



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

## Psychology 659

Ethics and Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology  
Course Outline: **Winter, 2008 Term**

Instructor: Dr. Keith S. Dobson  
Office: Administration 233A

Telephone: 220-5096  
Email: [ksdobson@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ksdobson@ucalgary.ca)

Lectures: Wednesday, 2:00- 5:00 PM  
Location: Administration Bldg. 248

### *Course description:*

This course will provide an overview of ethics issues for students who are pursuing training in clinical psychology. Students will read major ethics documents related to the practice of psychology in Canada and Alberta. Additionally, the application of ethics documents and other practice guidelines to actual cases will be discussed. The regulation of psychology as an independent profession will be covered. We will discuss such issues as training models, continuing education, and professional liability. Later aspects of the course will focus on applied issues, including confidentiality, right to privacy, informed consent, therapeutic relationship issues, involuntary commitment and social responsibility. Special applications of clinical psychology to the medical and legal contexts will be discussed.

### *Readings:*

Readings are named below, and should be completed before each class named below.

### *Course outline and required readings:*

Date	Topics	Readings
January 9	Organizational meeting. The organization of professional psychology in Canada. Training models in professional psychology. The Scientist-Practitioner Model. Program Accreditation. The definition of clinical psychology.	1- 5
January 16	The Profession of Psychology in Alberta and Canada. The College of Alberta Psychologists and the <i>Health Professions Act</i> .	6-7
January 23	The Canadian Psychological Association's <i>Code of Ethics</i> , history and description of its organization. Ethical decision-making. Case evaluations.	8-9
January 30	The APA <i>Code of Ethics</i> . Codes of Conduct, Practice Guidelines	10 - 15
February 6	Practice Guidelines and other guidelines.  <i>Ethics Examination</i>	16- 19

February 13	Continuing Education, Practice Review, Professional Liability, and the Disciplinary Process.	20 - 22
February 27	Patient Rights, Confidentiality, Right to Privacy, Informed Consent, Involuntary commitment, competence, Right to refuse treatment.	23- 32
March 5	Clinical Psychology in the health context, multidisciplinary issues.	33- 38
March 12	Practice Issues: Gender and sexual orientation	39- 43
March 19	Practice Issues: Multicultural Factors in Clinical Practice	44- 50
March 26	Practice Issues: Clinical Psychology in the Courts	51- 54
April 2	Business aspects of Clinical Psychology. Internship and other Clinical training opportunities.	55- 57
April 9	The future of Clinical Psychology. Other issues by request. Term paper due.	58

*Course Requirements and Evaluation:*

In a course such as this, consistent class attendance and participation are critical to the learning process. As such, performance in the course will include an evaluation of attendance and participation. Students are expected to attend all classes to obtain maximal credit for attendance.

The second component of the course will be an examination on the ethics of Clinical Psychology. This examination will consist of a series of ethical dilemmas, for which the student must write down the identified ethical concerns (if any), and state a course of planned action. This examination will take place in class on February 6.

The third component of the course will consist of 2 reaction papers to the material being read. Each reaction paper must be submitted at the beginning of the class on which it is relevant, and should describe your reactions to, thoughts about, or appraisals of the ideas in one or more of the readings for that class. Each reaction paper must be no longer than 3 double-spaced (12 pitch font, 1" margins) pages, inclusive of everything (no title page; no references). Each paper will be count 12.5% of your final grade.

The balance of the course grade will be based upon a term paper of no more than 30 typewritten double-spaced pages (completed consistent with the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition *APA Publication Manual*). The topic of the term paper will address a topic from this course, agreed to between you and the instructor. The term paper is due at beginning of the last class (April 9, 2008).

*Summary of course evaluation procedures:*

	<i>Maximum score:</i>
Class attendance and participation:	10
Ethics Examination:	25
Reaction papers:	25
Term paper:	<u>40</u>
TOTAL Possible Course Grade:	100

Grades will be assigned no more stringently than the following:

96- 100	A+	75- 79	B+	00- 49	F
85- 95	A	70- 74	B		
80- 84	A-	50- 69	B-		

*Important:* A student seeking reappraisal of graded term papers, exams, etc. must discuss his/her work within two weeks of the work having been returned to class. No reappraisal is permitted after the two week period. Tape recordings of lectures must be approved by the lecturer.

