1. **Course Title and Number of Credits:**
   CSP 605  Ethical and Legal Issues in Counseling  3 Credit Hours

2. **Course Description:**
   This course introduces students to the ethical and legal issues that face counselors in today’s society. Ethical codes and standards of practice for the profession (ACA, ASCA, and AMHCA) are explored and students are introduced to research relevant to the ethical behavior of counselors in school and mental health settings. This course also examines and reviews licensure and certification requirements.

3. **Prerequisites and Restrictions:** CSP 601, CSP 603, and CSP 602

4. **Course Objectives:**  (CACREP standards addressed)
   1. Introduction of ethical issues and the development and importance of professional ethical standards and codes to the counseling professional (II.G.1.a., G.7.g., CMH A.2., A.7., C.9., SC A.2., SC E.1.)
   2. Introduction of legal issues and their importance to the counseling professional (II.G.1.a., CMH D.7., E.6., SC E.1.)
   3. Familiarize students with the requirements of State and National Certification and State Licensure (II.G.1.g., CMH A.4.)
   4. Introduction of broad ethical principles underlying ethical standards and codes (II.G.1.a., SC A.2.)
   5. Development of an understanding of how bias and stereotyping are ethical issues (II.G.1.i., II.G.2.a., II.G.2.f., CMH E.6., SC E.1.)
   6. Introduction of research findings pertaining to ethical behavior of counselors including keeping informed of current research in the field (II.E., II.G.8.f.)
   7. Development of an understanding of the importance of supervision to ethical decision making. (II.G.1.e., II.G.5.b.)
   8. Introduce a model for ethical decision making (II.G.1., II.G.1.j.)
   9. Development of an understanding of how new technology can lead to ethical concerns for counselors (II.F.)
   10. Familiarizing students with the Standards and Codes of Ethics of the American Counseling Association (ACA), the American School Counseling Association (ASCA), the American Mental Health Counseling Association (AMHCA) and the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) and their application in ethical decision making. (II.G.1.b., II.G.1.e., II.G.1.f., II.G.1.j., II.G.2.d., II.G.8.f., SC A.2.)
11. Awareness of responsibility to continue professional development and affiliation with professional groups. (II.G.1.f.)

G. Student Learning Outcomes: Student will be able to:
1. Read ethical codes and demonstrate an understanding of how professional ethics codes act as guidelines for ethical behavior as evidenced by case studies and class discussion (CMH B.1., SC D.5.)
2. Demonstrate an ethical sensitivity to issues in counseling practice and apply ethical principles to their counseling practice as evidenced by class discussion and case studies
3. Utilize models of ethical decision making as evidenced by case studies and web counseling paper
4. Demonstrate an understanding of state licensure and certification requirements as evidenced by class discussion
5. Demonstrate an understanding of how the issues of diversity relate to ethical decision making as evidenced by case studies
6. Utilize ethical principles to evaluate technologies role in counseling as evidenced by web counseling paper

6. Course Content:
1. History of professional ethical standards in counseling
2. Models of ethical decision making
3. Understanding the ethical codes of the National Board of Certified Counselors, the American Counseling Association and the American School Counselors Association
4. Informed consent
5. Confidentiality and the limits of confidentiality
6. Duty to warn and protect
7. Competence to practice and professional development
8. Multiple Relationships and Inappropriate Sexual Relationships
9. The impaired professional
10. Ethical issues in assessment
11. Ethical issues in supervision
12. Ethics in the school setting
13. Ethics in a mental health setting
14. Ethical concerns about Web counseling
15. Ethical concerns with a diverse population

7. Teaching/Learning Methods:
1. Lecture and discussion, including web based discussion
2. Discussion of case studies
3. Small group discussion
4. Multimedia presentation

8. Evaluation Methods:
1. Case Studies  
2. Web counseling evaluation paper  
3. Attendance and participation

9. Required Text/Reading:  

10. Preparer’s Name and Date:  
    Paula R. Danzinger, Ph.D., Fall, 1999

11. Department Approval Date:  
    February, 1999

12. Reviser’s Name(s) and Date:  
    Paula R. Danzinger, Ph.D., Fall, 2000

13. Revision Approval Date:  
    Spring, 2001

14. Bibliography:


