

**George Mason University**  
**College of Education and Human Development**  
**Counseling Program**

EDCD 611.DL1 – Introduction to Ethical and Legal Issues in School Counseling  
3 Credits, Spring 2021  
Tuesdays 4:30 – 7:10 PM – Synchronous Online

**Faculty**

Name: Victoria Stone, PhD, LPC  
Office Hours: By Appointment (email to schedule)  
Office Location: Krug Hall Suite, 202 (Counseling Office). Closed for spring due to Covid-19 – Staff will be working remotely. For assistance, email your faculty advisor or [dwest6@gmu.edu](mailto:dwest6@gmu.edu).  
Office Phone: 703-993-2087 (Counseling Office)  
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**Prerequisites/Co-requisites**

B or better in EDCE 602, 603, and EDCE 613

**University Catalog Course Description**

Introduces principles, practices, and application of ethical and legal issues in school counseling.

**Course Overview**

This course is designed for counseling students in the school counseling track. It is designed to be taken midway through the curriculum so students should be familiar with basic counseling skills and applications that can be used effectively across a diverse range of ethnic, socioeconomic, geographic, and cultural school communities. Students should also have an understanding of school counseling programs and the developmental needs of children at both the elementary and secondary level.

The course also addresses requirements for school counseling licensure that candidates understand the legal, ethical, and professional issues and standards of the counseling profession. The primary goal of the course is to help students become more ethical and culturally competent counselors.

**Course Delivery Method**

This course will be delivered online (76% or more) using a hybrid synchronous and asynchronous format via Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before @masonlive.gmu.edu) and email password. The course site will be available on January 25, 2021.

**Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.**

### *Technical Requirements*

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard's supported browsers see: [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support#supported-browsers](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#supported-browsers)

To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see:

[https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems)

- Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.
- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download:
  - Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
  - Windows Media Player: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player>
  - Apple Quick Time Player: [www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)

### *Expectations*

- Course Week
- Our course week will begin on the day that our synchronous meetings take place as indicated on the Schedule of Classes.
- Log-in Frequency:  
Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials at least two times per week. In addition, students must log-in for all scheduled online synchronous meetings.

#### Participation:

Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.

- Technical Competence:  
Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.
- Technical Issues:  
Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.
- Workload:  
Please be aware that this course is **not** self-paced. Students are expected to meet *specific deadlines* and *due dates* listed in the **Class Schedule** section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.
- Instructor Support:  
Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone or web conference. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.
- Netiquette:  
The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. *Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words.* Remember that you are not competing with classmates, but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.
- Accommodations:  
Online learners who require effective accommodations to insure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

### **Course Objectives**

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the theory and practice of ethical principles and standards. (5.G.2.n)
2. Describe differences between ethical principles and legal standards.
3. Demonstrate an awareness of the potential ethical dilemmas school counselors face.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between personal/cultural values, beliefs and ethical actions as professionals
5. Demonstrate an understanding of how racism, sexism, ageism, heterosexism, ability, and other forms of stereotyping are ethical issues.
6. Demonstrate a working knowledge of ethical standards of professional counseling organizations and credentialing bodies, and applications of ethical and legal considerations in professional counseling (2.F.1.i)

7. Demonstrate an ethical decision-making process.
8. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the laws that pertain to school counseling in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
9. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the child abuse intervention and report laws that pertain to all educators in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
10. Demonstrate an understanding of the procedures for assessing risk of aggression or danger to others, self-inflicted harm, or suicide. (2.F.7.c)
11. Become familiar with effective intervention strategies, community resources and referral sources.
12. Demonstrate an understanding of the legal exceptions to confidentiality and privileged communication.
13. Demonstrate an understanding of the legal requirements and qualifiers for records, technology, and subpoenas.
14. Demonstrate an understanding of the school counselor’s roles and responsibilities in relation to the school emergency management plans, and crises, disasters, and trauma (5.G.2.e.)
15. Provide theories, models, and strategies for understanding and practicing consultation. (2.F.5.c.)
16. Identify the multiple professional roles and functions of counselors across specialty areas, and their relationships with human service and integrated behavioral health care systems, including interagency and interorganizational collaboration and consultation (CACREP 2.F.1.b)
17. Understand the procedures for identifying trauma and abuse and for reporting abuse (CACREP 2.F.7.d)
18. Learn models of school-based collaboration and consultation (CACREP 5.G.1.d)

