

**AMBERTON UNIVERSITY**  
**SYLLABUS FOR LECTURE/CLASSROOM COURSE**

**CSL6740.21 Counseling Ethics**  
**Spring 2023**  
**Location: Frisco Center**

**PROFESSOR INFORMATION:**

Name: Carla J. Moffitt, M.S., LPC-S  
Phone Number: 972-279-6511 ext. 139  
Faculty Fax #: 972-686-5890  
Office Location: Garland Office  
Office Hours: To be scheduled individually with professor  
Email Address: cmoffitt@Amberton.edu

**COURSE INFORMATION:**

CSL6740.21 Counseling Ethics  
Level: Graduate  
Beginning Date of Session: Saturday, March 11, 2023  
Ending Date of Session: Thursday, May 18, 2023  
The first class meeting is **March 11, 2023**, in **Room F1 (Frisco Center)**

All Monday-Thursday lecture classes begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.  
All Saturday lecture classes begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.

**COURSE PREREQUISITES:**

None

**TEXTBOOK(S) AND REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

Title: Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in Counseling  
Author: Theodore Remley and Barbara Herlihy  
Publisher: Pearson  
Year Published: 2020  
Edition: 6th  
ISBN: 10: 0135183812 or 13: 9780135183816  
Price: Available at <http://amberton.ecampus.com>

Amberton University has an agreement with eCampus.com to provide a full-service online bookstore to students. The Amberton University Virtual Bookstore is accessible through the University's website, [www.Amberton.edu](http://www.Amberton.edu). There is also a bookstore link in the Student Portal.

The AU Virtual Bookstore provides an easy to use interface, online buyback of books, and same day shipment of most titles with an average delivery time of 2-3 days depending on the student's location. Textbook options include new, used, rental, and electronic media as available.

Since no books are sold on campus, students should plan accordingly and purchase their books in advance of the first day of class, allowing time for shipping. Be certain you are enrolled in the course before purchasing your book(s). All textbook information (Title, Author, ISBN, etc.) is available in course syllabi so students can shop competitively. Most textbooks can be purchased from many different textbook vendors. Some textbooks may only be available on the University's Virtual Bookstore. Students should be careful to obtain the exact resource(s) required for the course.

**LINKS TO COUNSELING HANDBOOKS**

**MA in Professional Counseling**

<https://www.amberton.edu/media/Files/2020-2021%20Professional%20Counseling%20Handbook.pdf>

## MA in Marriage and Family Therapy

[https://www.amberton.edu/media/Files/2020-2021\\_MFT\\_Handbook.pdf](https://www.amberton.edu/media/Files/2020-2021_MFT_Handbook.pdf)

## MA in School Counseling

<https://www.amberton.edu/media/Files/2021-2022%20School%20Counselor%20Handbook.pdf>

### APA Requirement

APA (American Psychological Association) style is most commonly used to cite sources within the social sciences. This resource, revised according to the 7<sup>th</sup> edition, offers examples for the general format of APA research papers, in-text citations, endnotes/footnotes, and the reference page. For more information, please consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). All coursework at Amberton University will comply with the standards contained in the APA Publication Manual.

### COURSE COMPETENCIES:

The following represents the course competencies for this class. Competencies are equivalent for all lecture and distance learning courses. Following each competency is the assignment used to gain mastery of this area of study.

The course is specifically designed to prepare graduate students to function in the formal role of a professional practitioner. Major emphasis is placed upon ethical and legal issues, standards, and conditions of preparation for the professions, and role identity matters. Models of decision making are presented with emphasis on application in mental health settings.

