June 24, 2011

Max Poole, Ph.D.
Senior Associate Dean
College of Graduate Studies

Dear Max:

In follow-up to an email from Teresa Dorman, Ph.D., I am formally submitting the attached syllabus for your review and determination of its compliance with the new Ethics/RCR requirements established by the College of Graduate Studies. I have highlighted on the attached syllabus the sections that the clinical faculty believes covers the established requirements. Furthermore, in compliance with our accreditation standards as set forth by the American Psychological Association, ethics training in the doctoral program in clinical psychology is not simply taught in the course entitled *Ethical and Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology (CLP7623)*. Rather we view this course as the introduction to ethics. Additional discussion of ethical issues is woven throughout most of the courses in our program. Thus, our assessment courses focus on ethical issues associated with assessment and measurement, our intervention courses focus on examining ethical issues in research with human subjects as it pertains to establishing empirically supported treatments for adults and children, etc. To give you a very specific example, when I teach child interventions, I spend time focusing on human subjects issues as their specifically pertain to child participants in research studies including issues of informed consent/assent, the ethical use of reimbursement when working with children and their parents, the use of placebo treatments for children, and the overall question of whether children should be asked to participate in research if there is no specific benefit for them – such as the famous Hopkins Lead Paint Study.

The guidelines which I received outlined four content areas addressing fundamental ethical/RCR concepts, all of which are covered in *Ethical and Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology (CLP7623)*. This is a seminar course offered to our first year class in their first semester in the program. There are only 7 students in the class, allowing for the free-flowing discussions outlined in your memorandum. Furthermore, all guidelines are covered in the *Ethical Principles of Psychologists & Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association*, which each student receives as he/she enters our program. Copies of this code also appear in in the Bersoff text, and the Fisher text, which are required readings for this course. Both of these texts include a substantial number of case studies illustrating the issues that are raised in the text.
Below I will address the additional readings that address each of the four issues that you list and will use a different color highlighter to illustrate on the attached syllabus where that content is discussed.

I. Avoiding plagiarism, including a discussion of self-plagiarism.
   We have an entire section of our course on research ethics. This particular topic is in green font on page 7. We will use the latest version of the Office of Research Integrity syllabus found on the website.

II. Attributing Authorship.
    The Office of Research Integrity syllabus highlighted in bright green above also addresses this issue as does the APA Ethical Code. Furthermore, specific readings are highlighted in purple text (p.7)

III. Integrity in Data Collection.
    Readings on the fabrication of data or falsification of data are in red text (p.7-8)

IV. Personal integrity in an academic setting.
    Recognizing conflicts of interest, respectful and professional behavior when interacting with others. The articles in blue address these issues (p.7). We do not have any specific readings on integrity in face-to-face and on-line examinations but it is certainly discussed.

As you know, all of our courses are reviewed as part of our continuing accreditation by the American Psychological Association. Furthermore, because all of our research is with Human Subjects, all students are required to complete CITI training immediately upon their matriculation in August, providing further required training in research ethics with human subjects.

On behalf of the clinical faculty, we thank you for your efforts to educate all graduate students on the importance of research ethics. We have been engaged in that training for the past 10 years in this program and for some of us, more than 20 years. We hope that you agree that our established course meets the guidelines of the required topics, but if you have any suggestions for additional readings, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

Deborah C. Beidel, Ph.D., ABPP
Director, UCF Anxiety Disorders Clinic
Professor and Director of Clinical Training
Department of Psychology
Course Overview and Objectives:
This course is a comprehensive introduction to ethical and professional issues for first year students in the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program at UCF. A myriad of issues and topics will be addressed, however, there are three primary goals:
1) To sensitize students to the scope and complexity of “professionalism” including awareness of the role that basic personal values and culture play in the formulation and implementation of professional codes of conduct;
2) To acquaint students with the most recent version of the APA ethical principles & standards;
3) To enable students to apply professional codes of conduct to guide their decision making and behavior within all domains of their professional work, including clinical, research, and teaching activities.

I. TEXTS:
Other Material TBA.

II. REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADE
1. Attendance is required. Expected absences must be approved in advance by the instructor. Unexpected absences that are clearly unavoidable must be reported as soon as possible, in person or through text, voicemail, or e-mail messages. Any unexcused absence will result in a failing grade for the course.
2. Completion of Reading Assignments (both textbooks and the articles listed in Appendix A)
   i. Completing reading assignments and demonstrating appropriate familiarity with the content through class participation is required, and will comprise 10% of the course grade. At the discretion of the instructor, written summaries of the assigned reading may also be required.
3. Performance on two written exams. 60% of Course Grade.
4. Completion of Applied Examination in Resolving Ethical Dilemmas. 30% of Course Grade

