

EDCP 696
Seminar in Professional Issues II (Ethics)

Dr. Mary Ann Hoffman
Fall Semester, 2003
Tuesdays, 11-12:50

Course Description

The purpose of this seminar is to enhance your ethical decision-making skills by examining the application of the revised American Psychological Association ethical code to specific areas of practice (e.g., psychotherapy, research, assessment, teaching) and to specific populations (e.g., ethnic and linguistic groups, families and children, gender, rural). We will examine legal responsibilities in areas such as child abuse reporting, risk of harm to self and others, and HIPPA; as well as the issue of when state laws preempt federal laws. Course readings from the texts and other assigned readings and examples of commonly encountered ethical dilemmas will be used to help you gain experience in applying models of ethical decision making.

Course Objectives

The goals of this course are to increase students':

- (1) Familiarity with the APA ethical guidelines;
- (2) Ability to recognize ethical dilemmas and to identify ethical principles salient to such dilemmas, and skills in applying appropriate decision-making procedures;
- (3) Knowledge of legal issues relevant to the practice of psychology;
- (4) Ability to self-monitor their own ethical practice, including awareness of the role of personal values in ethical decision-making;

Class Structure

Class time will be devoted to actively discussing the readings and to using examples of ethical dilemmas to gain experience in applying models of ethical decision making. Read actively, and come up with ideas that you would like to have us discuss during the class. You will be expected to bring 3 questions based on the assigned readings to each class for discussion. This will allow us to have lively and engaging class discussions.

Requirements

1. Paper (due December 2). Your paper will be based on an ethical topic of your choice. Various topics will be suggested the first days of class (e.g., dual relationships in rural settings, using the telephone for psychotherapy, internet counseling, implications of various aspects of HIPAA, psychotherapy with multiple members of a family, end of life issues, assisted suicide). Your paper should 5-10 double-spaced typed pages (will depend on the amount of literature

available on topic, scope of topic), APA-style examining the ethical implications of your topic including the ethical principles that are relevant to ethical decision-making. In some cases, federal or state laws may be relevant.

2. Expert Consultant: Based on the topic you chose for your paper, you will serve as an expert consultant to our class for part of one class and will provide a written description of an ethical dilemma related to your topic area (2 of you may provide an ethical dilemma together if you write papers on a similar topic) to distribute to class members. Your role will be to help guide the class in ethical decision-making based on relevant sections of the ethics code and by providing additional information about that topic based on your knowledge of relevant scholarly writings on that topic area.

3. Sign forms indicating that you have read the program manual and APA Ethical Guidelines.

4. Final exam (on the assigned exam day) covering all readings. Items will consist of short essay questions.

Grading

Grades will be based on a combination of the requirements noted above, in addition to your class participation, weightings will be: 40% exam, 40% for the paper, 10% for the class expert consultant and 10% for class participation. Please note that deadlines are very important, and I do expect the paper to be turned in on time.

Texts

Bersoff, Donald N. (2003). *Ethical Conflicts in Psychology*. (3rd Edition). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

Fisher, Celia B. (2003). *Decoding the Ethics Code: A Practical Guide for Psychologists*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Additional Readings: on last page (all are available on APA website or through psych info)

NOTE: If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.

"Counseling Psychology Program is committed to creating a multicultural training environment, which is broadly defined as a place where individuals' diversity and opinions are respected. All faculty members strive to integrate multicultural and diversity issues in their courses in ways that are relevant to course content and process. It is hoped that students will contribute their unique perspectives to this effort by considering and raising issues related to multiculturalism and diversity and respecting others' worldviews throughout this course."

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
9/2	Course Overview - History of Ethics Codes - Types of Ethical Complaints - Dilemmas Encountered by APA Members - Dilemmas Encountered by Students		
9/9	Overview of APA Ethics Code - Changes in Ethics Code - Reasons for changes	Bersoff, Ch. 1 Fisher, Chps. 1-3 Smith, D. (2003) Knapp & VandeCreek (2003)	
9/16	Ethical Decision-Making	Fisher, Ch. 14 Bersoff, Chps., 2-3	
9/23	Standards for Resolving Ethical Issues Standards on Competence	Fisher, Ch. 4 Fisher, Ch. 5	
9/30	Dual/Multiple Relationships	Fisher, Ch. 6 (relevant sections) Bersoff, Ch. 5 Campbell & Gordon (2003)	
10/7	Standards on Privacy/Confidentiality - other issues in Fisher -risk management with clients -Interpersonal Violence: family, youth, men,women issues	Fisher, Ch. 7 Fisher, Ch. 6 Bersoff, Ch. 4 Bersoff, pp. 331-334 APA ad hoc Committee report (1996)	
10/14	Standards on Teaching and Supervision	Bershoff, Ch. 8 (pp. 429-442) Fisher, Ch. 10	
10/21	Standards on Research and Publication -Standards of research ethics - Web research	Bershoff, Ch. 8 (pp. 377-428) Fisher, Ch, 11 Smith, D. (January, 2003) Azar, Beth (2000)	
10/28	Standards on Psychological Assessment	Bershoff, Ch. 6 Fisher, Ch. 12	

