DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA

Art Therapy Psychology Department
Spring 2023
AT 5255 Professional Ethics and Law I (2 Units)

Course Meeting Days: 2/11/23, 2/12/23, 2/25/23, 2/26/23
Course Meeting Time: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Course Meeting Place: Brown House
Prerequisites: None

Instructor Information:

Name and pronouns: Lisa D. Hinz, Ph.D., ATR-BC (she/her)
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Office Location: Guzman Gazebo
Office Hours: TTh 9:00-12:00 (please email to make an appointment)
Librarian: Aaron Richardson (aaron.richardson@dominican.edu)

Course Details

Course Description

This course covers application of California's laws and professional ethics governing counseling processes and psychotherapeutic standards of practice used by marriage and family therapists, professional counselors, and art psychotherapists in a culturally diverse society. Students receive an orientation to the profession and study the ethical standards and legal considerations of counseling. Topics covered include licensing law and process; regulatory laws that delineate the profession's scope of practice; counselor-client privilege; confidentiality; what to do if the client is dangerous to self or others; treatment of minors with or without parental consent; the relationship between a practitioner's sense of self and human values; functions and relationships with other human service providers; strategies for collaboration; and advocacy processes needed to address institutional and social barriers that impeded access, equity, and success for clients.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate professional development and clinical suitability.
2. Demonstrate the ability to effectively apply art therapy and marriage and family therapy (for MA-MFT program) or professional counselor (for MA-AT program) interventions.
3. Understand a) claims and evidence and b) methods of implementation of interventions related to art therapy and marriage and family therapy (for MA-MFT program) or professional counselor (for MA-AT program).
4. Understand and be able to implement ethical and legal guidelines in treatment as well as scholarly work.
5. Understand, integrate, and communicate research data related to art therapy, marriage and family therapy (for MA-MFT program) or professional counselor (for MA-AT program).

Course Learning Outcomes
1. Identify ethical issues in counseling, art therapy, and marriage and family therapy.
2. Review real-life ethical cases and be able to develop ethical resolutions and policies.
3. Understand California laws and regulations related to ethical conduct of counseling and marriage and family therapy.
4. Understand the consequences of ignoring and non-compliance with ethical imperatives.
5. Learn about the best ethical practices and models
6. Identify the steps taken in resolving ethical conflicts with clients, colleagues, and supervisors
7. Review and practice ethical decision-making scenarios regarding confidentiality and informed consent, boundary issues, multiple role situations, assessment, research, and telehealth.

Related CAAHEP/ACATE Competencies
More specifically, by successfully completing the requirements for this course, students will be able to:
a.S.1 Demonstrate how theory informs art therapy assessment and treatment planning
b.K.7 Describe how ethical principles guide the use of technology in professional practice (i.e., electronic records, professional and social networking, and distance therapy and supervision)
b.S.1 Demonstrate how to apply decision-making models and legal principles to ethical dilemmas
b.A.1 Acknowledge the value of developing a strong professional Art Therapist identity founded in ethical practice
a.S.1 Demonstrate how theory informs art therapy assessment and treatment planning
b.S.1 Demonstrate how to apply decision-making models and legal principles to ethical dilemmas

Texts and Resources
10 Ways to Avoid Ethical Pitfalls https://www.apa.org/monitor/jan03/10ways

AAMFT Code of Ethics Code of Ethics (aamft.org)

ACA Code of Ethics https://www.counseling.org/resources/aca-code-of-ethics.pdf

Board of Behavioral Sciences (2023). Statues and regulations relating to the practices of professional clinical counseling, marriage and family therapy, educational psychology, clinical social work. Author.

