

Psychology 659 (L01) Ethics and Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology Winter 2015

Instructor:	Keith S. Dobson, Ph.D.	Lecture Location:	Education Block 286
Phone:	403- 220-5096	Lecture Days/Time:	Wed 9:00- 12:00am
Email:	ksdobson@ucalgary.ca	Office Hours:	By Appointment
Office:	Admin. Bldg. 235A		

Course Description and Goals:

This course provides an overview of ethics and professional issues for graduate students 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 clinical 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.

Prerequisites:

This course is intended for graduate students in the Program in Clinical Psychology at the University of Calgary. Other qualified students may be admitted through the instructor and Department.

Required Text:

There is no required text for this course. Readings will be identified by and made available from the instructor for each topic below, and should be read before each class.

Approximate Course Schedule:

Date	Topics
January 14	Course overview. The organization of professional psychology in Canada. Training models in professional psychology. The Scientist-Practitioner Model. Program Accreditation. The definition of clinical psychology.
January 21	The Profession of Psychology in Alberta and Canada. The College of Alberta Psychologists and the <i>Health Professions Act</i> .
January 17	Last day to drop a course with tuition refund.
January 24	Last day for registration/change of registration.
January 28	The Canadian Psychological Association's <i>Code of Ethics</i> , history and description of its organization. Ethical decision-making. Case evaluations.

February 4	The APA <i>Code of Ethics</i> . Codes of Conduct, Practice and other Guidelines.
February 11	Continuing Education, Practice Review, Professional Liability, and the Disciplinary Process.
Feb 16-20	Reading Week. No class.
February 25	Patient Rights, Confidentiality, Right to Privacy, Informed Consent, Involuntary commitment, competence, Right to refuse treatment.
March 4	<i>Ethics Examination</i>
March 11	Clinical Psychology in the health context, multidisciplinary issues.
March 18	Practice Issues: Gender, sexual orientation and diversity
March 25	Practice Issues: Multicultural Factors in Clinical Practice
April 1	Practice Issues: Clinical Psychology in the Courts
April 8	Business aspects of Clinical Psychology. Internship and other Clinical training opportunities. The future of Clinical Psychology. Other issues by request.
April 8	Term paper due. Winter Term Lectures End.
April 14	Last day to withdraw from Winter Term half courses.

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 (0= no attendance; ½ = attendance; 1 = attendance and participation). Students are expected to attend and participate in all classes to obtain maximal credit for attendance.

The second component of the course will be an open book examination on the ethics of Clinical Psychology. This examination will consist of a series of ethical dilemmas, for which the student must identify ethical concerns (if any), and state a course of planned action. This examination will take place in class on March 4, 2015. Computers may be brought to class for this examination.

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. At least one paper must be submitted by the class on February 25, 2015, and both are required by April 8, 2015.

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 *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 on April 10, 2015. Late papers will be accepted, but a penalty of 5% per day, including weekends, will be deducted from the final grade assigned.

Summary of course evaluation procedures:				Maximum score:	
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+	85- 95	A	80- 84	A-
75- 79	B+	70- 74	B	50- 69	B-
00- 49	F				

To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 84.5% will be rounded up to 85% = A; 84.4% will be rounded down to 84% = A-).

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

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 offense, and nay cases will be reported. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/ Cheating/ Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Students who miss a term test due to a valid and documented official University reason (illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction) have 48 hours to contact AND schedule a makeup test with the instructor. The onus is on the student to have a makeup test approved and scheduled within 48 hours, or the makeup test option is forfeited. The same process applies to missed makeup tests. At the instructor's discretion, the makeup test may differ significantly in form and/or content from the missed test. However, the makeup test cannot differ in weight (% of final grade) from the missed test. Except in extenuating circumstances (a documented official University medical excuse), a makeup test must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test. Absence from a final exam, and deferral of a final exam, are handled by Enrolment Services (see http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred_final). Students absent from a final exam must notify the instructor within 48 hours and must then apply for an official deferred final exam no later than the deadline indicated in the Examinations Schedule.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) Act

The FOIPP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIPP sensitive information.

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>
Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombudsman provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

Safewalk

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/ day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and still receive a tuition fee refund is **January 17, 2015**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 24, 2015**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 14, 2015**.