**Professional Standards**

***Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP) 2016***

<b>CACREP Standard</b>	<b>Course Objective Coverage</b>	<b>Course Activities</b>
the multiple professional roles and functions of counselors across specialty areas, and their relationships with human service and integrated behavioral health care systems, including interagency and interorganizational collaboration and consultation (CACREP 2.F.1.b)	This Standard is part of Course Objective #16, which is addressed in Classes 6, 7, 9, 12, 13 on “Children Experiencing Homelessness”, “Child Abuse”, “Sexual Harassment”, “Bullying, Cyberbullying, Sexting”, “Violence and Criminal Activity”	Assigned readings that discuss this Standard include: Chapters 7, 11, 12, & 13 in <i>School counseling principles: Ethics and law</i>  Additionally, this Standard is measured as part of the Case Study Examination Key Assignment, which assesses KPI A.1.a.1-SC
ethical standards of professional counseling organizations and credentialing bodies, and applications of ethical and legal considerations in professional counseling (CACREP 2.F.1.i)	This Standard is part of Course Objective #6, which is addressed in Classes 1-12, 14 on “Introduction to Legal and Ethical Issues” and related topics. (Given the nature of the Standard, it is addressed in most classes.)	Assigned readings that discuss this Standard include: Chapters 1-6 in <i>School counseling principles: Ethics and law</i>  Additionally, this Standard is measured as part of the Case Study

		Examination Key Assignment, which assesses KPI A.1.a.1-SC
theories, models, and strategies for understanding and practicing consultation (CACREP 2.F.5.c)	This Standard is part of Course Objective #15, which is addressed in Classes 1, 2, and 8 on “Introduction to Legal and Ethical Issues”, “Professionalism Negligence”, and “Individual and Group Counseling”	Assigned readings that discuss this Standard include: Chapters 1, 2, 5, & 8 in <i>School counseling principles: Ethics and law</i>
procedures for assessing risk of aggression or danger to others, self-inflicted harm, or suicide (CACREP 2.F.7.c)	This Standard is part of Course Objective #10, which is addressed in Classes 8 and 12 on “Individual and Group Counseling” and “Bullying, Cyberbullying, Sexting”	Assigned readings that discuss this Standard include: Chapters 8 & 9 in <i>School counseling principles: Ethics and law</i>
procedures for identifying trauma and abuse and for reporting abuse (CACREP 2.F.7.d)	This Standard is part of Course Objective #17, which is addressed in Classes 6, 10, 12, and 13 on “Child Abuse”, “Sexual Harassment”, “Bullying, Cyberbullying, Sexting”, and “Violence and Criminal Activity”	Assigned readings that discuss this Standard include: Chapters 7, 11, 12 & 13 in <i>School counseling principles: Ethics and law</i>
models of school-based collaboration and consultation (CACREP 5.G.1.d)	This Standard is part of Course Objective #18, which is addressed in Classes 1 and 2 on “Introduction to Legal and Ethical Issues” and “Professionalism Negligence”	Assigned readings that discuss this Standard include: Chapters 1, 2, and 5 in <i>School counseling principles: Ethics and law</i>
school counselor roles and responsibilities in relation to the school emergency management plans, and crises, disasters, and trauma (CACREP 5.G.2.e)	This Standard is part of Course Objective #14, which is addressed in Classes 6 and 13 on “Child Abuse” and “Violence and Criminal Activity”	Assigned readings that discuss this Standard include: Chapters 7 & 13 in <i>School counseling principles: Ethics and law</i>
legal and ethical considerations specific to school counseling (CACREP 5.G.2.n)	This Standard is part of Course Objective #1, which is addressed in Classes 1-11, 14 on “Introduction to Legal and Ethical Issues” and other topics. (Given the nature of the Standard, it is addressed in most classes.)	Assigned readings that discuss this Standard include: Chapters 1-10 in <i>School counseling principles: Ethics and law</i>  Additionally, this Standard is measured as part of the Case Study Examination Key Assignment, which assesses KPI A.1.a.1-SC

Additional professional standards addressed in this course:

- This course addresses the following Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) School Counselor Prek-12 Competency Topic requirements: 8VAC20-543-610.9.a, 9.b, 9.c
- This course addresses the following Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Professional Studies requirements for Prek-12 Endorsements: 8VAC20-543-140.2.a, 2.b, 2.c, 2.d, 2.e, 2.f, 2.g, 2.h, 2.i, 4.a., 4.b, 4.c, 4.d

## Required Texts

Stone, C.B. (2017). *School counseling principles: Ethics and law* (4th. ed.). Alexandria, VA: American School Counselor Association. ISBN: 978-1-929289-41-7

## Additional Readings:

American School Counselor Association. (2016). ASCA ethical standards for school counselors. Alexandria, VA.