### UPON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, THE STUDENT WILL BE COMPETENT IN:

1. Discussing the historical development of professions, in general, and the counseling profession specifically.
2. Examining trends in the codes of ethics and ethical decision-making within the counseling profession.
3. Discussing high-risk practices with clients such as social, business, and personal relationships, sexual contact with clients, and other boundary issues.
4. Describing and analyzing the ethical, legal, and professional standards of the counseling and guidance profession, including local, state, and national ethical and legal codes related to mental health counselors and Christian counselors.
5. Discussing confidentiality, privileged communication, duty to warn, informed consent, dual relationships, privacy, and the rights of clients in mental health and Christian counseling settings.
6. Discussing ethical and professional issues specific to group counseling and group guidance in mental health settings.
7. Considering the various roles and responsibilities of the counselor within mental health settings, Christian counseling settings, and the community.
8. Discussing the professional Codes of Ethics for Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, Christian Counselors, and other specialized helping professionals.
9. Explaining the ethical issues in counseling-therapy research practices in mental health settings.
10. Describing the nature of professional liability, malpractice, and treatment of dangerous and difficult clients in mental health settings.
11. Defining and understanding crisis intervention in the helping professions.
12. Examining the differences between crisis and psychotherapy.
13. Defining consultation and supervision as related to the counseling profession.
14. Examining the relationship among counseling, ethics, and professional responsibility in order to promote the growth of the counselor and the counseling profession.
15. Identifying ways to apply core principles, values, and qualities to guide therapist behavior and therapeutic relationships.
16. Identifying and developing hard and soft skills needed for effective ethical decision-making.
17. Understanding that cultural competence provides honest and fair services to those from diverse and minority population groups.

## **COURSE POLICIES:**

All due dates are listed on the Moodle page. Always follow dates listed on Moodle. Students are expected to meet all deadlines.

Weekly assignments will receive a minimum penalty of one letter grade for all late work. No late weekly assignments will be accepted after seven (7) days. No late submissions will be accepted for the four major assignments (Cases Quiz, Codes Quiz, Mid-Term Exam, and Final Exam). No exceptions.

### ***Student's Responsibilities***

This syllabus contains information, policies, and procedures for a specific course. By enrolling, the student agrees to read, understand, and abide by the policies, rules, regulations, and ethical standards of Amberton University as contained in the current university catalog and schedule of classes.

### ***Attendance Policy:***

Regular and punctual class attendance and engagement is expected at Amberton University. In case of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the professor as soon as possible. If a student intends on withdrawing from a course, it is the student's responsibility to follow the university's policy on formally withdrawing from a course. **Ceasing to attend classes does not constitute an official withdrawal.**

Attendance in a lecture course is defined as punctual arrival to, and engagement in, a full lecture session. Attendance in a distance learning course is defined as active participation in the weekly online class sessions. "Active participation" can be defined as: submitting an academic assignment, taking an exam, engaging in an interactive tutorial, participating in an online discussion forum (or chat session), or initiating (or responding to) a communication with a faculty member about an academic assignment or the subject matter of the course. A student not meeting these requirements may be dropped at the discretion of Amberton University.

### ***Plagiarism Policy***

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's work as though it were your own. If you use another person's words, ideas, or information; or if you use material from an outside source – whether a book, magazine, newspaper, business publication, broadcast, speech, or electronic media – you must acknowledge that source. Plagiarism is a violation of the University's code of student ethical conduct and is one that is taken seriously. Amberton University operates on an honor system; therefore, honesty and integrity are essential characteristics of all who are associated with the institution. All Amberton students are expected to abide by the honor system and maintain academic integrity in all their work. Amberton University and its instructors monitor student work for plagiarism and reserve the right to submit such work to technology-based plagiarism detection services and applications at any time.

Students agree that by taking this course, all required assignments may be subject to submission for a textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in future papers. Use of Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com website.

Turnitin is a writing improvement and plagiarism prevention tool which uses special algorithms, to compare text-based student submissions to the Turnitin database and other online sources. Turnitin produces a detailed **similarity report** that can be customized and viewed by instructors and students.

Turnitin "Draft Coach" is a Google based add-on to Turnitin which supports students in developing high-quality academic writing; and serves as an integrity coach. Draft Coach, helps address errors and improve the quality of student's writing by highlighting grammar mistakes, identifying incorrectly cited sources, and scanning for similarity across several databases. By providing formative feedback on how to address citation issues, incorrect grammar, and matches with the Turnitin database, Draft Coach provides explanations to help students become more confident writers, capable of producing higher quality work both in academics and in the workplace.

## **COURSE DELIVERY METHODOLOGY:**

This course is offered as a Lecture/Classroom course. This course requires that students meet a designated time in the classroom.

Activities that will be utilized include lectures, instructional conversation, small group discussion, discussion board participation, case study decision-making, and quizzes.

### **COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR:**

All due dates are listed on the Moodle page. Always follow dates listed on Moodle. Students are expected to meet all deadlines.

