

COU208e Ethics in Counselling

Level: 2

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY SEMESTER

E-Learning: BLENDED - Learning is done MAINLY online using interactive study materials in Canvas. Students receive guidance and support from online instructors via discussion forums and emails. This is supplemented with SOME face-to-face sessions. If the course has an exam component, this will be administered on-campus.

Synopsis:

The course aims at transforming students into professional counsellors who are ethical, therapeutically effective and multiculturally sensitive. The course content will cover professional ethics, the counsellor as a person and as a professional, professional issues in counselling, values and the counselling relationship, multicultural perspectives and diversity issues, as well as client rights and counsellor responsibilities.

Topics:

- Introduction to Professional Ethics
- Ethical Decision-making
- The Counsellor as a Person
- The Counsellor as a Professional
- Values and the Professional Counsellor
- Values Clarification for Counsellors
- The Ethics of Imposing Values on Clients
- Values Conflict: To Refer or Not
- Client-counsellor Relationship
- Multiple Relationships
- Boundary Issues
- Multiculturalism: Definitions and Terminology
- The Need for Multicultural Emphasis
- Cultural Values and Assumptions in Counselling
- Cultural Tunnel Vision and Culturally-encapsulated Counsellors
- Informed Consent
- Legal Aspects
- Educating Clients about Informed Consent
- The Content of Informed Consent
- Counsellor Responsibility in Record-keeping
- Division of Responsibility in Counselling

Textbooks:

Corey, G., Corey, M.S. and Callanan, D.: Issues and Ethics in the Helping Professions. (eText) 10 ed. Cengage
ISBN-13: 9789814834803

Learning Outcome:

- Present an overview of the counsellor's ethical responsibilities
- Explain the importance of and need for self-awareness and self-monitoring, in minimising countertransference issues in counselling
- Recognise the importance of values and multicultural perspectives in counselling
- Differentiate between boundary crossing and boundary violation
- Interpret the ethical guidelines regarding confidentiality, and its limitations
- Examine the place of informed consent in the counsellor-client relationship
- Apply the Code of Ethics to guide counselling practices
- Demonstrate ethical thinking and ethical decision-making abilities in counselling
- Recognise transference and countertransference in counselling, and deal with these appropriately
- Analyse value conflicts in counselling, and handle these effectively
- Develop skills in managing multiple relationships and professional boundaries in counselling
- Examine the clinical implications of record-keeping

Assessment Strategies:

Continuous Assessment Component	Weightage (%)
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	40
PRE-CLASS QUIZ	4
PRE-CLASS QUIZ	3
PRE-CLASS QUIZ	3
Sub-Total	50

Examinable Component	Weightage (%)
Written Exam	50
Sub-Total	50

Weightage Total **100**