

**College of San Mateo**  
**Official Course Outline**

1. **COURSE ID:** SOSC 333    **TITLE:** Laws and Ethics in Addiction Studies

**Units:** 3.0 units    **Hours/Semester:** 48.0-54.0 Lecture hours; and 96.0-108.0 Homework hours

**Method of Grading:** Letter Grade Only

2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**

**Degree Credit**

**Transfer credit:** CSU

**AA/AS Degree Requirements:**

CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E5d. Career Exploration and Self-Development

3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**

**Catalog Description:**

Explores the legal, ethical, professional and personal issues in addiction prevention, interventions, and treatment of substance use disorders. Emphasis is placed on professional responsibility and patient rights as well as issues in the workplace and professional growth.

4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of mandated reporting laws and limitations of confidentiality.
2. Identify and apply various applicable professional and ethical standards.
3. Differentiate between ethical and legal mandates related to confidentiality and privileged communication.

5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Respond to ethical, legal, clinical and professional issues involved in the counseling profession and understand the differences between ethics and laws.
2. Identify when and how to apply ethical decision-making models and the role of the code of ethics and moral principles when dealing with an ethical dilemma.
3. Explain the importance of self-awareness and its value in ethical practice.
4. Identify the role of the ethics code pertaining to multicultural perspectives and diversity issues and the importance of being multicultural competent.
5. Identify the purpose and importance of clients' rights and counselor responsibilities.
6. Explain the purpose and importance of confidentiality and mandated reporting.
7. Identify and establish appropriate boundary management skills and develop framework on how to assess considerations of potential risk factors regarding multiple and dual relationships.
8. Identify the significance of professional competence and how to handle training issues within agency experience.
9. Explain the purpose of the supervisor and supervisee relationship and the significance this relationship has on professional development as well as ethical and legal issues.
10. Discuss the differences between HIPPA and 42 CFR II.

6. **COURSE CONTENT:**

**Lecture Content:**

1. Ethical, legal, clinical and professional issues involved in the counseling profession and understanding the differences between ethics and laws.
2. Ethical decision-making models and the role of the code of ethics and moral principles when dealing with an ethical dilemma.
3. Counselor as a person and as a professional and the value of self-awareness in ethical practice.
4. Values and the helping relationship and differentiating between exposing and imposing of therapist values.
5. Examination of the role of ethics pertaining to multicultural perspectives and diversity issues and the importance of being multicultural competent.
6. Examination of client rights and counselor responsibilities.
7. Examination of confidentiality, ethical and legal issues.
8. Examining professional competence and training issues.
9. Legal and ethical issues encountered by addiction counselors.

10. Examination of legal and ethical issues in supervision and consultation.
11. HIPPA and 42 CFR II.

**7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Critique
- C. Discussion
- D. Guest Speakers
- E. Work Experience

**8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS**

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

**Writing Assignments:**

- Chapter written assignments.
- Legal and ethical case analysis.

**Reading Assignments:**

- Reading chapter assignments.
- Researching legal regulations (HIPPA and 42 CFR II).
- Researching behavioral health ethical dilemmas.

**9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION**

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Class Participation
- B. Class Performance
- C. Class Work
- D. Exams/Tests
- E. Group Projects
- F. Homework
- G. Papers
- H. Quizzes
- I. Written examination

**10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):**

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Taleff, Michael. *Advanced Ethics for Addiction Professionals*, 1st ed. New York City: Springer Publishing, 2009
- B. DiGrosso, Federico. *Advanced Applications of Law and Ethics for California Drug and Alcohol Counselors*, 8th ed. Palm Coast: DiGrosso publishing, 2016
- C. Corey, Corey and Callahan. *Advanced Applications of Laws and Ethics for California Drug and Alcohol Counselors*, 8th ed. New York City: Springer Publishing, 2017

**Origination Date:** October 2017  
**Curriculum Committee Approval Date:** November 2017  
**Effective Term:** Fall 2018  
**Course Originator:** Angela Stocker