Brown, T., Armstrong, S. A., Bore, S., & Simpson, C. (2017). Using an ethical decision-making model to address ethical dilemmas in school counseling. *Journal of School Counseling, 15*(13), n13.

Grothaus, T., Lorelle, S., Anderson, K., & Knight, J. (2011). Answering the call: Facilitating responsive services for students experiencing homelessness. *Professional School Counseling, 14*(3), 2156759X1101400303.

Havlik, S. A., Brady, J., & Gavin, K. (2014). Exploring the needs of students experiencing homelessness from school counselors' perspectives. *Journal of School Counseling, 12*(20), n20.

Havlik, S. A., Rowley, P., Puckett, J., Wilson, G., & Neason, E. (2017). "Do Whatever you can to Try to Support that Kid": School counselors' experiences addressing student homelessness. *Professional School Counseling, 21*(1), 1096-2409.  
<https://doi.org/10.5330/1096-2409-21.1.47>

Hicks, J. G. F., Noble, N., Berry, S., Talbert, S., Crews, C., Li, J., & Castillo, Y. (2014). An ethics challenge for school counselors: Part 2. *Journal of School Counseling, 12*(1), n1.

Luke, M., Goodrich, K. M., & Gilbride, D. D. (2013). Intercultural model of ethical decision making: Addressing worldview dilemmas in school counseling. *Counseling and Values, 58*(2), 177-194.

Stone, C. B., & Zirkel, P. A. (2010). School counselor advocacy: When law and ethics may collide. *Professional School Counseling, 13*(4), 2156759X1001300405.

## Recommended Readings:

*American School Counselor Association*

<https://www.schoolcounselor.org/>

*American Counseling Association*

<http://www.counseling.org/knowledge-center/ethics>

## Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, VIA, hard copy).

- **Assignments and/or Examinations**

**Assignment 1:** Participation and Attendance (*10% of grade*)

As a skill-based class, we will spend a great deal of time processing information through class discussion, group work, and participating in experiential activities. Because the class will be so interactive and experiential, there is no way to “get the information” from a missed class—the class experience cannot be replicated. For these reasons, your class attendance and active participation is vital not only to your learning, but to your classmates’ learning as well. Several factors will go into your participation grade, including:

- a. **attendance** (every student is expected to be at every class),
- b. **punctuality** (every student is expected to be ready to go when class begins, and to stay for the duration of class time),
- c. **active participation** in class exercises (key is *active*, contributing ideas, giving feedback, participating in group discussions)
- d. **substantive contributions** to class discussions (not quantity of contributions, but contributions that demonstrate thoughtful analysis of information; comments that move discussion forward; comments based on knowledge and experience, not just opinion; and a demonstrated ability to propose new ideas and/or build on others’ ideas in a meaningful way). A rubric will be provided on Bb.

**Assignment 2:** Reading & Case Studies on asynchronous weeks 6 @ 5pts each (*30 % of grade*)

**Reading:** Students are expected to read all of the assigned course content.

**Case Studies:** Students will apply the STEPS model to an ethical decision making case study related to the weekly readings. Students will use the STEPS nine step model to consider the emotional influences of a problem, the chronological and developmental appropriateness of the solution, the setting, and the parent’s rights. During synchronous weeks, the case studies will be completed in class in consultation teams, during asynchronous weeks, students will complete the case study on their own and upload it to Blackboard.

