



Counseling Program

Signature Assignment for COUN 510 (Law & Ethics) Case Study

Student Learning Outcome(s) Assessed:

SLO #1: Perform ethical decision-making model in accordance with state and federal law and professional ethical codes (including knowledge of diverse populations and counseling needs).

Description of the Signature Assignment

Candidates will analyze or assess a vignette that is appropriate to their field of study (e.g., School Counseling, SDHE, MFT). They will identify all legal and ethical issues present in the vignette and develop a plan based on current research to deal with the legal and ethical issues.

Directions for Students

You will be assigned a vignette relating to the counseling professions that contains several key legal and ethical issues. You are to address the following areas in a 4-5 page double spaced paper. Keep in mind that in these vignettes, there may be no one specific correct answer regarding how issues are to be handled, but that students must identify all significant issues and apply correct legal and ethical standards to the situation. I am looking for your knowledge and understanding of applicable laws and ethical codes, and your professional and clinical decision-making process as you describe your course of action.

FORMAT: (5 points) **Include a separate title page** (not included in the 4-5 page minimum requirement) that includes your name, the name of your program and topic of research. Make sure your paper is responsive to the perspective of your particular discipline. Use correct grammar, spelling and professional presentation. Use 12 pt. font and 1" margins.

Use the following section numbers for your paper:

- I. Identify the key legal and ethical issues in your vignette based on your particular discipline or license. Please **underline** each legal and ethical issue that you discuss in this section. (10 points)
- II. Summarize two articles or sources (other than the text) that relate to **ONE** of the issues in the vignette. Be sure to properly cite the articles or sources in your paper. Articles and sources must be from **current** professional journals. Your text or ethical codes may be cited, but do not count toward the two required sources (10 points)
- III. Develop a plan for handling the situation that includes management of all identified issues. Also discuss why and how you arrived at a particular course of action. The vignettes give basic information only, so you should indicate if there is more information you would need to assess the situation. (10 points)

- IV. Discuss possible reactions or implications for the client or student and how you would handle them. (5 points)

- V. Discuss **your own feelings and possible reactions to being the professional** in this situation with reference to countertransference issues. This should be a thoughtful, insightful discussion. (5 points)

- VI. Bibliography- In your bibliography you should properly cite all sources used for this paper. Resources will be evaluated based on their currency, relevance, and validity of source. (5 points)

Scoring Rubric:

Criteria	4 = Exceeds expectations	3 = Meets expectations		2 = Meets some expectations			1 = Does not meet expectations				0 = Unable to score; incomplete or missing work	Final Score
<p>Criteria 1: Identify the key legal and ethical issues in your vignette based on your particular discipline or license. Please underline each legal and ethical issue that you identify in this section.</p>	<p>In addition to meeting the requirements for "3", the writing is essentially error free in terms of mechanics. Models the style and format appropriate to the assignment</p>	<p>Identify the key legal and ethical issues in your vignette based on your particular discipline or license. Please underline each legal and ethical issue identified</p>		<p>Some legal/ethical issues are missed. Frequent errors in spelling, grammar, sentence structure and/or other writing conventions distract the reader. Writing does not consistently follow the style/format requirements. Source documentation is incomplete. It may be unclear which references are direct quotes and which are paraphrased</p>			<p>Most legal / ethical issues are missed. Writing contains numerous errors. Style, format, and content are inappropriate for the assignment. Fails to demonstrate thoroughness and competence in documentation</p>				<p>Inappropriate or missing work. (0 points)</p>	
<p>Criteria 2: Summarize three articles or sources (other than the text) that relate to ONE of the issues in the vignette. Be sure to properly cite the articles or sources in your paper.</p>	<p>In addition to meeting the requirements for "3", the writing is essentially error free in terms of mechanics. Models the style and format appropriate to the assignment</p>	<p>Appropriately picks ONE issue in the vignette and completes a literature search on the topic. Adequately summarizes 3 articles and appropriately relates the content of the articles to the issue of interest from the vignette</p>		<p>Does not pick ONE issue from the vignette OR does not summarize 3 articles/sources related to the vignette. Frequent errors in spelling, grammar, sentence structure and/or other writing conventions distract the reader. Writing does not consistently follow the style/format requirements. Source documentation is incomplete. It may be unclear which references are direct quotes and which are paraphrased</p>			<p>Does not pick ONE issue from the vignette OR does not summarize at least 2 articles/sources related to the vignette. Frequent errors in spelling, grammar, sentence structure and/or other writing conventions distract the reader. Writing does not consistently follow the style/format requirements. Source documentation is incomplete. It may be unclear which references are direct quotes and which are paraphrased</p>				<p>Inappropriate or missing work. (0 points)</p>	

