CSP 696 80 School Law and Mental Health Codes
Winter Semester, 2009/2010
Credit: Three Semester Hours

Preparing Inquiring Educators: Knowledge, Understanding, Application

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Course Description:
This course addresses legal issues of importance to counseling and/or clinical directors in both school and agency settings. Federal and State codes will be examined.

Required Text:


Course Objectives:
1. Introduce knowledge of Federal law that pertains to personnel in a school setting
2. Introduce knowledge of Federal law that pertains to personnel in an agency setting
3. Introduce knowledge of State law that pertains to personnel in a school setting
4. Introduce knowledge of State law that pertains to personnel in an agency setting.
5. Introduce knowledge of Federal and State laws that pertain to students in schools.
6. Introduce knowledge of Federal and State laws that pertain to clients in an agency setting.

**Student Learning Outcomes**: Student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate basic knowledge of Federal and State law pertaining to personnel in their setting as evidenced by case studies.
2. Demonstrate basic knowledge of Federal and State law pertaining to students/clients in their setting as evidenced by case studies.
3. Demonstrate skills for researching legal issues related to public elementary and secondary education as evidenced by case studies and class discussion.
4. Demonstrate skills for researching legal issues related to mental health agencies and practice as evidenced by case studies and class discussion.

**Course Requirements**:

*FOR ALL ASSIGNMENTS: LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.* If there is some reason that you will not be able to turn in an assignment on time, please speak to me ahead of time. In addition, the general presentation of your papers is important. Misspellings and grammatical mistakes will affect your grade. I strongly suggest that you proofread assignments before turning them in. **All assignments must be typed and double spaced and any citations or references must be in APA FORMAT. Papers that are not in this format WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** There is a new edition of the APA Publication Manual. There have been some substantial changes made. **You must use the new APA format.**

This course is an online course and all the work will be online. It is your responsibility to keep up with the readings and with the discussions. It is suggested that you log on at least once a day to make sure you do not get behind.

1. **Class participation**: Questions will be posted on the discussion board twice a week. It is your obligation to visit the discussion board at least four (4) times a week and respond either directly to the question posted or to postings by other students. It is hoped that an ongoing discussion will develop between the students. All the assignments for this class are involved with discussion postings so your participation in these discussions is a major part of your grade. You must have at least four (4) quality postings per week over time. This is the minimum requirement. In order to earn the total points possible for this requirement, more postings are necessary. Feedback on the quality of your postings will be made in the privacy of email.
and will not be posted on the discussion board. Postings will be counted from Monday to Sunday night. Remember, postings have to be made over time. It is not sufficient to make three postings in one day.

**Grading:**

1. **Whole class postings** 100 points *(A minimum of 12 quality postings is required to earn any points for participation).* Postings must add substance to the discussion. Postings must be made over time. It is not sufficient to make 3 postings on one day. This minimum is worth 80 points or 80%. Additional postings will add points to this part of your grade. Points awarded will depend on quality of posting and numbers of postings.

   \[
   \begin{align*}
   A & = 95 \cdot 100 \\
   A^- & = 90 \cdot 94 \\
   B^- & = 75 \cdot 79 \\
   B+ & = 85 \cdot 89
   \end{align*}
   \]

**Course Outline:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>Content Area</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Legal Framework for School Law</td>
<td>Essex pgs. 1-11, 168-186, Bernstein, &amp; Hartsell pgs. 3-24, Valente, &amp;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FERPA</td>
<td>Valente pgs. 308-310</td>
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<td>Case file and notes</td>
<td><a href="http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode20/usc_sec_20_00001232--g000-.html">http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode20/usc_sec_20_00001232--g000-.html</a> (for FERPA)</td>
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<td>Introduction to Mental Health Laws</td>
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<td>Counselor’s and the Law</td>
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<td>Students and the law</td>
<td>HIPAA readings 1, 2, and 3, HIPAA Regulations, Essex pgs. 43-104,</td>
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<td>Student Safety</td>
<td>Bernstein &amp; Hartsell pgs. 315-378,</td>
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<td>Mental Health Clients and the law</td>
<td>Zirkel, 2003, Dowling-Sender, 2003 (a), Dowling-Sender, 2003 (b), Hils,</td>
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<td>HIPAA</td>
<td>2001, Fisher &amp; Sorenson, Chapter 8</td>
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<td>Student rights</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Custody issues and the schools</td>
<td>Valente &amp; Valente pgs. 369-375,</td>
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<td>Custody issues and mental health clients</td>
<td>Bernstein &amp; Hartsell pgs. 145-204</td>
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Forensic Issues in mental health
504 plans
IEP’s
ITP’s

New Jersey Administrative Code
New Jersey Mental Health Code and Licensure laws

Week 3
Ethics and the law
Legal remedies
What if I have to go to court?

Federal programs reading
www.ed.gov
http://www.section508.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Content&ID=15

ACA Code of Ethics, ASCA Code of Ethics, AMHCA Code of Ethics, Bernstein & Hartsell, pgs. 231-258