Week	Topic	Assignment	Competencies Covered	Due Date
Week 1 March 11 – 17  Class Meets on 3/11/23 on Frisco Campus at 8:30 a.m.	1. Introduction 2. Professional Identity of Counselors	Chapters 1-2	Course Competencies 1-16	Consult Moodle Calendar for all Assignments and Due Dates
Week 2 March 18 - 24	3. Multiculturalism, Values, Social Justice, and Advocacy Issues 4. Client Rights and Counselor Responsibilities	Chapters 3-4	Course Competencies 1-16	Submit Weekly Assignments per the Moodle page and Calendar
Week 3 March 25 – 31  Class Meets on 3/25/23 on Frisco Campus at 8:30 a.m.	5. Confidentiality, Privileged Communication, Informed Consent 6. Records and Subpoenas	Chapters 5-6	Course Competencies 1-16	
Week 4 April 1 - 7	7. Competence, Assessment, and Diagnosis 8. Malpractice and Resolving Legal and Ethical Challenges 9. Boundary Issues	Chapters 7 -9	Course Competencies 1-16	Codes Quiz Due
Week 5 April 8 – 14  Class Meets on 4/8/23 on Frisco Campus at 8:30 a.m.	10. Technology in Counseling	Chapter 10	Course Competencies 1-16	
Week 6	<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>			Mid-Term Exam

April 15 - 21				Due
Week 7 April 22 – 28 Class Meets on 4/22/23 on Frisco Campus at 8:30 a.m.	11. Counseling Children and Vulnerable Adults 12. Counseling Families and Groups	Chapters 11-12	Course Competencies 1-16	
Week 8 April 29 – May 5	13. Professional Relationships, Private Practice, and Health Care Plans 14. Issues in Counselor Education	Chapters 13-14	Couse Competencies 1-16	Cases Quiz Due
Week 9 May 6 – 12 Class Meets on 5/6/23 on Frisco Campus at 8:30 a.m.	15. Supervision and Consultation 16. Professional Writing, Conducting Research, and Publishing	Chapters 15-16	Course Competencies 1-16	
Week 10 May 13 - 18	<b>Final Exam</b>	Chapters 1 - 16		<b>Final Exam</b>

#### GRADING CRITERIA:

Weekly Assignments (avg.)	20%
Codes Quiz	20%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Cases Quiz	20%
Final Exam	20%

#### Graduate

92 – 100	A
82 – 91	B
72 – 81	C
62 – 71	D
Below 62	F

#### GRADE NOTIFICATION AND INSTRUCTOR FEEDBACK:

Each assignment/exam submitted will be reviewed, graded and return to the student in a timely manner, along with appropriate commentary.

Final grades are processed approximately one week after the last day of the session and may be located in the My Grades section of the online registration portal as well as being emailed to the student's Amberton University email. Amberton University staff will not release grades over the phone. University instructors will not leave a message with comments or grades in any type of media that is not secure.

For questions regarding grades after the semester has ended, students should use their email account and contact the instructor at the faculty email address as provided above in *Professor Information* area.

### ***Incomplete Grades***

An “I” (incomplete grade) is given at the discretion of the professor and may be given only when an emergency or illness prevents the student from completing course requirements. Should an “I” be granted, the student has 30 days from the end of the session to complete the conditions of the incomplete. An “I” which is not properly removed within 30 days following the session enrolled will become an “F” grade.

### ***How to Withdraw From a Course***

To be official, the class withdrawal must be in writing and signed by the student requesting the withdrawal; no withdrawal is accepted verbally. Please review the “Schedule of Classes” (online or in-print) for procedures for class changes or withdrawals and the refund policy and schedule.

### **COURSE COMMUNICATIONS:**

This course is offered as a lecture course; however, several technological options are available to faculty and students that can enhance communication both during the session and after the session has ended. The **Student Portal** is the gateway to email, Remote Research, General Tools and Electronic Instructor Folders (FTP). The Student Portal may be accessed through a link on the University’s website, <http://www.Amberton.edu>, or at <http://apps.Amberton.edu>.

After selecting the “Student Portal” link, you will be prompted for a Username and Password. Use your assigned **username and password** (AUID) as described below:

**Username** = your capitalized firstname **initial**+lastname+last 3 digits of your SSN.

\* Use your name exactly as it is listed on the University’s records, including any suffixes or hyphenations, such as Jr, Sr, or II, as a part of your username.