*Course Readings:*

Note the following web sites for on-line materials:

Canadian Psychological Association ([www.cpa.ca](http://www.cpa.ca))

American Psychological Association ([www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org))

College of Alberta Psychologists ([www.cap.ab.ca](http://www.cap.ab.ca))

Government of Alberta documents (Queens Printer) ([www.qp.gov.ab.ca/catalogue](http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/catalogue))

Government of Canada statutes (<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/>)

Most other journal articles can be obtained on-line through PsychInfo and Ovid Citations.

1. Section on Clinical Psychology, Canadian Psychological Association (1999). *Definition of Clinical Psychology*. (online at <http://www.cpa.ca/clinical/advancing/brochureE.pdf>)
2. American Psychological Association Division 12 (1996). An Update on Empirically Validated Therapies.(online at [http://pantheon.yale.edu/~tat22/empirically\\_supported\\_treatments.htm](http://pantheon.yale.edu/~tat22/empirically_supported_treatments.htm))
3. CPA Clinical Psychology Section Task Force Report on Empirically Supported Treatments (1998). (online at [www.cpa.ca/clinical/advancing/section.html](http://www.cpa.ca/clinical/advancing/section.html))
4. Chambless, D., & Ollendick, T. H. (2001). Empirically Supported Psychological Interventions: Controversies and Evidence. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 52, 685-716. (Available at <http://arjournals.annualreviews.org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/doi/pdf/10.1146/annurev.psych.52.1.685> in the University of Calgary system).
5. Hunsley, J. (2007). Training Psychologists for Evidence-Based Practice. *Canadian Psychology/Psychologie canadienne*, 48, 32-42.
6. Government of the Province of Alberta. (1999). *Health Disciplines Act*. (sections 1 to 159, and Schedule 22). (Online at <http://www.canlii.org/ab/laws/sta/h-7/20041104/whole.html>)
7. College of Alberta Psychologists (1999). *Criteria for evaluating academic credentials of candidates*. (online at <http://www.cap.ab.ca/pdfs/academiccriteriaforregistrationaspsychologists.pdf>)
8. Canadian Psychological Association. (2001). *The Canadian Code of Ethics for Psychologists: 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*. Ottawa: Author. (available on line at <http://www.cpa.ca/cpasite/userfiles/Documents/Canadian%20Code%20of%20Ethics%20for%20Psycho.pdf>) This document can also be order through CPA, at <http://www.cpa.ca/order.html>).
9. Tymchuk, A.J. (1986). Guidelines for ethical decision making. *Canadian Psychology/ Psychologie Canadienne*, 27(1), 36-43.
10. American Psychological Association (2002). *Ethical Principles of psychologists and code of conduct*. Washington, D.C.: Author. (online [www.apa.org/ethics/code2002.html](http://www.apa.org/ethics/code2002.html))
11. College of Alberta Psychologists (2002). *Code of Conduct*. Author: Edmonton, Alberta. (online <http://www.cap.ab.ca/PPA/pdfs/codeofconduct.pdf>)
12. College of Alberta Psychologists. (1998). *The use of aversive techniques in behaviour management*. Edmonton: Author. (online <http://www.cap.ab.ca/pdfs/codeofconduct.pdf>)
13. College of Alberta Psychologists. (1998). *Child Custody Assessment Guidelines*. Edmonton: Author. (online <http://www.cap.ab.ca/pdfs/HPAPGFP-ChildCustodyAssessment.pdf>)
14. College of Alberta Psychologists. (1998). *Advertising and other public statements*. Edmonton: Author. (online <http://www.cap.ab.ca/pdfs/HPAPGFP-Advertisingandotherpubcommunication.pdf>)
15. College of Alberta Psychologists. (1998). *Control of psychological tests by psychologists*. Edmonton: Author. (online <http://www.cap.ab.ca/pdfs/HPAPGFP-ControlandUseofTests.pdf>)
16. Fine, M. A. & Kurdek, L. A. (1993). Reflections on determining authorship credit and authorship

