I  CEP 780 - Law and Ethics in Counseling  
    Spring, 2007

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Office Hours: T - /11:00- 3:00--- Th - / 11:00-2:00  
Graduate Assistant: Sumi Han <shan@unr.nevada.edu>

COURSE SYLLABUS

II. Time and Place: Monday, 1:00-3:45, COE 3006


IV. Course Description:

CEP 780 Law & Ethics in Counseling (3 + 0) 3 credits.  
In-depth exploration and examination of legal, ethical and professional issues in the helping professions. Prerequisites: CEP 600; 620; 650; 651; 665. Can be taking CEP 770 concurrently.

Please note: In order to gain sufficient knowledge from this course, it is important that you be in your last semester (or year) of your master’s program (and midway for doctoral students).
V. Course Philosophy:

"It is our belief that the single most significant factor in the success or failure of a counseling relationship is the personhood of the counselor" (Gililland, et al. 1998, p8). According to Burke and Miranti (1992) "Good mental health can be defined as the balance and integration of all the dimensions of personhood" (p2). "Today's counselor faces many new ethical challenges while continuing to struggle with traditional moral concerns" (Stein, 1990, p9). In an article published in Juvenile and Family Court Journal, Maples (Summer 1996) cites the cornerstones of a civilized society as: law, ethics, morality, faith and spirituality. Colangelo (1992) states that "the process of counseling is strongly a moralistic and values enterprise. Ethics and spirituality are inexorably interwoven over into the systematic process of helping clients change" (p. vii).

During the last century there were few professional journal articles to be found related to ethical, legal, moral, value or spiritual dimensions of counseling. Yet in the past several years, in addition to the two volumes edited by Burke and Miranti (1992; 1995) (containing over thirty earlier published journal manuscripts on ethics and spirituality in counseling), there are hundreds of related articles in ACA Journals.

Coincidentally, prior to 2000, few graduate programs in counseling offered separate courses related to legal, ethical, value or spiritual issues in counseling. These concepts were expected to be "infused into each course." In the past few years most faculty in counselor education, as well as accrediting and licensing agencies, recognize the need to improve counseling services by attending to these crucial aspects in the practice of the helping professions, by devoting full semester courses to these important issues. There are for example, at least 30 identifiable courses on "spirituality in counseling" in major counselor education programs in the U.S. today. In order to test the interest in helping professionals in Northern Nevada, CEP offered a 1 credit weekend workshop in the Spring of 2004 (CEP 791- Special Topics-Spirituality in Adult Development: Implications for the Helping Professions). Although there was 100% agreement that a 3-credit course should be required to graduate, the fact that our CEP programs already require 60+ credits for the master’s degree, another required course is not feasible.

As an outcome of CEP 780, you will become more knowledgeable about and sensitive to these critical aspects of human development, in yourself, in your clients, in your students, in our practice and in the profession.

Perhaps not so coincidentally, America is becoming an increasingly litigious nation. Counselors are not exceptions as victims of this trend. Historically, legal and ethical standards are characteristically ignored, until they are challenged or violated. To the extent that it is possible this course is designed to be preventive and preparatory - that the counselor will know and practice effectively those laws, ethics and precepts that guide our profession.
VI. **Goals and Objectives:**

A. **Personal/ Professional Growth:**

Upon effective completion of course requirements, students will:

1. Develop a sense of self-awareness that will contribute their effectiveness as counselors.
2. Develop an awareness of the influence and importance of legal and ethical issues in the counseling profession.
3. Know and apply the Ethical Standards of the American Counseling Association, as well as become familiar with appropriate emphasis - specific standards, such as APA; NADAC; ASGW; ASCA; AAMFT.
4. Integrate legal and ethical aspects of preparation into specific counseling specialties.
5. Demonstrate ethical behavior as a student and as a professional.
6. Explore and examine one’s own spirituality as it may enhance or inhibit one’s counseling effectiveness.

B. **Professional Knowledge and Skills:**

1. Recognize that there will be some counseling issues or cases for which the counselor may need help or supervision.
2. Know the appropriate sources to seek when faced with legal or ethical dilemmas.
3. Demonstrate ability to consult with appropriate sources when confronted with legal and ethical issues.
4. Develop a Plan of Action or Disclosure Statement appropriate to current or future work setting.
5. Know the basic themes of professional ethical standards.
6. Know the laws of the State of Nevada as they apply to mental health professionals.