Students will:

1. Define the problem emotionally and intellectually
2. Apply the ASCA and ACA Code of Ethics and the law
3. Consider the chronological and developmental levels of the students involved
4. Consider the setting, parental rights, and minors rights
5. Apply the moral principals
6. Determine the potential courses of action and their consequences
7. Evaluate the selected course of action
8. Consult
9. Implement the course of action

**Assignment 3:** Ethical Quizzes (*40% of grade – 20% each*) (5.G.2.n, 2.F.1.i)

Students are required to complete **two** quizzes during the course. In each quiz you will be asked to answer true/false, multiple choice, or short answer essay questions and apply the concepts from the text, lectures and readings to a hypothetical ethical case studies. Ethics Quizzes will be in an open-book and open-note format. Quizzes’ will be posted on Blackboard one week prior to the due date. Students are expected to write responses that capture their own thoughts and ideas about the content and thrust of each question and should cite the relevant ethical codes when appropriate.

Each quiz is worth a maximum of 20 points. The following evaluation criteria will be applied to cases:

- Understanding of how laws and ethical standards apply to the case
- Accurate interpretation of the facts of the case
- Capacity to apply standards and material from assigned readings to a specific case
- Ability to express ideas clearly

**Assignment 5:** Final Case Study Examination (*20% of total grade*) (**Key Assignment: KPI A.1.a.1-SC; CACREP 2.F.1.i, 2.F.1.b, 5.G.2.n**)

Students are required to analyze an ethical/legal dilemma by applying a decision making model. You will be asked to apply the concepts from the text, lectures, and readings to a hypothetical ethical case study. Answers and responses to the essay questions must be more than a repeat and rewrite of the material contained in each chapter. It is recommended that you review the GMU plagiarism policy and APA Publication Manual guidelines. Students are expected to write responses that capture their own thoughts and ideas about the content and thrust of each question.

The following evaluation criteria will be applied to cases:

- Understanding of how laws and ethical standards apply to the case
- Accurate interpretation of the facts of the case
- Capacity to apply standards and material from assigned readings to a specific case
- Ability to express ideas clearly

- **Other Requirements**

- Electronic Devices**

- Turn off and put away all electronic communication devices during class. Cell phones, pagers, and other communicative devices are not allowed in this class. Please keep them stowed away and out of sight. Laptops or tablets (e.g. iPads) may be permitted for the purpose of taking notes only, but you must submit a request in writing to do so. Engaging in activities not related to the course (e.g. gaming, email, chat, text, etc.) will result in a significant reduction in your participation grade. Notify the instructor prior to class if you have an emergency situation that requires accommodation.

- Attendance**

- In accordance with the policies of the Counseling and Development Program, on-time attendance at every class meeting is expected. **Any unexcused absence will result in failing the course** (<http://gse.gmu.edu/programs/counseling/resources/>). Excused absences can only be arranged with instructor on a case by case basis. If you must miss a class or arrive late, please call and notify the professor before the class meeting. A rubric will be provided on Blackboard. Contacting the instructor for absences, late arrivals or early dismissals is a courtesy and does not necessarily mean exemption from attendance and participation responsibility; this means points may be deducted as stated in the syllabus. If there is a scheduling conflict that interferes with your attendance during any portion of the class; students should see the instructor in the first class to discuss continuing in the class this semester or taking the course during another semester.

- Assignment Policy**

- As a graduate student, it is expected that all of your work will be turned in on the assigned dates. If an assignment is accepted at a later date, it is subject to a penalty of 10% of the award for every day it is overdue. Assignments are considered late after 15 minutes of the class session in which they are due. When you are absent, you are responsible for the information missed in class, including but not limited to assignments, change in due dates, content of discussion and/or lecture, and handouts. All assignment should be uploaded via Blackboard, as well as turned into class via hard copy on the day the assignment is due.

Students must have their own audio/digital recording equipment. Digital recorders are recommended. Students are expected to be able to use a computer, send and retrieve email, open attachments, access to the internet, participate in online discussions, use Blackboard, and conduct a library search on line. In addition, students should check Blackboard and their GMU email for course updates on a daily basis. All course documents will be available on Blackboard. Email messages sent using Blackboard need to be forwarded to your GMU email.

For more information on checking-out audio/digital recording equipment, please visit STAR- Multimedia ([http://doit.gmu.edu/staffSection.asp?page=video\\_checkout](http://doit.gmu.edu/staffSection.asp?page=video_checkout)) or call

(703) 993- 8990. The STAR lab is located on the second floor of the Johnson Center, Room 229. Please note that the C&D program has video equipment available for check-out. Please speak with the instructor for more information.

