

**School of Theology and Ministry
Seattle University
901 12th Avenue, PO Box 222000
Seattle, WA 98122-1090**

Fall Quarter 2013

**The Master of Arts in Relationship and Pastoral Therapy Programs'
Organizing Theme**

Preparing students for high quality Relationship and Pastoral Therapy in multiple settings by providing the integration of theological, psychological, systemic, and clinical education/training.

STMC 523 Professional Ethics and Law (1cr)

Room: HUNT 110

Dates: 9/24, 10/29, 11/26

1 credit

Times: 9:00am-11:50am

Faculty: Clinton McNair

Office Phone: 206-296-6968

SU Email: mcnairc@seattleu.edu

Office Hours: Appointment only
contact Kristin: 206-296-2592 or

hovaquik@seattleu.edu

Course Description

This course will examine law in Relationship and pastoral therapy, and how ethical issues are legally related to "Standard of care." The course will examine roles and responsibilities of the therapist under the law, identification and definitions of different aspects of the law including legal codes— RCW and WAC, referral resources, expert witness testimony, family law, cultural competence and legal issues, valuing, and other professional legal issues. (Majors only)

This class fulfills a requirement for the Relationship and Pastoral Therapy degree and PMC.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

1. The student will demonstrate the ability to produce written documentation for the purpose of clinical practice: for legal purposes
 - a. The student will become aware of legal issues in Relationship and Pastoral Therapy
 - b. The student will learn roles and responsibilities within the legal system
 - c. The student will learn identification and definition of different aspects of law, including Washington state codes--- RCW and WAC

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- d. The student will understand referral resource and treatment specialists as they relate to legal responsibilities
 - e. The student will learn their role as expert witness and other legal issues with the courts.
 - f. The student will learn legal issues related to family law
 - g. The student will understand legal issues and cultural competence
 - h. The student will become aware of other legal issues as related to “Standards of Care,” valuing, and other professional issues.
2. The student will demonstrate ability to assess/ diagnose, create and implement a treatment plan using standards of the DSM in compliance with ethics and law- especially Washington State codes (RCW and WAC) .

Course Instructional Methods

This course will include a variety of instructional strategies and techniques including: lecture, class and small group discussions, focused activity groups, and student presentations with peer response. Other strategies will be introduced as appropriate. Feedback from the instructor will be given to students verbally all through the quarter.

Course Requirements

1. Class attendance required
2. Class participation, including definite contributions that reflect your reading of assignments in small groups
3. You are expected to read all reading assignments
4. There are three written assignments due as listed below in the Class Schedule.

Required Texts for the Course

Gladding, Samuel T., Remley, Jr., Theodore P., Huber, Charles H., (2001). *Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy* (3rd edition). Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. ISBN 0-13-769233-1

Gurman, Alan S., and Jacobson, Neil S. (editors) (2002), *Clinical Handbook of Couple Therapy* (3rd edition), The Guilford Press, New York, ISBN 1-57230-758-7-- Chapter 22, Hardy and Laszloffy

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Pedersen, Paul B., Draguns, Juris G., Lonner, Walter J., Trimble, Joseph E. (editors)
(2002) *Counseling Across Cultures* (5th edition). Sage Publication ISBN 0-7619-2086-2
Read: Introduction and chapter 1.

Vesper, Joyce H. and Brock, Gregory W. (1991) *Ethics, Legalities, and Professional
Issues in Marriage and Family Therapy*, Allyn & Bacon (amazon.com) ISBN-10:
0205128319

**CLASS SCHEDULE FOR SEMINAR
Three Class Periods 9/24, 10/29, & 11/26
(There will be 10 sessions in these 3 Class periods)**