VII. **COURSE CONTENT:**

A. The Person of the Counselor- Exploration in Self-Awareness
B. Spirituality- Foundational to Adult Development and Ethical Counseling
C. Values & the Helping Relationship
D. Client Rights & Counselor Responsibilities
E. Confidentiality and Counseling – Privileged Communities
F. Multicultural Perspectives & Cultural Diversity
G. Legal Credentialing – for counselors and other helpers
H. Limitations on and Liability for Practice
I. Civil & Criminal Trial Matters in Counseling
J. Boundaries & Multiple Relations
K. Ethical Issues in Group Work
L. Standards of Practice & Ethical Dilemmas
M. Legal & Ethical Aspects of Distance (Cyber) and On-Line Counseling
N. Illegal Harassment and Counseling
O. Professionalism, Continuing Education and Professional Associations
VIII. **Student Expectations and Accommodations and Services for Students with Disabilities**

"The Disability Resource Center (DRC) offers a wide range of support services and accommodations for students with specific documented disabilities. The DRC believes that you will find the students, staff, and faculty at the University of Nevada, Reno to be sensitive to your needs and eager to make every reasonable accommodation to assist you in attaining your academic goals. Sometimes, however, you may encounter a situation or concern that requires assistance. FEEL FREE TO CONTACT OUR OFFICE. YOUR NEEDS ARE OUR CONCERN. The DRC is located in room 107, Thompson Student Services Center. 784-6000."

IX. **Student Performance Criteria: "Students are expected to:***

A. Attend class and complete all assignments in accordance with the expectations established by their instructors and programs of study to reflect a love of learning.

B. Conduct themselves in the classroom in a manner that contributes to a positive learning environment for demonstrating democratic values and respect for diversity.

C. Familiarize themselves with all university policies and procedures to be a knowledgeable (graduate) student.

D. Ask questions and seek clarification, direction and guidance to any class assignment, university policy or procedure which is unclear. Students may be expected to complete class requirements beyond the published meeting times. This varies by course and instructor." (University of Nevada, Reno 1997-98 General Catalog, p.8).

X. **Student Assessment Criteria:**

1. Regular class attendance and active participation. 10 pts
2. Three professional journal critiques (limited to one page, single-spaced) or (two pages double-spaced) related to legal, ethical, value, spiritual or moral issues in counseling. 20 pts
3. Dyadic presentation of cases (and resolutions) from ACA code 20 pts
4. Group presentation of case study or other type of group experience to class involving legal, ethical, value, spiritual or moral issues in counseling (can be either real or hypothetical). 25 pts
5. Midterm and final exams. (online-no class held) 25 pts

XI. **GROUP PROJECT (CASE STUDY OR EXPERIENCE) GUIDELINES:**

1. Select (elect) (volunteer) group chair - choose a topic.
2. Time will be given from some classes to devote to preparation and its necessary research, but some time will be needed beyond class.
3. Use textbook, bibliography, course lectures, discussions and ACA (or AAMFT or NADAC) codes, etc., as primary sources.
4. Time limit: 45 minutes – presentation, plus 5-10 minutes for discussion and/or questions.
5. Multi-media approach is strongly encouraged.
6. Creativity is strongly encouraged…consult with Dr. Maples if you are uncertain about any aspect of this assignment

