

**Professional Practice Issues and Professional
Ethics in Community Rehabilitation**

Calendar Description

This online course is designed to look at ethical decision making issues and practices for community rehabilitation service providers, researchers, interdisciplinary teams, agencies, and policy developers through the use of online class exercises, case studies, and readings. This course will also cover an overview of the history of community rehabilitation.

Content/Objectives

- Outline the history of community rehabilitation.
- Examine the philosophical and historical bases of professional ethics.
- Compare and contrast relevant codes of ethics and ethical decision making models.
- Exam the concepts of social responsibility and social justice
- Describe and examine service ethical issues (e.g., confidentiality, informed consent, respect for vulnerable populations, professional boundaries).
- Apply ethical principles to organizational policy development.
- Evaluate the implications and limitations of traditional codes of ethics for community based services.
- Analyze the relationship between poverty and ethics

This is a forty-hour half course delivered through asynchronous distance education. Class participation is integral to the learning process. Class discussions will be facilitated using blackboard.

Outcomes/Competencies

- Through analysis of vignettes, identifies and resolves ethical dilemmas, evaluates rules and policies against the criteria of ethical principles.
- Through analysis of personal practice, gains awareness of personal beliefs and characteristics that influence professional behavior and sets personal limits that enhance self-care and the welfare of consumers.
- Through vignettes and a research paper, assess professional ethical standards.
- Through assigned readings and exercises, evaluates the ethical issues and the influence of professional decisions on vulnerable populations.

Assignments

1. On-line postings	40%
2. Research Paper	30%
3. Ethical Decision Making Process Assignment	30%

Resources

Boss, J.A. (2004) *Ethics for Life*. Third edition. McGraw-Hill
 CARP Code of Ethics
 Codes of ethics of several professional disciplines.
 Additional readings and other resources will be posted on blackboard.

Details for current course offerings are available at: www.creds.org

Instructor and Course Information

COURSE: Core 581	INSTRUCTOR: Pat Winter
TERM: Fall 2009	TELEPHONE: 403-815-4378
SECTION: L02, B02	FAX: 03-220-6494
TIME/DATE: On Line (Blackboard)	EMAIL: pfwinter@ucalgary.ca
LOCATION: On Line	OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment

Course Content

Course Schedule:

This is an on-line course. Students are expected to read assigned readings, log-in and post responses to initial questions posted and respond to peers within the course room.

Time Commitment

This is a half course with time commitments equivalent to 40 hours of instruction over 13 weeks. Time will be required to read assigned readings, research and respond to posted questions and peer responses as well as prepare a research paper and ethical decision making assignment.

The course content will cover:

- An overview of the history of community rehabilitation.
- Defining ethics, morals and values and the relationship between personal and professional ethics.
- Self –awareness of personal attitudes, biases, individual socialization. Ethical issues with regard to diversity and vulnerable populations.
- Models for ethical decision-making.
- Overview of CARP and in depth consideration of the CARP Code of Ethics. Comparison between the CARP code and those of other professions.
- Limitations of codes of ethics
- Direct service issues: dignity of risk, informed consent, privacy, confidentiality, access to services and record keeping.
- Professional boundaries, sexual relationships, and dual relationships.
- Ethical issues in addressing emerging issues (personnel shortages, legislated regulations, multi-disciplinary services and partnerships, for profit service provision, aging population, self-managed care, spirituality and poverty.

Resources:

Boss, J.A. (2004) *Ethics for Life*. Third edition. McGraw-Hill

Additional course Materials will be available via the Internet, on blackboard and through on line journals through the University of Calgary library. **Each student is required to have a University of Calgary Library card** to access the online journals. Please contact Beth Parrott at parrott@ucalgary.ca if you do not have a library card.

Purchasing a Textbook from the University of Calgary Bookstore:

- Shop On-line www.calgarybookstore.ca/ Click on --> Shop On-line; Click on --> Textbooks; Follow the directions.
- Order by Phone: (403) 220-5937; Toll Free: 1-877-220-5937
- In Person: Go to the University of Calgary Bookstore, MacEwan Student Centre, Room 155, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4

All students are required to apply for a University of Calgary IT user account. Your username and password for course access are the same as those used for your IT user account.

Details of Assignments

1. Online postings

Value 40%

Readings, websites and questions for discussion will be posted on blackboard each week. **Students will be expected to read the materials, view websites, post an initial substantial response of a minimum of 350 words** by Thursday mid-night and respond to a minimum of one peer each week by Saturday mid-night. Substantial postings must include critical thinking and the use of supporting evidence from readings. References in APA style must accompany all postings. Grading for postings and peer responses will be posted on blackboard.

2. Research Paper

Value 30%

The topic for the research paper will be a current or emerging issue **in professional ethics** that is of interest to you. The paper will include a critical analysis of the topic, implications for community rehabilitation practice and impact on target population. The paper should be 10 – 12 pages, typed, double-spaced, excluding cover and references page, 12 point font and include relevant literature (minimum of 6 peer reviewed articles) and references in APA format. (No Wikipedia or internet references are to be used in the research paper). Topic ideas include: poverty, multiculturalism, vulnerable populations, human resource shortages, legislation, business ethics vs professional ethics or systemic barriers. Expectations and Grading criteria for the research paper will be posted on blackboard.

Research Paper outline due : by Midnight September 26th

Research Paper due: by Midnight Saturday October 31st.

3. Case Study and Ethical Decision Making Process Assignment

Value 30%

Demonstrate an ethical decision making process by applying the CARP ethical decision making process to a vignette. This should be done in point form and be no longer than 5 single-spaced pages. The options of vignettes and grading criteria will be posted on blackboard.

Case Study due: by Saturday December 5, 2009.

Marking Scheme

95 – 100	A+	80 – 84	B+	65 – 69	C+	50 – 54	D+
90 – 94	A	75 – 79	B	60 – 64	C	45 – 49	D
85 – 89	A-	70 – 74	B-	55 – 59	C-	Below 44	F

NOTE:

The last day to change/register for courses and pay balance of fees for the Fall session is *September 21, 2009.*

The last day to withdraw is *December 8, 2009.*

Academic Accommodation: Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre <http://www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/Others/DRC> MC 295, telephone 220-8237. Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. ***It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.***

IMPORTANT: Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/and Other Academic Misconduct.