- **Grading**

Assignment weights

Participation and Attendance	10%
Weekly Reading & Case Studies	30%
Ethical Quiz #1	20%
Ethical Quiz #2	20%
Final Case Study Examination	20%

**In accordance with the George Mason University Grading Policy, the following grades may be achieved:**

**A [100-94]; A- [93-90]; B+ [89-87]; B [86-84]; B- [83-80]; C [79 - 70]; F [69 and below]**

**Professional Dispositions**

See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/>

Students must adhere to program professional dispositions:

<https://cehd.gmu.edu/assets/docs/forms/Professional%20Dispositions.pdf>

**Professional Dispositions Assessment**

Professional Dispositions are assessed in all required courses. The minimum score (benchmark) is based on the level of the course, as described below.

Level of Assessment	CMHC	SC	Minimum Score
<b>Basic</b>	602, 609, 606, 601, 525, 603, 604, 656 654, 652, 658	602, 606, 609, 601, 525, 603, 604, 656 613, 611, 626	2
<b>Intermediate</b>	608, 750, 660, 628, 619, 610, 797	608, 751, 660, 628, 619, 610, 797	3
<b>Advanced</b>	792, 793	794, 795	4

Professional Dispositions assessments are scored as follows:

- **4: Consistently Evident** – The student demonstrates the disposition all or almost all of the time. This rank is considered exceptional, particularly for students who are at the beginning of their program. Students who are advanced in the program (i.e., in their last year of the program and enrolled in Internship I or II) should expect to achieve this rank.

- **3: Frequently Evident** – The student demonstrates the disposition often or most of the time. It is expected that students in the middle of the program (i.e., usually the second year for full time or third year for part time students) will achieve this rank. This reflects that they have moved beyond the initial phase of counselor training and are developing well towards being a professional counselor.
- **2: Sometimes Evident** – The student demonstrates the disposition sometimes or inconsistently. It is expected that students at the beginning of the program (i.e., first year for most students) will achieve this rank. Students at the beginning of the program are expected to be developing towards these professional dispositions as a part of their counselor training and preparation for their future as a professional counselor.
- **1: Seldom Evident** – The student demonstrates the disposition rarely or not at all. In some instances this may also indicate a harmful demonstration of professional disposition(s). Students at the beginning of their program may achieve this rank, which can be developmentally appropriate as they learn the expectations for students and future professional counselors. Should this occur, students should expect to meet with their advisor, who will assist them in addressing the area of concern.
- **N/A: Not Applicable** – An instructor or supervisor may use this to note that they did not have the opportunity to observe the disposition or that it was not relevant in the given context. This is most likely to occur at the beginning of the program when some dispositions may not be germane to the particular class.

### Class Schedule

Wk	Date/Activity	Topic(s)	Reading(s) Due	Assignment(s) Due	Course Obj. #(s)
1	1/26 FTF Class	Introduction to Legal and Ethical Issues	Stone, Ch. 1	<b>Bring:</b> ASCA & ACA codes of ethics	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 15
2	2/2 Asynchronous class	Professionalism Negligence	Stone, Ch. 2 & 5	Case study for wk 2 Due <b>2/7</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, 15, 18
3	2/9 FTF Class	Cyberspace	Stone, Ch. 3		3
4	2/16 Asynchronous class	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	Stone, Ch. 4	Case study for Wk 4 Due <b>2/21</b>	3, 13
5	2/23 FTF Class	Obligations to the Court	Stone, Ch. 6		3, 12, 13
6	3/2 Asynchronous class	Child Abuse	Stone, Ch. 7	Case study for Wk 6 Due <b>2/7</b> Quiz 1 on Bb	3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 16, 17
7	3/9 FTF Class	Children Experiencing Homelessness	Article Readings	<b>Ethics Quiz #1 Due 3/9</b>	8
8	3/16 Asynchronous class	Individual and Group Counseling	Stone, Ch. 8	Case study for Wk 8 Due <b>3/21</b>	1, 5, 6, 7
9	3/23 FTF Class	Sexually Active Students	Stone, Ch. 9		1, 3, 4, 7, 11
10	3/30 Asynchronous class	Sexual Harassment	Stone, Ch. 11	Case study for Wk 10 Due <b>4/5</b>	11, 16
11	4/6 FTF Class	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Students	Stone, Ch. 10	Quiz 2 on Bb	3, 4, 5, 11
12	4/13 Asynchronous class	Bullying, Cyberbullying, Sexting	Stone, Ch. 12	<b>Ethics Quiz #2 Due</b> Case study for Wk 12 Due <b>4/18</b>	4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11
13	4/20 Asynchronous class	Violence and Criminal Activity	Stone, Ch. 13	Final Case Study on Bb	8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16
14	4/27 Final FTF class	The Ethics of Advocacy	Stone, Ch. 14	<b>Final Case Study Due</b>	4