- order on faculty-student collaborations. *American Psychologist*, 48, 1141- 1147.
17. College of Alberta Psychologists (1998). *Release of confidential information: Special issues in third party requests*. Edmonton: Authour. (online <http://www.cap.ab.ca/pdfs/HPAPGFP-Releaseofconfidentialinformation.pdf>)
  18. Eberlein, L. (1990). Client records: Ethical and legal considerations. *Canadian Psychology / Psychologie Canadienne*, 31(2), 155-166.
  19. American Psychological Association. (1993). Record keeping guidelines. *American Psychologist*, 48, 984- 986. (online <http://www.apa.org/practice/recordkeeping.pdf>).
  20. Van Horne, B. A. (2004). Psychology Licensing Board Disciplinary Actions: The Realities. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 1 35, 170-178.
  21. Sanchez, Heriberto G. (2001). Risk factor model for suicide assessment and intervention. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 32, 351-358.
  22. Rogers, T. (1997). Extending the CPA Code of Ethics: A research participant's bill of rights. *History and Philosophy of Psychology Bulletin*, 9, 3- 12.
  23. Government of Canada (1982). *The Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, 1982. Ottawa: Author. (online <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/charter/index.html>)
  24. Government of Alberta. (1990). *Mental Health Act*. Edmonton: Queens Printer. (online [http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/M13.cfm?frm\\_isbn=0779745027](http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/M13.cfm?frm_isbn=0779745027))
  25. Government of Alberta. (2000). *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act*. Edmonton: Queens Printer. (online [http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/C12.cfm?frm\\_isbn=0779742923](http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/C12.cfm?frm_isbn=0779742923); sections 1 –15 only)
  26. Government of Alberta (2000). *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Edmonton: Queens Printer. (online [http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/F25.cfm?frm\\_isbn=0779746465](http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/F25.cfm?frm_isbn=0779746465))
  27. Jackman-Cram, S., & Dobson, K.S. (1993). Confidentiality: Legal and ethical aspects for Canadian psychologists. *Canadian Psychology/ Psychologie Canadienne*, 34, 347-363.
  28. Crowhurst, B., & Dobson, K. S. (1993) Informed consent: Legal issues and applications to psychology. *Canadian Psychology/ Psychologie Canadienne*, 34, 329-346.
  29. Ryan, D. P., & Bagby, R. M. (1985). Psychologists and privileged communication. *Canadian Psychology/ Psychologie Canadienne*, 26, 207- 213.
  30. Cantor, D. (1998). Achieving a mental health bill of rights. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 29, 315-316.
  31. Walters, D. (1995). Mandatory reporting of child abuse: Legal, ethical and clinical implications within a Canadian context. *Canadian Psychology/ Psychologie Canadienne*, 36, 163- 182.
  32. Government of Alberta (2000). *Personal Directives Act*. Edmonton: Queen's Printer. (online [http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/P06.cfm?frm\\_isbn=0779721837](http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/P06.cfm?frm_isbn=0779721837))).
  33. Principles of the 1984 *Canada Health Act*, updated to 2006. (online <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/c-6/233402.html>)
  34. Hearn, M. T., & Evans, D. R. (1993) Applications of psychology to health care. In K. S. Dobson & D. J. G. Dobson (Eds). *Professional Psychology in Canada*. Toronto: Hogrefe- Huber.
  35. Rumsey, N., Maguire, B., Marks, D.F., Watts, M., Weinman, J. Wright, S. (1994). Towards a core curriculum. *The Psychologist*, 14, 129-131.
  36. Kingsbury, S. J. (1987). Cognitive differences between psychologists and psychiatrists. *American Psychologist*, 42, 152- 156.
  37. Romanow, R. J., & Marchildon, G. P. (2003). Psychological services and the future of health care on Canada. *Canadian Psychology*, 44, 283- 295.
  38. Heiby, E. M., DeLeon, P. H., & Anderson, T. (2004). A debate on prescription privileges for psychologists. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 35, 336- 344.
  39. Brown, L. S. (1991) Ethical issues in feminist therapy. *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 15, 323- 336.

