

ETHICS & STANDARDS IN THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSION WITH
PROFESSIONAL ORIENTATION
PSYC0641-550 (crn 10027), Winter 2014, ONLINE January 2-15

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Text: There will be no textbook for this course. Reading and viewing materials will be available for you online as part of your registration.

Welcome to the on-line Ethics & Standards for Mental health Professionals. This preliminary syllabus will give you some information on how the course is being structured, what you can expect from an online course, and what is expected from you. Our course will make use of a course management system called PLATO. If you haven't done so already, you might want to try the tutorial that is posted on the main web page for the on-line courses. You'll find it is really helpful for understanding how the system works and some of the features we'll be using.

IMPORTANT: Please note that this class begins on the day of classes during winter session 2014 at Westfield State University, which is Thursday, January 2. The material will be released (available to you), beginning at 8:00 a.m. on January 2. There is not an option of beginning the coursework before January 2. While the course will formally end on January 15, I will be flexible with accepting your final work through January 19, giving you an extra weekend (if needed). You will have five blocks of work. You should complete them consecutively. I estimate you will need approximately 5-6 hours to complete each block, plus time for examinations described below. You have complete flexibility from January 2 to 19th for structuring the time to complete this online course.

If you have a personal question, you may send me a message through the PLATO site or call my office at 413-572-5488 to leave a message. During winter session, email is the best way to contact me. rhayes@westfield.ma.edu will begin checking and responding to messages daily beginning on January 2, and I will check them only occasionally before January 2.

Class Overview

This course will review several professional Codes of Ethics and the standards of ethical practice involved in working with clients. With these codes as guidelines, students will develop their own ethical awareness, problem solving abilities using case studies, and a knowledge of the use and limitations of these ethical codes. The course will also include topics related to professional identity and orientation, human service's management of community programs, managed care, and the interaction and relationship of the mental health profession and public policy.

What You Can Expect & What Is Expected Of You

You can expect that I will be available to you many times throughout the defined session, which is Jan 2 – Jan 15, 2014, however not 24/7. There are a number of ways to be in touch with me. Online office hours are listed above. For online office hours, you can contact me through the email link on the course page in PLATO. I am also available to schedule an electronic, phone, or in-person conversation ~~with~~ that meets the needs of both our schedules. If you email me, I will typically get a response to you within 24 hours, but always within 48 hours. If you have a question related to the course, one in which the response would benefit the entire class, I ask that you pose the question in the “Ask Dr. B” link of the main course page. All

Policies

Class Participation:

Participation is necessary for learning. Material presented will include additional material

additionally notify me, in private, at the beginning of the course so we might discuss how an accommodation may be made for you.

	<u>Grading</u>
<i>Open-Book Examinations</i>	26%
Pretest Exam	Not Graded
Midterm Exam	10%
Final Exam	16%
<i>Projects and Assignments</i>	60%
Block 1	12%
Block 2	12%
Block 3	12%
Block 4	12%
Block 5	12%
<i>Class Participation</i>	14%

Preliminary Block Topics

[Note: These are being built by me at this time and are subject to change. A fuller list of requirements will be supplied with each checklist on opening day. Again, you should plan on about 36-40 hours of work over the course period.]

Block 1	Introduction to Ethical Codes, Complaints, Issues, Dilemmas, & Problem-Solving Models
Block 2	Confidentiality
Block 3	Multiple Relationships; Psychological Testing
Block 4	Responsibilities in Therapy
Block 5	The Business of Psychology