

COURSE OUTLINE

Massage Ethics

Course Description

MT 247. Massage Ethics. 2 hours credit. Prerequisites: MT 140 with a C or better. This course will enable the student to learn professional and ethical principles of the massage industry and incorporate them into his/her massage therapy practice.

Course Relevance

Ethical issues are not always black and white. The concepts learned in this course will enhance the student's ability to make ethical decisions in the best interest of the client and demonstrate ethical practice management for the business.

Required Materials

Benjamin, B.E., Sohnen-Moe, C. (2003). *The ethics of touch* (1st ed.). Tucson, AZ: Sohnen-Moe Associates, Inc.

Learning Outcomes

The intention is for the student to be able to

1. Practice within the ethical, legal and regulatory framework of therapeutic massage

Primary Learning PACT Skills that will be DEVELOPED and/or documented in this course:

Through the student's involvement in this course, he/she will develop his/her ability in the following primary PACT skill areas:

1. Ethical Conduct
 - Through the use of self-assessment tools, the student will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of accepting responsibility for one's actions and will demonstrate an ability to make ethical decisions related to personal, professional, and business issues in the massage therapy industry.

Secondary skills (developed but not documented):

- Teamwork
- Valuing Diversity
- Writing
- Listening
- Speaking
- Non-Verbal Communication
- Problem Solving
- Computer Literacy
- Internet Use

Major Summative Assessment Task(s)

These learning outcomes and the primary Learning PACT skills will be demonstrated by

1. The use of self-assessment tools to evaluate his/her own ethical conduct in a variety of settings. Certification by three appropriate parties who know the student personally and have dealt with her/him in situations which demonstrated the student's ethical behavior (ethical conduct rubric).

Course Content

- I. Themes – Key recurring concepts that run throughout this course:
 - A. Professional behaviors
 - B. Decision making
 - C. Communication/collaboration
- II. Issues – Key areas of conflict that must be understood in order to achieve the intended outcome:
 - A. Personal and professional ethical behavior
 - B. Ethical business practice
- III. Concepts – Key concepts that must be understood to address the issues:
 - A. Personal & professional ethics
- IV. Skills/Competencies – Actions that are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
 - A. Demonstrate massage therapy ethical standards within and outside of the classroom
 - B. Demonstrate problem solving ability through simulated role play scenarios

Learning Units

- I. Professional and ethical Issues
 - A. Examine ethical principles and boundaries
 - B. Incorporate dynamics of effective communication
 - C. Explore the concept of dual relationships, sex/touch and intimacy, and trauma cases
 - D. Develop skills in ethical practice, management and business ethics
 - E. Patient's rights
 - F. Develop massage therapy code of ethics
 - G. Identify collaborative relationships with health care and community

Learning Activities

Independent and collaborative learning activities will be assigned to assist students in achieving the intended learning outcomes. Learning activities will be geared toward practices that would be useful in professional practice. The learning activities will emphasize the importance of program competencies and professional standards in massage therapy business and practice. Examples of activities which contribute to the learning process include instructor lectures, class discussions, panel discussions, audio-visual aids, films followed by group discussion, guest speakers, daily exercises, reading assignments, handouts, study guides, campus laboratory experience and individual conferences with the instructor. These methods and other methods deemed suitable may be used individually or in combination by all instructors.

Grade Determination

The student will be graded on the completion of learning activities and assessment tasks. Grade determinants may include the following: daily work, tests, both essay and objective (including quizzes, chapter or unit tests, and comprehensive examinations), writing assignments, research papers, projects, presentations, class participation, skills demonstration, and other methods of evaluation employed at the discretion of the individual instructor. These methods may be used individually or in combination by all instructors. A minimum grade of C must be achieved to continue in the Massage Therapy Program.