



BAKER COLLEGE
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
SWK 1510 Foundations of Ethics and Values in
Social Work
3 Semester Credit Hours

Student Learning Outcomes and Enabling Objectives

1. Evaluate the NASW Code of Ethics.
 - a. Explore different models for ethical decision-making.
 - b. Apply research-informed practices and practice-informed research to ethical decisions.
 - c. Explain ethical conduct for research.

2. Explain appropriate expectations for professional behavior in social work practice.
 - a. Distinguish the appropriate elements for appearance across settings for the social work professional.
 - b. Examine the required elements of professional communication in social work, including:
 - i. Oral Communication
 - ii. Written Communication
 - iii. Formal Presentations and Reports
 - iv. Social Media
 - c. Explain the required professional conduct for a social work professional.
 - d. Explore the professional and appropriate usages of technology within social work.

3. Investigate the importance of professional development and professionalism
 - a. Examine the role of supervision and consultation in social work research and practice.
 - b. Explore the requirements and options for continuing education and life-long learning in social work.

4. Explain the required ethical mandates for the social work professional.
 - a. Explain informed consent.
 - b. Explore the importance of personal and professional boundaries.

- c. Explain Duty to Warn and the role of a mandated reporter.
 - d. Explore the types of conflict of interests, and ways to navigate them.
 - e. Describe the importance of Confidentiality/HIPAA.
 - f. Explore ethical client record keeping
5. Compare Ethical Decisions vs Legal Decisions vs Personal Values.
- a. Explore the intersection of ethical decision making, morals and personal values.
 - b. Explore how ethical decision making is important in risk management within the social work profession.
 - c. Explore the importance of non-oppressive language in ethical standards, legal documents, and personal communications.
 - d. Apply the use of reflection and self-regulation when evaluating personal values and biases while engaging in social work practice.

Big Ideas and Essential Questions

Big Ideas

- Ethical Standards
- Professional Behavior
- Professional Development
- Ethical Mandates
- Intersection of ethics, legalities, and personal values

Essential Questions

1. How does the code of ethics guide research and practice in social work?
2. How can professional presentation of self-influence social work practice?
3. What is the importance of professional development, membership, and life-long learning?
4. Why do ethical mandates exist for social workers?
5. How can conflicts between ethical standards, morals, legal imperatives, and personal values be addressed?

These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit.

Effective: Spring 2025