



**BHS 420 Practicum 2 (3)
Winter 2003**

Instructor: Kelly Schwartz, Ph.D.
Office Hours: By Appointment
Office: 508

Class Time: M 1:00-2:15PM
Phone: 571-2550 Ext. 233
E-Mail: Kelly.Schwartz@nuc.edu

Required Text

Parsons, R. D. (2001). *The ethics of professional practice*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

On Reserve
TBA

Course Description

A continuation of the supervised practical experience placement in a community, religious, or social agency related to the student's interest and/or future vocational plans. Students are expected to be involved in a supervised practicum site for 5-8 hours per week (60 hours minimum/term). Weekly seminars will focus on the role and influence of the helper, ethics and standards of practice, the nature of the helping relationship, and the process of helping.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate:

- Skills in identifying and clarifying the specific ethical concerns that emerge as a result of the unique nature of the helping relationship;
- The ability to mobilize his or her values, beliefs, needs, and goals in order to further the healthy development of individuals, groups, or programmes;
- A deeper understanding of the professional skills, competencies, and challenges unique to the process of becoming an ethical practitioner;
- The ability to apply the ethical and legal principles to a variety of settings and human experiences; and
- Assimilation of the professional and ethical principles into his or her own value structure, thus becoming an ethical behavioural science practitioner.

Course Schedule

January 13	Introduction
January 20	Ch. 1 An Introduction to the Formal Process of Helping
January 27	Ch. 2 Helper Variables
February 3	Ch. 3 Ethical Standards: Guidelines for Helping Others
February 10	Ch. 4 Ethics and the Law
February 24	Ch. 5 Ethical Conflicts: The System and the Interests of Others
March 3	Ch. 6 Informed Consent
March 10	Ch. 7 Confidentiality
March 17	Ch. 8 Boundaries and Ethical Use of Power
March 24	Ch. 9 Efficacy of Treatment
March 31	Ch. 10 Evaluation and Accountability
April 7	

Course Requirements and Grading

- 1) **Textbook Exercises:** There will be ten (10) textbook exercise assignments that are due on the day that each chapter will be discussed. Specifics of each assignment will be provided. They will normally involve responding to questions that require self-reflection, skill review, and/or application to your current practicum placement. Students will be expected to share portions of their responses during class, as well as hand in the completed assignment at the end of each class. Each assignment will be worth **5%** of the final grade (10 X 5% = **50%**).
- 2) **Supervisor Evaluation:** Site supervisors will be asked to complete a comprehensive evaluation of your practicum performance. Areas to be evaluated include basic work effectiveness (e.g., time use, reliability), ethical awareness and conduct (e.g., sensitivity, consultation), knowledge and learning (e.g., of clients, role and purpose of professional setting), response to supervision (e.g., seeking and receiving feedback), interactions with clients and co-workers (e.g., rapport-building, communication), and productivity (e.g., record keeping, report writing). Supervisor evaluations will be handed out three weeks prior to the end of term and are due on **April 11, 2003**. The supervisor evaluation will be worth **35%** of the final grade.
- 3) **Self-Evaluation:** All students will complete a comprehensive self-evaluation related to the areas indicated above (i.e., supervisor evaluation). You will also be required to complete a brief (5-7 pages) reflection paper as it pertains to your practicum experience. The focus of the paper should be to articulate any ethical, legal, and/or professional issues that were notable during your practicum. Chapters 3 through 8 will be useful in organizing your reflections for this assignment. This self-evaluation and reflection paper is due on **April 11, 2003**, and is worth **15%** of your final grade.

Course Guidelines

- 1) Attendance at class is expected from each student. After three (3) unexcused absences (per term), the instructor reserves the right to ask a student to withdraw from the class.
- 2) The written assignments are due on the dates specified. Extensions will only be granted upon request of the student at least two (2) weeks prior to the due date. In the case of illness or other extenuating circumstances, exceptions may be made.
- 3) Exams must be taken at the times specified. The student must inform the instructor immediately if there is a problem with taking a test on a certain date.

Grade Structure

Percentage:	Letter Grade:	Grade Point Weight:
96-100	A+	4.0
91-95	A	4.0
86-90	A-	3.7
82-85	B+	3.3
75-81	B	3.0
72-74	B-	2.7
68-71	C+	2.3
63-67	C	2.0
60-62	C-	1.7
56-59	D+	1.3
50-55	D	1.0
0-49	F	

Important Notes

The last day to withdraw from this course and still receive a 100% refund is January 24, 2003.
The last day to withdraw from the class without academic penalty is March 21, 2003.

Relevant Journals (NUC Library)

Applied Developmental Science

Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Human Services (InfoTrac)

Journal of Child and Family Studies

Journal of Family Psychology

Reclaiming Children and Youth

Social Development