

SYLLABUS

Course Information:

PSYC 5328.001: Issues & Professional Ethics

Fall 2025

Mondays, 11-1:45p, BEP 213

Instructor Information:

Sarah M. Sass, Ph.D.

Office: BEP 217

Office hours: Mondays, 9:30-11a and 1:45-3:15p, and by appointment

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Course Catalog Description: This course provides a survey of the practice of psychology and counseling from an ethical and professional viewpoint. Consideration is given to such things as the rules of the psychology and counseling boards, ethical case studies, and professional practices.

Student Learning Outcomes:

As a result of engaging in this course, a successful student will:

- Learn, interpret, and apply the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct of the American Psychological Association
- Learn, interpret, and apply state and federal laws pertaining to the provision of mental health services
- Be familiar with state licensing requirements and issues
- Understand and be able to discuss major ethical/legal principles and issues
- Understand the importance of developing competencies in providing services to clients of all backgrounds
- Engage in the process of ethical decision making

Required Readings:

Knapp, S. J., & Fingerhut, R. (2024). *Practical ethics for psychologists: A positive approach (4th edition)*. American Psychological Association. ISBN-10: 9781433827457

Pope, K. S., Vasquez, M. J. T., Chavez-Dueñas, N. Y., & Adames, H. Y. (2021). *Ethics in psychotherapy and counseling: A practical guide (6th edition)*. Wiley: ISBN-10: 119804299

APA Ethics code <https://www.apa.org/ethics/code/ethics-code-2017.pdf>

Recommended Texts:

Knapp, S., Gottlieb, M., & Handelsman, M. (2015). Ethical dilemmas in psychotherapy.

Boilen, S. (2021). Ethics in rural psychology: Case studies and guidance for practice.