an S-F basis. The instructor reserves the prerogative to ask any participant to alter, modify, or completely rewrite papers, or to substantially modify oral presentations, in order to facilitate clarity in communication and ensure that departmental quality standards are met. To acquire an S grade in this seminar it will be necessary for the participant to satisfactorily complete all of the previously listed requirements.

Primary and Secondary Resources:

Texts:

The primary resources that will provide the bases for assigned readings are:


Readings Packet:

Current journal articles and legal code materials are contained in a readings packet, available at *Copyworks*. A listing of the articles is attached. The readings packet contains many recent articles pertinent to the application and implications of the ethical principles, as well as the current 2002 edition.
Secondary Text Resources:


Additional Secondary Resources These sources may be useful in exploring the seminar topics.