Forester-Miller, H. & Davis, T. E. (2016). Practitioner's guide to ethical decision making. American Counseling Association. Available at: https://www.counseling.org/knowledge-center/ethics/ethical-decision-making

Knapp, S., Gottlieb, M. C., & Handelsman, M. M. (2018). The benefits of adopting a positive perspective in ethics education. *Training and Education in Professional Psychology, 12*(3), 196–202. https://doi-org.dominican.idm.oclc.org/10.1037/tep0000195

Koocher, G., & Keith Spiegel, P. (2016). *Ethics in Psychology and the Mental Health Professions* (4th ed.). Oxford University Press. https://dominican.on.worldcat.org/oclc/928016970

Rocco-Cott, R. (2016). Introduction to ethics in counseling and psychotherapy, In R. Rocco Cottone & V. M.Tarvydas, *Ethics and Decision Making in Counseling and Psychotherapy* (pp. 93-104). Springer.

Course Schedule

2/11/23   History of ethical codes; aspirational values, and review of modern day applicable ethical codes. Introduction to Positive Ethics

2/12/23   Licensing laws and processes; Regulatory laws that delineate the profession's scope of practice; Counselor-client privilege; Confidentiality; When client is dangerous to self or others; Treatment of minors with or without parental consent. Positive Ethics Project completed in class (15 pts) (Take home Mid-term examination 25 pts)

2/25/23   Report on pop culture ethical assessment (15 pts); Ethical decision-making processes; Heuristics and biases that interfere with ethical decision-making.

2/26/23   Heuristics and biases that interfere with ethical decision-making continued. Case Studies (10 pts) and Final Exam distributed (25 pts)

Assessments

1.   Case studies: (10 points). Each case study will illustrate an ethical issue in professional counseling. After reading the case study, examine the potential ethical code(s) that might be involved according to ACA and AAMFT codes, answer the questions, and be prepared to discuss in class.

2.   Pop Culture Ethical Assessment: (15 points). Students will watch one movie or television program (List provided in class) in which a mental health professional is portrayed. After watching the program, write a 3–4 page report that includes the name of the program, the year the program was produced, the type of professional portrayed, and whether, in your opinion, the professional acted ethically. As part of the assessment, reference the specific ethical code(s) and California law(s) or rule(s) involved.

3.   Mid-term Examination: (25 pts) Utilizing the Dominican Alemany Library online or Google Scholar, find one (1) peer-reviewed research article that discusses ethical dilemmas in marriage and family therapy or counseling. Then write a 3-4-page paper (excluding reference page) including the three following section headers 1) the ethical concerns in the article, 2) your rationale for why it is an ethical dilemma of concern, and 3) a proposal of possible resolutions that might be applied to remedy the ethical dilemma. It is encouraged that you find an article about a topic that is not usually (and unfortunately not) covered in the majority of ethics textbooks (i.e., race, ethnicity, gender, age, culture, religion, beliefs, stigmatized topics, etc.)

4.   Positive Ethics Project: (15 pts) In-class project and presentation. Each person will be assigned a portion of the ACA or AAMFT Ethical Code and be asked to rewrite it in a positive ethical manner. Your presentation will include: a definition of the ethical principle assigned, a rationale for why this is important in the field of ethical reasoning, a positive rewriting of the section assigned to you, and an explanation of how a positive approach might affect ethical decision making.

5.   Final Examination: (25 points) The Final Exam includes 25 questions in multiple choice, true/false, & short answer formats. You must complete this exam on Moodle. This exam is open book as ethical decision making in your career will be "open book" and open to consultation with others. Once you open the exam in Moodle, you must finish it in that same (one) attempt.