40. Enns, C. Z. (1992) Toward integrating feminist psychotherapy and feminist philosophy. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 23, 453- 466.
41. DeVoe, D. (1990). Feminist and nonsexist counseling: Implications for the male counselor. *Journal of Counseling and Development*, 69, 33- 36.
42. Schneider, M. S., Brown, L. S., & Glassgold, J. M. (2002). Implementing the resolution on appropriate therapeutic responses to sexual orientation: A guide for the perplexed. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 33, 265- 276.
43. Sobociniski, M. R. (1990). Ethical issues in the counseling of gay and lesbian adolescents: Issues of autonomy, competence and confidentiality. *Professional psychology: Research and Practice*, 21, 240- 247.
44. Esses, V. M., & Gardener, R. C. (1996). Multiculturalism in Canada: Context and current status. *Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science*, 28, 145- 152.
45. Sue, D. W., Bernier, J. E., Durrant, A., Feinberg, L., Pedersen, P., Smith, E.J., & Vasquez-Nutall, E. (1987). Cross-cultural counseling competencies. *The Counseling Psychologist*, 10, 45- 52.
46. American Psychological Association (2002). *Guidelines for providers of psychological services to ethnic, linguistic and culturally diverse populations*. Washington, DC: Author. (online <http://www.apa.org/pi/multiculturalguidelines/formats.html> )
47. Roysircar, G. (2004). Cultural self-awareness Assessment: Practice examples from psychology training. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 35, 658- 666.
48. Sue, S. (1999). Science, ethnicity, and bias: Where have we gone wrong? *American Psychologist*, 54, 1070- 1077.
49. College of Alberta Psychologists. (1998). *Non-discriminatory practices*. Edmonton: Author. (online <http://www.cap.ab.ca/pdfs/HPAPGFP-Non-discriminatoryPractice.pdf>)
50. Canadian Mental Health Association. (1989). *Immigrants and mental health*. Toronto: Author.
51. Evans, D.R. (1987). The psychologist as an expert witness in civil and criminal litigation. *Canadian Psychology / Psychologie Canadienne*, 28(3), 274-279.
52. Pollock, A. L., Webster, B. D. (1993) Psychology and the law: The emerging role of forensic psychology. In K. S. Dobson and D. J. G. Dobson (Eds). *Professional Psychology in Canada*. Toronto: Hogrefe- Huber.
53. Ogloff, J. R. P. (1990). Law and psychology in Canada: The need for research and training. *Canadian Psychology/ Psychologie Canadienne*, 31, 61- 73. FYI: the Criminal Code of Canada is online at <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/C-46/index.html>; this is not a required reading, however)
54. College of Alberta Psychologists. (1996). *Addressing recovered memories*. Edmonton: Author. (online <http://www.cap.ab.ca/pdfs/HPAPGFP-AddressingRecoveredMemories.pdf>)
55. Rodolfa, E. R., Vieille, R., Russell, P., Nijjer, S., Nguyen, D. Q., Mendoza, M., & Perrin, L. (1999). Internship selection: Inclusion and exclusion criteria. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 30, 415-419.
56. Klein, D. N., & Nicholson, I. R. (2006). Costs of predoctoral Clinical Psychology internship training in a Canadian health care setting. *Canadian Psychology*, 47, 333-342.
57. Newlin, C. M., Adolph, J. L., & Kreber, L. A. (2004). Factors that influence fee setting by male and female psychologists. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 35, 548- 552.
58. Westra, H. A., Eastwood, J. D., Bouffard, B. B., & Gerritsen, C. J. (2006). Psychology's pursuit of prescriptive authority: Would it meet the goals of Canadian health care reform? *Canadian Psychology*, 47, 77-95.