

CNS 786:
Legal & Ethical Issues
Spring 2009

Donna A. Henderson
henderda@wfu.edu,
758-1890

Course Content:

This course is an overview of the critical professional issues in counseling with an emphasis on current ethical, legal and values-related questions.

Texts:

Remley, T.P., & Herlihy, B. (2007). *Ethical, legal, and professional issues in counseling*. (Updated 2nd Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Merrill.

North Carolina LPC Board Rules [available from NCLPC website]

Methods of Instruction:

Classroom activities will include didactic instruction, discussion, case studies, panel presentations and experiments with different ideas.

Course Objectives: [CACREP II G:1]

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Recognize and define key terms and concepts associated with the ethical practice of counseling
- Understand the similarities and differences between ethical and legal issues in counseling
- Exhibit a thorough knowledge of ethical standards;
- Apply a decision making model to ethical/legal dilemmas and
- Examine personal ethics.

Course Requirements and Evaluation Components:

1. **Law:** For the state you have chosen, find all the laws and cases related to counseling. Provide copies of the actual statutes and a summary of the case background, judgments, appeals and/or other outcomes. Look particularly for the law that establishes the state credential, references to privileged communication, reporting child/elder abuse, involuntary commitment and scope of practice. The completeness of this study will constitute your grade. (25%)
2. **Test:** You will be given a comprehensive test on the text and readings. (75%).

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading
1/20/07	Resolving Ethical Issues	Remley & Herlihy, 1,2, 3
1/27/07	Protecting the Client: Informed Consent	Remley & Herlihy, 4, 9, 10
2/3/07	Protecting the Client: Confidentiality Duty to warn Records, subpoenas, technology	Remley & Herlihy, 5, 6, 9, 10 HIPAA
2/10/07	Competence Limits of Practice Involuntary commitment	Remley & Herlihy, 7, 8,
2/17/07	Assessment & Relationships	Remley & Herlihy, 11, 12, 15,
2/24/07	Responsibilities for self and colleagues Ethical Dilemmas State Laws	Remley & Herlihy, 13, 14, 16 Summary of laws due
3/3/07	TEST – Legal and Ethical	Remley & Herlihy, all chapters