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Spring 1-2003

PSYC 630.01: Ethics

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SYLLABUS

Ethics

Psyc 630, Sec 01

CPC 121

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:40 – 11:00am

Spring Semester 2003

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Department of Psychology

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Office Hours: M, T, W, Th 2-3pm

and by appointment

Prerequisite: Graduate student in clinical psychology.

Introduction and Objectives:

Ethics is the study of those assumptions held by individuals, institutions, organizations, and professions that they believe will assist them in distinguishing between right and wrong and, ultimately, in making sound moral judgments (Bersoff & Koepl, 1993, Delgado & McAllen, 1982). This course will, therefore,

- introduce graduate students to the “formal and enforceable documents that regulate professional, scientific, and academic conduct” (Bersoff, 1991),
- “develop in students a sensitivity to the ethical aspects of their work as present and future psychologists” (Bersoff, 1991),
- “actuate students to a deeper level of thought regarding these aspects and to leave them more considerate, critical, and skeptical about their own behavior and the ethical constraints under which they are asked to treat, teach about, and investigate human behavior” (Bersoff, 1991).

This course is a seminar course and as a consequence, you are expected to learn from each other and teach each other. Participation is expected and required; please come prepared to discuss the assigned readings.

Required Texts:

Bersoff, D. (1991). *Ethical conflicts in psychology* (2nd Ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Bennett, B., Bryant, B., VandenBos, G. & Greenwood, A. (1990). *Professional liability and risk management*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Fadiman, A. (1997). *The spirit catches you and you fall down: A Hmong child, her American doctors, and the collision of two cultures*. New York: The Noonday Press.

Readings as assigned.

Recommended Readings:

American Psychological Association. (2002). Ethical principles of psychologists and code of conduct. *American Psychologist*, 57(12), American Psychological Association.

American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th Ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Course Requirements:

1. Students are responsible for all class lectures, presentations, films, group discussions, and required readings.
2. Attendance is required. Two excused absences will be permitted for the semester. Absences in excess of this will result in a lower grade, e.g, more than two excused absences equals a reduction in grade from an A to a B.

Academic Dishonesty: Anyone caught cheating on exams or pop quizzes will automatically receive a failing grade. Any person or persons caught cheating will be referred to the department chair and/or dean for further disciplinary action.

Students with Disabilities who are requesting an accommodation, please see Dr. Swaney no later than February 6.

SCHEDULE

January 28—Introduction and OVERVIEW	January 30—Lecture, Dr. Swaney, “Perry’s Model.”
February 4—Bersoff, Chapter 1, Ethics codes and how they are enforced. (especially Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct) <i>American Psychologist, 57(12)</i>	February 6—Guest Lecturer, Ann Cook, PhD, “Historical and theoretical foundations.”
February 11—Bersoff, Chapter 1, Ethics codes and how they are enforced (continued).	February 13—Bersoff, Chapter 2, How ethics are applied. Bennett, et al., Part I: Ethics, Practice Guidelines, and Liability (pp. 1-42). <i>Professional liability and risk management.</i>
February 18—Bersoff, Chapter 2, How ethics are applied (continued).	February 20—Bersoff, Chapter 3, Learning ethics. Values
February 25—Bersoff, Chapter Chapter 3, Learning ethics (continued).	February 27—Bersoff, Chapter 4, Confidentiality, privilege, and privacy.
March 4—Bersoff, Chapter 5, Multiple relationships.	March 6—Bersoff, Chapter 6, Psychological assessment.
March 11—Bersoff, Chapter 6, Psychological assessment (continued)	March 13—Bersoff, Chapter 7, Therapy and other forms of intervention. Bennett, et al., Part II: Being prepared day to day (pp. 45-119). <i>Professional liability and risk management.</i>
March 18-- Bersoff, Chapter 8, Academia: Research, teaching, and supervision	March 20-- Bersoff, Chapter 8, Academia: Research, teaching, and supervision.
March 24—SPRING BREAK	March 28—SPRING BREAK
April 1—Bersoff, Chapter 9, Forensic settings.	April 3—Chapter 10, The business of psychology

	TAKE HOME TEST GIVEN
TAKE HOME TEST DUE, Monday, April 7, 5pm	
April 8—Bersoff, Chapter 9, Forensic settings.	April 10—Chapter 10, The business of psychology.
April 15—Student Presentation #1—Kristin O’Shea, “Mandated Reporting.”	April 17—Student Presentation #2—Delia Campfield, “Confidentiality issues, ethics, and children/adolescents in therapy.”
April 22—Student Presentation #3—Michelle “Chelly” Harada, “Managed Care, the Indian Health Service, and Ethics.”	April 24—Student Presentation #4—Christopher Miller, “Research ethics.”
April 29—Student Presentation #5	May 1—Student Presentation #6—Elizabeth “Lizzy” Plunkett, “Ethics and Suicide.”
May 6—Student Presentation #7	May 8—Wrap-Up and OVERVIEW

Topic suggestions to get you started...

- Therapy with children: issues of confidentiality.
- Duty to warn.
- Research ethics with ethnic minorities.
- Assessment and evaluation ethics with ethnic minorities.
- Etc.