

PSYCH 751: ADVANCED TOPICS: Ethics in Clinical Psychology

Term 2, Winter 2018

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Hours: By appointment

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Course Location:

B247, Psychology Conference Room
West 5th Campus, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton

Overview: This course is intended for students planning to apply to the clinician researcher graduate program in PNB. This course will examine ethical and legal responsibilities associated with the practice of clinical psychology. Course content will be framed within the Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychologists and the College of Psychologists of Ontario Standards and Guidelines of Professional Conduct. Major subtopics will include: clinical psychologists' ethical responsibilities; code of conduct; professional practice issues; diversity; research ethics; professionalism; consent; confidentiality; boundary issues; relevant legislation.

This class will meet on Tuesday afternoons from 13:00 pm - 15:00 pm.

Required texts: Evan, D. (2011). The law, standards, and ethics in the practice of psychology (3rd Ed). Toronto: Carswell.

Available from: <https://www.cavershambooksellers.com/search/0779838343>

Truscott, D., & Crook, K. (2013). Ethics for the practice of psychology in Canada, Revised and expanded version. Edmonton: University of Alberta Press.

Supplementary texts:

Pensler, R.L. (Ed.). (1995). Research ethics, cases and materials. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press.

(All texts recommended by College of Psychologists of Ontario for training in ethics and practice).

Evaluation: Evaluation will be based on in-class presentations, two written assignments and a final written exam.

Policy Regarding Changes to Course: The instructor and University reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The University may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Policy Reminder on Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonest consists of misrepresentation by deception or by fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty: 1) Plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one's own for which other credit has been obtained; 2) improper collaboration in group work; and 3) copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Policy on Make-Up Projects: Make-up assignments (projects) will be allowed only in the case of extreme circumstances and with proper documentation from your Faculty office.

PSYCH 741: Ethics in Clinical Psychology Course Outline:

DATE	TOPIC
Jan 16	Lecture: Introduction to professional ethics Course outline / readings
Jan 23	Class presentations and discussion – CPA and APA Code of Ethics Lecture: Ethical Framework for Decision Making
Jan 30	Class presentations and discussion – Law, standards, and ethics in the practice of psychology; The regulation of psychology in Ontario Overview of Assignment 1: Ethical case development and approach
Feb 6	Lecture and class discussion: Common ethical issues in clinical psychology (Dr. Brenda Key)
Feb 13	Class presentations and discussion – Informed consent and confidentiality Assignment 1 Due Overview of Assignment 2: Ethical case development and approach
Feb 20	Client information and records Business aspects of practice (Dr. Peter Bieling) Overview of Assignment 2: Ethical case development and approach
Feb 27	Class presentations and discussion – Dual relationships: Managing the boundaries
Mar 6	Lecture and class discussion: Common ethical issues in clinical neuropsychology (Drs. Bruno Losier & Emily MacKillop)
Mar 20	Class presentations and discussion – Research ethics Assignment 2 due
Apr 3	In-class written examination

Grading Breakdown

15% - Assignment 1: Ethical case development and discussion (Clinical Psychology)

15% - Assignment 2: Ethical case development and discussion (Clinical Neuropsychology)

30% - Class presentation

40% - Written examination (similar to Ethics and Jurisprudence Examination for registration in Clinical Psychology)