



**BAKER COLLEGE**  
**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**  
**CSL 5010 Introduction to Counseling and Ethics**  
**3 Semester Credit Hours**

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**Student Learning Outcomes and Enabling Objectives**

1. Examine the role and purpose of counseling in various contexts, distinguishing it from other helping professions.
  - a. Define the concept of counseling and articulate its role in promoting mental health.
  - b. Describe the various subfields within counseling, such as school counseling, clinical mental health counseling and marriage and family therapy.
  - c. Examine the foundational principles of the counseling process, including the significance of the counselor-client relationship.
2. Examine historical events that have influenced the development of counseling theories and practices.
  - a. Explore the historical evolution of the counseling profession and its impact on contemporary practices.
  - b. Identify key figures and pivotal events that have shaped the development of counseling.
  - c. Investigate current and emerging trends in the counseling field.
  - d. Explore the implications of technological advancements and other contemporary influences on counseling practice.
3. Explore the influence of social and cultural factors on the efficacy of counseling theories and practices.
  - a. Describe how cultural competence and cultural humility contributes to effective counseling relationships.
  - b. Explore the impact of power, privilege, and oppression within counseling practice.
4. Explain the ethical codes and legal standards that guide the counseling profession, emphasizing confidentiality, boundaries, dual relationships, and informed consent.
  - a. Interpret legal and ethical standards within the context of counseling practice.
  - b. Describe the applicability of standards across different cultural and societal contexts.
  - c. Apply legal and ethical codes to hypothetical counseling scenarios.

- d. Explore ethical dilemmas faced by counselors.
5. Examine essential aspects of professional identity, including adherence to the profession's ethical standards and engagement in lifelong learning.
  - a. Explore the effectiveness of different approaches to professional development in counseling with a focus on chosen context or specialty of practice.
  - b. Identify various professional counseling organizations and their roles in promoting professional counseling identity and practice.
  - c. Explain strategies for enhancing professional identity and staying updated on legal and ethical standards in counseling.
  - d. Describe the importance of self-care and utilization of strategies for maintaining personal well-being.

## **Big Ideas and Essential Questions**

### **Big Ideas**

- Subfields of counseling
- Professional Ethics and Legal standards of practice
- Evolution of the field
- Social/Cultural foundations of counseling
- Professional identity & Professional development

### **Essential Questions**

1. What is a professional counselor?
2. What is counseling and its subfields?
3. How do professional ethics and standards of practice differ for counselors?
4. What are the emerging trends in the practice of professional counseling?
5. What is the impact of cultural and social influences in counseling?
6. How do professional development opportunities and personal self-care strengthen the professional practice of a counselor?

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These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit.

**Effective: Fall 2024**