Session	Topic	Reading	Due	Comments/ Other
1.1 9/24	Introduction to Legal issues in Marriage, family, and relationship therapy	Vesper & Brock 1991		
1.2 9/24	Therapist: Roles and Responsibilities within the legal system, legal education <u>Write a reflection paper on "Roles and Responsibilities in the legal system" (2 pages)</u>	Gladding, chapter 5 Vesper & Brock	<u>Due 10/29</u>	
1.3 9/24	Identification and definition of different aspects of law: common law, RCW and WAC WA State Codes, constitutional law, administrative (regulatory) law, case law, criminal v.	Gladding, chapter 5		

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	civil law, and duty to protect, and child abuse and neglect			
2.4 10/29	Relationship and pastoral therapist as referral resource: the treatment specialist, diagnostician, resource expert, treatment provider, mediation	Gladding, chapter 5		
2.5 10/29	The Relationship and pastoral therapist as expert witness: the rules of evidence, courtroom testimony, systemic understandings and expert testimony, redefining the problem, dealing with resistance. Professional liability under the law: contract law, unintentional torts—malpractice, intentional torts, professional liability insurance.	Gladding chapter 5	Write 2 page paper on role of therapist in court related matters <u>Due today</u> 10/29	
2.6 10/29	Family law	Gladding chapter 6		
2.7 10/29	Legal issues and cultural competence	Pedersen etc. Gurman & Jacobson		
3.8 11/26	Legal and ethical considerations and standard of care	Gladding chapter 7		

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3.9 11/26	Valuing and Professional Practice of Relationship and pastoral therapy	Gladding chapter 8		
3.10 11/26	Other professional issues: evolving epistemology in actual practice, intervention with other systems, values transactions, addressing ambivalence, professional advertising, practice interruptions, business-oriented details, and independent practice in a rural area.	Gladding chapter 10	Write 6 page paper on professional and legal issues in Relationship and Pastoral Therapy <u>Due today</u> 11/26	

GRADING WEIGHT OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Requirement:

% of Grade:

Class attendance required
Each day of class equals 1/3 of the course

Class participation 45%

Two Reflection papers (12% each) 24%

6 page paper 31%

Total 100%

POLICIES

All written assignments need to be typewritten, carefully proofread/without spelling and grammatical errors, in correct APA format or other academic format, and on time. Papers not meeting these criteria will influence the grade received.

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Written **assignment assessment is based on** the quality of thought, the accuracy of knowing law and professional ethics, and the capacity for communicating via writing, and written assignment policy above. Students are expected to be on time for class.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

If you have or think you have a disability (including an “invisible disability” such as a learning disability, a chronic health problem, or a mental health condition) that interferes with your performance as a student in this class, you are encouraged to discuss your needs and arrange support services and/or accommodations through Disabilities Services staff in the Learning Center, Loyola 100, 206-296-5740.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The School of Theology and Ministry strictly adheres to the Academic Policy concerning Academic Honesty as published in the Seattle University Student Handbook (see the Seattle University website).

NOTICE TO STUDENTS concerning Codes of Ethics

All students, in all counseling courses, are expected to read, understand, and follow the codes of ethics:

American Association of Pastoral Counselors (AAPC): www.aapc.org/

American Association of Marriage and Family Therapist (AAMFT):
www.aamft.org

(See next, page 7)

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University Resources and Policies

Academic Resources

- Library and Learning Commons (<http://www.seattleu.edu/learningcommons/>)
 - *(This includes: Learning Assistance Programs, Research [Library] Services, Writing Center, Math Lab)*
- Academic Integrity Tutorial *(found on Angel and SU Online)*

Academic Policies on Registrar website

(<https://www.seattleu.edu/registrar/academics/performance/>)

- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Grading Grievance Policy
- Professional Conduct Policy *(only for those professional programs to which it applies)*

Notice for students concerning Disabilities

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (including an 'invisible disability' such as a learning disability, a chronic health problem, or a mental health condition) that interferes with your performance as a student in this class, you are encouraged to arrange support services and/or accommodations through Disabilities Services staff located in Loyola 100, (206) 296-5740. Disability-based adjustments to course expectations can be arranged only through this process.