For example: James Jones, Jr. SSN: 123-45-6789  
Username: JJonesJr789

**Password** = your Amberton University ID# (AUID) **including the dashes**

For example: 04-999-999

Once your login has been validated, you may select from a variety of menu options, including online course materials, email access, Remote Research, General Tools, all Syllabi, Research Tutorials and Electronic Instructor Folders (FTP).

### **Email Communication**

Each student enrolled is assigned an Amberton email account, which gives the student access to the Amberton email system ([my.Amberton.edu](mailto:my.Amberton.edu)). This email account is provided by Google Apps for Education. Students are encouraged to check their email regularly for University news, notices, and to communicate with instructors.

The student’s assigned email address would be Username@my.Amberton.edu

Example: LJones-Smith789@my.Amberton.edu

The student Username is determined by:

firstname initial+lastname+last 3 digits of student ssn.

For example: Linda Jones-Smith SSN: 123-45-6789

Email Address = LJones-Smith789@my.Amberton.edu

Students will be prompted for a Username and Password when accessing their email account. Use the Username portion of the email address as the username (Example: LJones-Smith789) and your Amberton ID# (including the dashes) as the password.

If you already have a Google gmail account, you might be prompted to add this account to your current settings. Click 'Yes' and you will be logged into your my.Amberton.edu email account. It will be a separate email account from your personal gmail account.

If you need assistance with your email account, please visit <https://support.google.com/mail>

### **The Amberton University Moodle Website**

Students enrolled in this course will also be using the Moodle Learning Platform, with access available through the Student Portal or by going to: <http://moodle.Amberton.edu>

For those utilizing Moodle for the first time, the **username and password** for the Moodle Learning Platform will be emailed to the student's email account prior to the start of the course. For those returning to Moodle who do not remember their username and password, click on the link "*Forgotten your username or password*" available on the Moodle log in page (<http://moodle.Amberton.edu>). Otherwise use the same username and password as previous session.

### **Moodle Tutorial:**

Upon successful log in and access to the Moodle learning platform, there is a *Student Moodle Tutorials* course available, to learn about the basics of Moodle. Simply click on the link for the *Student Moodle Tutorials* and read through the various learning topics: Navigating; Communicating; Assignments & Exams; Grades; and Student Resources.

### **COURSE EVALUATION:**

Each session, all Amberton students are requested to evaluate their courses. The evaluation process is an important one and provides students with an anonymous and confidential way to give meaningful feedback to the University. Summary information and comments are provided to faculty after the close of the session. Students' identities are not disclosed.

Students will be notified through the Amberton email system of the Course Evaluation procedures. Usually, the evaluations take place in class during week 9 of the session. Please take advantage of this opportunity and participate in the evaluation process.

### **RECOMMENDED ONLINE SOURCES:**

Online research resources are available through "Research Tools Database", accessible through the Student Portal, under "General Tools."

### **RESEARCH RESOURCES:**

The Library provides access to full-text, and peer reviewed articles, and digital research tools. Students can search Library holdings through the online catalog and databases search engines available on the Library website or browse the physical library space and holdings located at the Garland campus.

Research items not contained in the Amberton Library collection can be located through interlibrary Loan (ILL) or through the TexShare program with the help of the Library staff. Students with questions about available services, resources, or research, may contact the Library via email at [Library@amberton.edu](mailto:Library@amberton.edu).

### **RESEARCH ACCESS:**

Databases can only be accessed by authorized users, and students at Amberton must enter their Amberton ID credentials-same as Moodle login-to gain access when off-campus. Use an Amberton website, such as the University site ([Amberton.edu](http://Amberton.edu)) or the library site ([Library.amberton.edu](http://Library.amberton.edu)) to find links to databased and digital books. Online resources are available all day, every day.

***Library Live Chat Feature***

Library staff are available to assist students with research problems or questions during Library hours through a live online chat feature, telephone, email, "How-to" videos, or in person. The Library telephone is (972-279-6511 ext. 136, 137, or 138. You can email questions to [library@amberton.edu](mailto:library@amberton.edu) or visit the Library in person on the Garland campus for assistance.