XII. COURSE OUTLINE

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>1/22 (1)</td>
<td>Chs. 1 &amp; 2 Assessments pps. 25-32 &amp; 36, 37</td>
<td>Professional Ethics and the Counselor as a Person: Self-awareness &amp; the Counselor: Therapy for the Counselor?, Class Format: Student/Instructor Expectations; Glossaries (Legal) &amp; Dyad Assignments; Cornerstones of a Civilized Society (Maples, 1996); Ethical &amp; Legal Counseling Practice Model (Herlihy &amp; Remley, 2006); Wellness and Mental Health: Case of Edward</td>
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<td>1/31 (2)</td>
<td>Ch. 3 Self Inventory p. 71</td>
<td>Values and Spirituality in the Helping Relationship: Nine Criteria of Psychological Health (Jung); Basic Moral Principles (from Ch. 1); Holistic Adult Development Model (Maples, 1995); Counselor’s Ethical Disclaimer; Discussion of Group or Triad Assignment; Ongoing Counseling for Practitioners (p. 46); Counselor Impairment (p. 61); CD Rom (“The Divorce”)</td>
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<td>2/5 (3)</td>
<td>Ch. 4 Self Inventory pps 110-111</td>
<td>Continue Values &amp; Spirituality: Case of Festus (p. 103); Case of Anami (p. 97); Glossary #1 – Preparing for Court Appearances; Hints about Court Appearances &amp; Notes on Keeping Records</td>
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<td>Guest Speaker: Dr. Peggy Dupey - “Holistic Flow Model of Spiritual Wellness” (Wilber; Webster; Random House)</td>
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<td>2/12 (4)</td>
<td>Ch. 5 Self Inventory Pps. 152-153</td>
<td>Multiculturalism and Diversity Perspectives: Cultural Values and Assumptions in the Counseling Process; AMCD Cross – Cultural Competencies and Objectives (2001); JCD Article on Cultural Competencies; Common Assumptions (pps. 124-127)</td>
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<td>(1st Critique Due) Guest Speaker: Dr. Ireon LeBeauf - “Multicultural Competence and Ethical Practice”</td>
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<td>PRESIDENT’S DAY- NO CLASS</td>
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<td>2/26 (6)</td>
<td>Ch. 5 Self Inventory Pps. 152-153</td>
<td>Client Rights and Counselor Responsibilities: Feedback from Dr. LeBeauf’s Presentation; Review if Necessary; Nevada Laws for Mental Health Professionals (NRS 49.291); Privileged Communication; NAC 391. 180 (Endorsement as a School Counselor; Child Abuse Definitions &amp; Karen Smith Tape – Discussion – Case Study; Confidentiality and Privilege</td>
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<td>3/5</td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
<td>Continue Confidentiality and Legal and Ethical Issues: Malpractice Issues; “Euthanasia: What does a Counselor do?”; Spirituality and End-of-Life Experiences in Counseling; The Views of Dying; Documentation with Suicidal Clients; Applicable ACA Standards on Confidentiality; Limits to Confidentiality; Jaffe – Redmond Case</td>
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<td>Self Inventory</td>
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<td>pps. 206-207</td>
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<td>3/12</td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM – ONLINE - NO CLASS</td>
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<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>3/26</td>
<td>Ch. 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Credentialing in Counseling and Managing Boundaries: Licensure (LPC); Accreditation (CACREP) [2007 vs. 2008 Standards]; Certification (NBCC) [ASCA; NADAC; AAMFT]; Brief Review of ACA Convention; Legal &amp; Ethical Issues in Court – Ordered Counseling; Role Blending (p. 269) (see Pete &amp; Rita, p. 274)</td>
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<td>Self Inventories</td>
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<td>pps. 260-261</td>
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<td>pps. 312-313</td>
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<td>4/2</td>
<td>Ch. 9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Supervision, Consultation Theories &amp; Practice: Supervisee’s Bill of Rights (p. 352); Supervision Responsibilities (Sensitive Issues, p. 354-355); Vicarious Liability (p. 364); Risk Management for Supervisors (p. 364)</td>
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<td>pps. 348-349</td>
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<td>pps. 392-393</td>
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<td>4/9</td>
<td>Ch. 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Couples, Families and Group Counseling: AAMFT Code (p. 439); Case of Ludwig (p. 444); Glossary #7 Marriage, Couples &amp; Family Issues; Case of Janet; Values in Group Counseling (p. 477)</td>
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<td>pps. 460-461</td>
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<td>(3rd Critique Due)</td>
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<td>4/16</td>
<td>Ch. 13</td>
<td>Community &amp; Cyber Counseling: Alternative Counselor Roles (p. 492); Does anyone really understand “Community” Counseling; Case of Mental (p. 497)</td>
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<td>pps. 484-485</td>
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<td>Presentation on Cyber (Distance – Online, etc.) Counseling: Sumi Han, Doctoral Student, CSD/CEP – Distance Counseling Credential for Career Counselor (Maples); Managing an Agency</td>
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<td>Review of ACA, ASCA, AAMFT Standards of Practice: Case Studies; Ethical Dilemmas and Remainder of Glossaries; Possible Presentation on Sexual Harassment by Representative of Human Resources</td>
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<td>4/30</td>
<td>Group Project Presentations</td>
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<td>5/7</td>
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References


Web References

APA Services by Telephone, Teleconferencing, and Internet http://www.apa.org/ethics/stmnt01.htm

ACA Ethical Standards for Internet On-Line Counseling
http://www.counseling.org/gc/cybertx.htm

American Art Therapy Association Ethics Statement
1202 Allanon Road
Mundelein, IL 60060-3808
Phone: 888-290-0878 or 847-949-6064
Fax: 847-566-4580
Email: arttherapy@ntn.net
http://www.arttherapy.org/ethics2.html

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) Code of Ethics
1133 15th Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005-2710
Phone: 202-452-0109
http://www.aamft.org/about/ethics.htm

American Association of Pastoral Counselors
http://www/aapc.org
Ethics: http://www.aapc.org/ethics.htm

American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists (AASECT) Code of Ethics
AASECT
P.O. Box 238
Mount Vernon, IA 52314
Fax: 319-895-2603
Email: AASECT@worldnet.att.net
http://www.aasect.org

American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Ethical Standards
801 North Fairfax Street, Suite 310
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 1-800-306-4722
Fax: 1-703-683-1619
http://www.schoolcounselor.org/Ethics/ethicstd.html

American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama (ASGPP)
301 N. Harrison St., Suite 508
Princeton, NJ 08540
Phone: 609-452-1339
Fax: 609-936-1659
Email: aasgpp@asgpp.org
http://www.artswire.org/asgpp/

NASW Code of Ethics
http://www.naswdc.org/code/cdloc/htm

National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) Code of Ethics
http://www.nbcc.org/ethics/nbcc-code.htm
National Organization for Human Service Education (NOHSE) Ethical Standards
http://www.nohse.com/ethstand.html

National Peer Helpers Association
NPHA
P.O. Box 2684
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Email: nphaorg@aol.com