Criteria	4 = Exceeds expectations	3 = Meets expectations	2 = Meets some expectations			1 = Does not meet expectations				0 = Unable to score; incomplete or missing work	Final Score
Criteria 3: Develop a plan for handling the situation that includes management of all identified issues. Also, discuss why and how you arrived at a particular course of action. The vignettes give basic information only, so you should indicate if there is more information you would need to assess the situation	In addition to meeting the requirements for "3", the writing is essentially error free in terms of mechanics. Models the style and format appropriate to the assignment	Appropriately identifies all relevant issues AND develops a plan for handling the issues. Appropriately describes the rationale for course of action	Does not identify all relevant issues OR develop a plan for handling the issues OR appropriately describes the rationale for course of action. (1 of 3 areas is missing). Frequent errors in spelling, grammar, sentence structure and/or other writing conventions distract the reader. Writing does not consistently follow the style/format requirements. Source documentation is incomplete. It may be unclear which references are direct quotes and which are paraphrased			Does not identify all relevant issues OR develop a plan for handling the issues OR appropriately describes the rationale for course of action. (2 of 3 areas is missing). Frequent errors in spelling, grammar, sentence structure and/or other writing conventions distract the reader. Writing does not consistently follow the style/format requirements. Source documentation is incomplete. It may be unclear which references are direct quotes and which are paraphrased				Inappropriate or missing work	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Criteria 4: Discuss possible reactions or implications for the client or student and how you would handle them	In addition to meeting the requirements for "3", the writing is essentially error free in terms of mechanics. Models appropriate style and format	Appropriately and thoughtfully discusses reactions/implications for client/students AND how the counselor would handle the situation	Either does not appropriately and thoughtfully discusses reactions/implications for client/students OR how the counselor would handle the situation (1 focus area is missing or incomplete)			Either does not appropriately and thoughtfully discusses reactions/implications for client/students OR how the counselor would handle the situation (Both focus areas are missing or incomplete)				Inappropriate or missing work	
	5	4	3	2		1			0	/5	
Criteria 5: Discuss your own feelings and possible reactions to being the professional in this situation, including possible countertransference issues, if applicable	In addition to meeting the requirements for "3", the writing is essentially error free in terms of mechanics. Models the style and format appropriate to the assignment	Thorough discussion of how you would feel as the professional in this situation	Although the student writes to this prompt, discussion of feelings as the professional in the situation lacks depth or clarity			Student did not truly analyze himself/herself in the professional situation				Inappropriate or missing work	
	5	4	3	2		1			0	/5	

Criteria	4 = Exceeds expectations	3 = Meets expectations	2 = Meets some expectations		1 = Does not meet expectations	0 = Unable to score; incomplete or missing work	Final Score
Criteria 6: Bibliography In your bibliography you should properly cite all sources used for this paper. Resources will be evaluated based on their currency, relevance, and validity of source.	In addition to meeting the requirements for "3", the writing is essentially error free in terms of mechanics. Models the style and format appropriate to the assignment	Appropriately applies APA format throughout paper and bibliography. Uses current, relevant, and valid literature	APA formatting errors exist. Some older OR non-relevant literature		Student did not use APA format AND older, non-relevant and non-valid literature was used	Inappropriate or missing work	
	5	4	3	2	1	0	/5
Total							/45

Legend

Total Points	College of Education Assessment Scale Equivalent
41-45	4 (Exceeds Expectations)
36-40	3 (Meets Expectations)
32-35	2 (Meets Some Expectations)
27-31	1 (Does Not Meet Expectations)
0-26	0 (Can't Score)