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

## **Counseling and Development Mission Statement**

The Counseling Program is committed to preparing counselors who promote the social, psychological, physical, and spiritual health of individuals, families, communities, and organizations in order to contribute to the advancement of global well-being. The program strives for national and international excellence in implementing a counseling perspective which provides a foundation in basic counseling skills and focuses on social justice, multiculturalism, international, advocacy and leadership. It is our belief that a global perspective on development across the life span, and an understanding and appreciation of multiculturalism, diversity, and social justice are integral to the preparation of professional counselors, requiring that professional counselors are prepared to assume leadership roles, be proactive change agents and become advocates for social, economic and political justice. The program is committed to accomplish this mission by working through interdisciplinary teams as well as promote the interconnectedness of teaching, research, service and professional practice. Through this mission faculty will facilitate a continued tradition of international, national and regional leadership through the development of collaborative partnerships and projects, research, publications, presentations, consultation, and training.

## **Core Values Commitment**

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

## **GMU Policies and Resources for Students**

### *Policies*

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/> ).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <https://ds.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

### *Campus Resources*

- Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>.

- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

**Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:**

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing [titleix@gmu.edu](mailto:titleix@gmu.edu).

**For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/>.**

**Assessment Rubric**

***Ethical Decision-Making Case Study (Key Assignment: KPI A.1.a.1-SC; CACREP 2.F.1.i, 2.F.1.b, 5.G.2.n)***

		4	3	2	1
Standard	%	Exceeds Standards	Meets Standards	Approaching Standards	Below Standards
1. Define ethical issues, violations, or concerns identified in the case and as relate to the professional roles of school counselors KPI A.1.a.1; CACREP 2.F.1.i; 2.F.1.b; and 5.G.2.n (SC)	25	All central ethical issues, violations and concerns in the case are identified and used as a basis for ethical evaluation	Some central ethical issues, violations and concerns in the case are identified and used as a basis for ethical evaluation	Some central ethical issues are identified, but not explained or evaluated	Central ethical issues are not defined appropriately or completely. Misunderstanding of the issues related to the case
2. Identification of relevant laws and ASCA Ethical Standards KPI A.1.a.1; CACREP 2.F.1.i and 5.G.2.n (SC)	25	Student thoroughly connects information from the case study to applicable ethical codes and/ or laws	Student adequately connects information from the case study to applicable ethical codes and/ or laws	Connection of information from case study to applicable ethical codes and/or laws is limited, or is only tangentially relevant	Student does not connect information from case study to applicable ethical codes and/or laws
3. Identify consequences of each possible course of action KPI A.1.a.1; CACREP 2.F.1.i and 5.G.2.n (SC)	25	All critical consequences are identified and connected with actions. More minor consequences are also considered. Relative weights of the various consequences are explicitly articulated with rational thought	All critical consequences are identified, but some minor consequences are missed. Consequences are related to actions, but relative weights are not clearly articulated	Some critical consequences of actions are identified, but some minor consequences are missed or not clearly articulated	Critical consequences of all actions are missing. Actions are not connected with consequences, but are instead random and illogical. Relative weights of actions and consequences are not identified.

<p>4. Decide on an ethical course of action based on the professional role and function of school counselors KPI A.1.a.1; CACREP 2.F.1.i; 2.F.1.b; and 5.G.2.n (SC)</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>Solution and ethical analysis is logical and clearly presented at a level that demonstrates extensive consideration, insight and understanding of applicable ethical codes and laws</p>	<p>Solution and ethical analysis is somewhat logical and presented at a level that demonstrates some consideration, insight and understanding of applicable ethical codes and laws</p>	<p>Solution and ethical analysis is somewhat illogical and does not clearly demonstrate thoughtful consideration, insight and understanding of applicable ethical codes and laws</p>	<p>Student fails to present a reasonable ethical course of action.</p>
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