COURSE OUTLINE (cont.)

- 11/4 Standards on Psychotherapy
Fisher, Chps. 9, 13
Bersoff, pp. 315-330.
Smith, D. (*Monitor*, January, 2003)
- 11/11 The Business of Psychotherapy
- Risk management (therapist)
Bersoff, Ch. 10
Kennedy, P, Vandehey, M, Norman, W. B,
& Diekhoff, G.M. (2003)
- 11/18 HIPAA
Monitor 3-part series: January-March, 2003
(by Jennifer Daw Holloway)
- 11/25 Applying the Ethical Codes to
Special Topics/Populations
- Psychotherapy by telephone,internet
Benson, E. (June, 2003)
Alleman, James, R. (2002)
Bersoff, pp. 362-376
Bersoff, pp. 334-352
- Rural mental health practice
- 12/2 Special Topics/Populations, cont
- Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Clients
-Women
Bersoff, pp. 355-356
Bersoff, pp. 353-354
- Ethnic, Linguistic, and Culturally
Diverse Populations
Bersoff, pp. 357-361
- 12/9 Special Topics/Populations, cont.
- Assisted suicide and End-of –Life
decisions and Quality of Care issues
APA Working Group (2003)
- Ending your practice as a psychologist
-planned and unplanned endings
McGee, Thomas, F. (2003)
Holloway, J. D. (February, 2003)

Additional Readings

- Alleman, James, R. (2002). Online counseling: The internet and mental health treatment. *Psychotherapy: Therapy, Research, Practice & Training*, 39. 199-209.
- Azar, Beth (April, 2000). A web of research. *Monitor on Psychology*, 31, (4).
- APA Public Interest Initiatives: Report of the ad hoc Committee on Legal and Ethical Issues in the Treatment of Interpersonal Violence: Professional, Ethical, and Legal Issues Concerning Interpersonal Violence, Maltreatment, and Related Trauma
- APA Working Group on Assisted Suicide and End-of-Life Decisions and Quality of Care Issues (2003). The Role of Psychology in End-of-Life Decisions and Quality of Care Issues. APA On-Line: Sections 1-3.
- Benson, Etienne (June, 2003). Telehealth gets back to basics. *Monitor on Psychology*, 34, (6).
- Campbell, Clark, D. & Gordon, Michelle, C. (2003). Acknowledging the inevitable: Understanding multiple relationships in rural practice. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 34. 430-434.
- Holloway, Jennifer, D. (February, 2003). More protections for patients and psychologists under HIPAA. *Monitor on Psychology*, 34, (2).
- Holloway, Jennifer, D., (February, 2003). Shutting down a practice. *Monitor on Psychology*, 34, (2), 32-33.
- Holloway, Jennifer, D. (March, 2003). A stop-gap flow of sensitive patient information. *Monitor On Psychology*, 34, (3).
- Holloway, Jennifer, D. (January, 2003). What takes precedence: HIPAA or state law? *Monitor On Psychology*, 34, (1).
- Kennedy, Patricia, F., Vandehey, Michael, Norman, W.B., & Dickhoff, George, M. (2003). Recommendations for risk-management practices. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 34, pp. 309-311.
- Knapp, Samuel & VandeCreek, Leon (2003). An overview of the major changes in the 2003 APA Ethics Code. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 34, pp. 301-308.
- McGee, Thomas, F. (2003). Observations on the retirement of professional psychologists. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 34, pp. 388-395.
- Smith, Deborah (January, 2003). Five principles for research ethics. *Monitor on Psychology*, 34, (1).
- Smith, Deborah (January, 2003). 10 ways practitioners can avoid frequent ethical pitfalls. *Monitor on Psychology*, 34, (1).
- Smith, Deborah (January, 2003). What you need to know about the new code. *Monitor on Psychology*, 34, (1).