EDSE 5363: Ethical, Legal and Professional Issues

This course is designed to be an introduction to the basic ethical and legal issues involved in the delivery of behavioral interventions with human populations. The course focuses on federal and state legislation, litigation, policies and guidelines of ethical practice of professionals. The format involves reading articles and chapters in a variety of topic areas including the BACB Guidelines for Responsible Conduct and answering study questions specific to the content of the readings. Also included are "application" questions regarding ethical considerations in those areas where the ethical situations are very, very clear. Prerequisite: EDSE 5325, EDSE 5360, EDSE 5361 and EDSE 5362

Student Outcomes:

- Students will be able to describe relevant codes of ethical conduct, professional standards, rules, regulations, guidelines, policies, legal issues, ethical responsibilities, and decisionmaking processes required of educators and behavior analysts in the fields of education, developmental disabilities, and mental health.
- Students will be able to describe ethical decisionmaking processes that can be functional within the context of service delivery mechanisms.
- Students will be able to identify functional relationships within applicable ethical standards.
- Students will be able to select targets for change, identify appropriate outcomes of service delivery, and select the most appropriate, least intrusive/least restrictive behavior change procedures within applicable ethical standards. The student will be able to describe conditions of acceptable treatment to punishment procedures) and "side effects" of punishment procedures.
- Students will be able to describe client/student rights, right to treatment issues, coercive/aversive v. non aversive treatment issues, and functional treatment issues within applicable ethical standards.
- Students will be able to describe the process for obtaining informed consent from clients, students, and/or their legal representative within applicable ethical standards.
- Students will be able to describe the implementation process and accountability of behavior change procedures and evaluate the outcome(s) of such procedures within applicable ethical standards.
- Students will be able to describe ethical responsibilities, rules, regulations, guidelines, policies, legal issues, and oversight agencies/committees regarding the design, formal approval, implementation, evaluation, and reporting of reactive strategies/emergency procedures (e.g., manual restraint procedures, restraint devices, chemical restraints, psychotropic medications) specific to persons with developmental disabilities.
- Students will demonstrate competence in recordkeeping, communication, and related procedure used to protect client/student confidentiality within applicable ethical standards.
- Students will be able to describe methods to assure the quality of the intervention and the credentials or training of staff within applicable ethical standards.

**Justification:**

Fourth sequenced course in MS in Special Education Applied Behavior Analysis Minor

Program: Add: ____ Change: ____ Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

Minor: Add: ____ Delete: ____ Change: ____ Attach new/changed minor. If in current catalog, provide change and attach page with changes in red.

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**Approvals:**

Chair
Department Curriculum Committee

Chair
Department

Chair
College Curriculum Committee

Dean

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**Signature**

Alfredo Ramirez, Jr.

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**Date**

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Dr. Humberto Gonzalez, Dean

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Digitally signed by Dr. Humberto Gonzalez, Dean
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