III. SCHEDULE
Week 1 & 2: Introduction, (Read: APA Code, Fisher 1-2; Bersoff 1-2; Newsweek article).
Week 3 & 4: Ethical Decision Making(Fisher Chs. 3-4; Bersoff Ch. 3).
Week 5 & 6: Confidentiality (Bersoff 4, Fisher 7)
Week 7: Multiple Relationships (Bersoff 5, Fisher 6)
Week 8: Exam 1 (Specifics will be provided in Week 6)
Week 9: Psychological Assessment (Bersoff 6, Fisher 12)
Week 10: Therapy, Competence (Bersoff Ch. 7, Fisher 5 & 13)
Week 11 & 12: Academia: Research (Bersoff Ch 8 – except 2 readings noted below; Fisher
Week 13: Exam 2; Teaching, Supervision (Bersoff Ch. 8 Goodyear et al., Birch et al.; Fisher 10)

SEE ATTACHED EXPANDED TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR SPECIFIC ITEMS COVERED IN THESE TWO WEEKS OF CLASSES

Week 14: Forensic Settings (Bersoff Ch. 9)
Week 15: The Business of Psychology (Bersoff 10, Fisher 8, 9)
Finals Week: Applied Examination in Resolving Ethical Dilemmas.

REQUIRED READING ASSIGNMENTS NOTES:
(In Addition to Chapter Assignments)

Bibliography of Selected Ethical & Professional Issues Articles

[AP = American Psychologist; PP = Professional Psychology: Research & Practice]

A. GENERAL ETHICS

- Ethical Principles of Psychologists & Code of Conduct, APA, AP, 57, 1060-1073. [also in Bersoff Text, and Appendix in Fisher text;]
- Psychological science’s contributions to a sustainable environment. Kazdin, AP, 2009, 64(5), 339-356.
- Psychological ethics and national security. APA. European Psychologist, 2006, 11, 153-156.
B. DIVERSITY ISSUES

- Special Section: Culture and Ethnicity in Mental Health Service Delivery. 2004, PP, 35, 3-35.
  - Twelve practical suggestions for achieving multicultural competence. Stuart
  - Mental health services for native Americans in the 21st century United States. Gone
  - African Americans’ perceptions of psychotherapy and psychotherapists. Thompson, Bazile, & Akbar
  - The meaning of pain: A key to working with Spanish-speaking patients with work-related injuries. Cervantes & Lechuga

C. MANAGED CARE ISSUES


D. CONFIDENTIALITY, PRIVILEGE, & INFORMED CONSENT

- Protecting Undergraduate Volunteers: Balancing Confidentiality With the Duty to Protect and/or Warn. Pawlow, Pomerantz, & Sullivan. Training and Education in Professional Psychology (2007), 1(2), 147–152

E. HIV/AIDS

- Divergent Ethical Perspectives on the Duty-to-Warn Principle With HIV Patients. Huprich, Fuller, & Schneider.
F. CONCEPT OF PROFESSIONAL MALPRACTICE

G. STATE LICENSURE

H. ASSESSMENT/TESTING/COMPUTER SOFTWARE

I. CHILD RIGHTS/ETHICS [***SEE ALSO SECTION D***


J. GROUP/FAMILY

K. DUAL ROLE RELATIONSHIPS
- Sexual Contact Between Psychologists and Patients. Shavit. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma* (2006),11:1,205 — 239

L. TEACHING AND SUPERVISION ETHICS

M. RESEARCH ETHICS

- Documents related to research with human participants (Nuremberg Code, Helsinki Declaration, Belmont Report).
- On being a scientist (3rd edition). Committee on the Conduct of Science, National Academy of Sciences
  - Introduction to the Responsible Conduct of Research
  - Terminology: Values, Standards, and Practices,
  - Advising and Mentoring
  - Case Study: A Change of Plans,
  - Advice: Choosing a Research Group,
  - The Treatment of Data
  - Case Study: The Selection of Data,
  - Mistakes and Negligence
  - Historic Case Study: Changing Knowledge,
  - Case Study: Discovering an Error,
  - Research Misconduct
  - Historic Case Study: A Breach of Trust,
  - Case Study: Fabrication in a Grant Proposal,
  - Case Study: Is It Plagiarism?
  - Responding to Suspected Violations of Professional Standards
  - Historic Case Study: Treatment of Misconduct by a Journal,
  - Case Study: A Career in the Balance,
  - Human Participants and Animal Subjects in Research
  - Case Study: Tests on Students,
  - Case Study: A Change of Protocol,
  - Laboratory Safety in Research
  - Sharing of Research Results
  - Historic Case Study: The Race to Publish,
  - Case Study: Publication Practices,
  - Advice: Restrictions on Peer Review and the Flow of Scientific Information,
  - Authorship and the Allocation of Credit
  - Case Study: Who Gets Credit?,
  - Historic Case Study: Who Should Get Credit for the Discovery of Pulsars?,
  - Intellectual Property
  - Case Study: A Commercial Opportunity?,
  - Competing Interests, Commitments, and Values
  - Case Study: A Conflict of Commitment,
N. SUICIDE