Grading Criteria for Written Work:

Quality of Content	40%	Readability	10%
Organization	15%	Spelling/Grammar	10%
Met Assignment Criteria	15%	APA Style	10%

Grading System

97-100	A+	4.0	
94-96	A	4.0	
90-93	A-	3.7	
87-89	B+	3.3	
84-86	B	3.0	
80-83	B-	2.7	Requires a B+ in another class of equal unit value
77-79	C+	2.3	Requires an A- in another class of equal unit value
74-76	C	2.0	Requires an A in another class of equal unit value
70-73	C-		Unacceptable
< 69	F		Unacceptable

Grading Policy and Exams

Assignments	*Possible Points*
Case Studies	10 points
Pop Culture Ethical	15 points
Mid-term paper	25 points
Positive Ethics Project	15 points
Final Exam	25 point
Class Participation	10 points
Total	**100 points**

Students can access and tabulate their grades via the Moodle gradebook

Expectations for Students

PARTICIPATION: Active participation is defined as sharing questions, concerns, constructive feedback, support, ideas, and resources. Active participation is being attentive, self-motivated, respectful, independent, responsible, and flexible. Physical Attendance at class alone does not constitute participation.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance at all classes is required; and students are expected to physically attend classes listed as in-person courses per Dominican University policy. If you will be late for class, please contact me by email and, if possible, contact another student to let them know as well.
Missing class is a major concern in a weekend intensive course such as this, and it will significantly impact your grade unless absence and make-up is prearranged with the instructor.
Should an emergency require your absence please contact me as soon as possible to let me know and to arrange to make up for missed work as well as additional requirements to satisfy missed course contact hours.

WORK REQUIRED: This class will be intense. A one credit hour should approximate 45 hours of student work outside of time in class.

University Policies
Student Code of Conduct (University Wide)
[Visit the Student Handbook and Code of Conduct Section 5 Code of Conduct](#)

Academic Honesty Honor Code
Students are expected to adhere to the [Academic Honesty Honor Code](#) stated in the catalog. Students should practice academic integrity in all of its forms, including abstaining from plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct. The University reserves the right to determine in any given instance what action constitutes a violation of academic honesty and integrity.

Plagiarism is a very serious matter. Plagiarism, like cheating on an assignment or exam, is a violation of the University Honor Code. [The policy on plagiarism can be found here](#).

University Resources
Library Support
The Alemany Library is an active partner in your academic success. The library provides one-to-one research help, academic resources, technology, and quiet individual and group study spaces. Students may [book an appointment](#) and refer to the [library website](#).

Art Therapy Psychology Librarian Liaison: Aaron Richardson (aaron.richardson@dominican.edu)

Students Who Require Accommodations
Dominican University of California is committed to equal access for all students in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students who feel they may need accommodations based on the impact of a disability should contact the [Office of Accessibility and Disability Services](#) at 415-257-1388 or email [accessibility@dominican.edu](#) as soon as possible to discuss specific accommodations. Please submit the subsequent paperwork to the instructor right away.

Student Support
[Visit the student portal](#) for information and resources (including Tutoring & Learning Center, CARE Team, Counseling Services, Integrative Coaching, & more). The Student Success Center may also be reached at (415) 485-3296, or [sscstu@dominican.edu](#)

Course Evaluations
Dominican University of California is committed to an ongoing evaluation of its programs and courses through a culture of constructive dialogue and feedback. It is expected that students will complete the course evaluation either in class or outside of class. The instructor will determine time for the course evaluation to be completed. A link to the course evaluation will be sent to all the students enrolled in the class by the IT Department. The evaluation may be completed on a laptop, tablet, or mobile device.

Title IX
As instructors, one of our responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment for our students and for the campus as a whole. As part of our commitment to students' wellbeing, we have the responsibility to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence, relationship violence, or stalking to our Title IX Coordinator, so they can inform students about their reporting options and the

various support resources available. Student privacy is a priority for us and will be maintained to the extent permissible by law and policy. For more information Email: titleix@dominican.edu.

Bias Incident Report
If you or someone you know has experienced, or witnessed, a hate or bias incident, please use this Bias Incident Report form to make the University aware of the incident.

Dominican Scholarly & Creative Works Conference
- Date: April 19, 2023
- Visit the Conference website

Disclaimer
This syllabus is subject to modification. The instructor will inform students of any changes.