

**Rutgers University
Department of Psychology
Clinical Ethics I
Syllabus – Fall 2019**

Course: PSY 16:830:528:01 Clinical Ethics I, Credit Hours 1.5
When: Mondays 1pm-2:30pm
Where: 1 Spring Street, 204
Instructor(s): Samantha Farris, Ph.D, Teresa Leyro, Ph.D.

Course Materials:

Knapp, S. J., VandleCreek, L. D., & Fingerhut, R. (2017). *Practical Ethics for Psychologists: A Positive Approach* (3rd Edition). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

American Psychological Association (APA, 2017). Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conducts. (<https://www.apa.org/ethics/code/ethics-code-2017.pdf>)

NJ Administrative Code (Title 13), Law and Public Safety (Chapter 42) from the Board of Psychological Examiners: <https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/regulations/Chapter-42-Board-of-Psychological-Examiners.pdf>

State Board of Psychological Examiners Law: <https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/Statutes/psychologicallaw.pdf>

Course Description: The goal of this course is to provide graduate students with training in application of the APA Code of Ethics, as well as the State of New Jersey, and Federal laws, as they pertain to the provision of psychotherapy, assessment and research. In doing so, we aspire to train students in positive or active ethics, which reach beyond the minimal standards of competency that are based on legal or mandatory ethics code, by training psychologists to act based on moral sensitivity or aspirational principles, grounded in the fundamental goal of helping others. Clinical Ethics I and II were developed in tandem with Proseminar I and II to ensure that students simultaneously receive training in the APA Ethics Code as it pertains to the provision of clinical care as well as research activities.

Course Format: This is a required 1.5 credit course that will be offered in both the Fall and Spring semesters. This class is required for second-year students in the Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology, and is to be taken in the fall semester and followed by Clinical Ethics II in the spring semester. This course will also be open on a case-by-case basis for additional students.

General Objectives: The goal of this series of courses is to provide pre-doctoral clinicians with:

- 1) Knowledge of the APA Ethics Code as it pertains to the clinical and research activities.
- 2) Training in the use of a positive approach to ethics, based upon morals and an aspirational code of conduct that reach beyond fundamental standards of conduct.

Specific Teaching and Training Goals for Ethics I:

Teaching:

- Students should have expertise of the APA Ethics Code (Standards 1-5) as well as New Jersey state and Federal laws.
- Through class discussion and didactive experiences, students will learn to distinguish between ethical standards and aspirations, that reach beyond what is legally required as a practicing psychologist.

Applied Practice:

- Students should demonstrate competency in ethical standards and disciplinary codes.
- Students should demonstrate a willingness and desire to employ a code of professional ethics that reaches beyond mandatory guidelines, incorporating a personal and moral framework focused on helping others.

Classroom Decorum: Please make your best effort to arrive on time! Please be respectful. This means, refrain from using social media apps during class, turn off cell phones upon arrival to class (not vibrate, not silent), and refrain from side conversations.

Academic Honor Code: Students are expected to uphold the Academic Integrity Policy published by Rutgers. This policy is based on the premise that students must: (1) acknowledge and cite all use of ideas, results or words of others; (2) acknowledge all contributors of work; (3) submit work that is his/her own without the aid of impermissible materials or collaboration; (4) obtain data and results ethically and report with accuracy; (5) treat all students in a manner that preserves their integrity; and (6) uphold the ethical and professional code in accord with the profession you pursue. It is imperative that all students abide by the Academic Integrity Policy to maintain the integrity of the University community. (Paraphrased from <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy>). Under no circumstances will cheating or plagiarism be tolerated.

Special Considerations for Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that all qualified person should have equal opportunity and access to education, regardless of the presence of any disabling conditions. If you have a documented disability and need special permissions, please contact the Office of Disability Services for Students, Lucy Stone Hall, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Ave., Suite A 145, Piscataway, NJ 08345 (Phone: 848.445.6809) and notify us during the first week of class. We will do whatever we can to accommodate your legitimate needs. All information and documentation of disability is strictly confidential.

Medical, Mental Health, and Personal Emergencies: If you experience an unexpected emergency, please let me know as soon as possible. If you experience ongoing difficulty attending and participating, please discuss your situation with me as soon as possible. We may ask that you supply a note from the emergency dean or your area chair. Do not wait until the end of the semester or until the problem has been resolved to contact us.

Course Expectations

****NOTE:** This syllabus is subject to change, with proper notice, throughout the semester.

Attendance and Participation: We expect that you attend each class and participate. If you are unable to attend class, it is your ethical responsibility to make up what you missed. As graduate students, we expect that you come to class prepared (as outlined below).

Readings: Readings will be assigned on a weekly basis. Please complete readings ahead of our meetings. This will greatly aid in your ability to grasp the information and fully participate. *Please see Readings list below.* *Copyright Statement: Some course materials may be copyrighted and provided in compliance with the provision of the Teach Act. This means that these materials are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in the course and for activities associated with and for the duration of the course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further.

Grades: The following grade structure will be used.

90 – 100%	= A	Attendance/Participation	30 points	=	30
85 – 89%	= B+	Ethics Quiz #1	10 points	=	10
80 – 84%	= B	Ethics Quiz #2	10 points	=	10
75 – 79%	= C+	Ethics Quiz #3	10 points	=	10
70 – 74%	= C	Ethics Quiz #4	10 points	=	10
60 – 69%	= D	Ethics Quiz #5	10 points	=	10
< 60%	= F	Final Exam	20 points	=	<u>20</u>
					100

Schedule:

Date	Topic	Readings
Monday 9/16	Preamble and General Principles	<u>APA Code:</u> Introduction and Applicability, Preamble, and General Principles <u>NJ 13:42:</u> Subchapters 1-6
Monday 9/30	Standards 1: Resolving Ethical Issues Quiz #1	<u>APA Code:</u> Standards 1 <u>Knapp:</u> Ch 3: Ethical Decision Model <u>NJ 13:42:</u> Subchapters 7,10
Monday 10/14	Standards 2: Competence Quiz #2	<u>APA Code:</u> Standards 2 <u>Knapp:</u> Ch 4: Competence
Monday 10/28	Standards 3: Human Relations Quiz #3	<u>APA Code:</u> Standards 3 <u>Knapp:</u> Ch 5: Informed Consent <u>Knapp:</u> Ch. 6: Multiple Relationships <u>Knapp:</u> Ch. 11: Special Topics (pg. 214-221)
Monday 11/11	Standards 4: Privacy and Confidentiality Quiz #4	<u>APA Code:</u> Standards 4 <u>Knapp:</u> Ch 7: Confidentiality, HIPAA <u>Knapp:</u> Ch 8: Tarasoff Case, Mandated Reporting <u>NJ 13:42:</u> Subchapter 11
Monday 11/25	Standards 5: Advertising and Other Public Statements Quiz #5	<u>APA Code:</u> Standards 5 <u>NJ 13:42:</u> Subchapter 9 <u>Knapp:</u> Ch 12: Business issues (pgs. 233-237)
Monday 12/2	Final Exam	