



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

SO223

**ETHICS, POLICY AND PROFESSIONAL ISSUES
IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES**

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

Unit code	SO223														
Unit name	Ethics, Policy and Professional Issues in the Social Sciences														
Associated higher education awards	Bachelor of Applied Social Science														
Duration	One semester														
Level	Intermediate														
Core/Elective	Core														
Weighting	Unit credit points: 10 Course credit points: 240														
Student workload	<p><i>Face-to-face on site</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Contact hours</td> <td>39 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reading, study, and preparation</td> <td>59 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assignment preparation</td> <td>52 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>150 hours</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>External</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Engagement with study materials</td> <td>90 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assignment preparation</td> <td>60 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>150 hours</td> </tr> </table> <p>Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.</p>	Contact hours	39 hours	Reading, study, and preparation	59 hours	Assignment preparation	52 hours	TOTAL	150 hours	Engagement with study materials	90 hours	Assignment preparation	60 hours	TOTAL	150 hours
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Delivery mode	Face-to-face on site External														
Prerequisites/ Corequisites/ Restrictions	<i>Prerequisites</i> 40 credit points of Social Sciences units, including SO115 Introduction to Applied Social Science Contexts														
Rationale	<p>The field of applied social sciences is a profession that inherently works with people, bringing with them the possibility of a variety of ethical issues. It is essential, therefore, for social sciences students to possess frameworks with which to engage key ethical decisions and dilemmas. Students are required to have a good grasp of applicable ethical frameworks, legal and compliance issues, policies, key ethical principles and decision making models that will aid them to competently engage with complex ethical considerations and dilemmas and achieve well-founded ethical decisions in their professional practice.</p> <p>In addition, professional issues including membership of professional bodies and organisations, industry standards, professional networking, professional development and self-care for the Applied Social Sciences practitioner will be discussed.</p>														
Prescribed text(s)	Corey, G., Corey, M.S., & Callanan, P. (2010). <i>Issues and ethics in the helping professions</i> (8th ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole.														

Recommended readings	Books <p>Carrol, Michael. (2013). <i>Ethical maturity in the helping professions: Making difficult life and work decisions</i>. London, UK: Jessica Kingsley.</p> <p>Pope, K., & Vasquez, M. (2011). <i>Ethics in psychotherapy and counseling: A practical guide</i> (4th ed.). San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.</p> <p>Welfel, E. (2012). <i>Ethics in counseling and psychotherapy</i>. Sydney, NSW, Australia: Brooks Cole.</p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011 (NIV 2011) or The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV).</p> <p>These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at http://www.biblegateway.com. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
Specialist resource requirements	Nil
Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. History of ethics; identifying personal values/Christian values, and challenging practice dilemmas 2. Initial ethical frameworks; ethical principles underpinning applied social sciences practice 3. Multicultural considerations 4. Government legislation 5. Industry specific policies and procedures, codes of ethics and codes of conduct 6. Confidentiality and informed consent, assessing, reporting, and record keeping; multiple relationships 7. Managing grievances 8. Decision making models for engaging ethical dilemmas 9. Principles and processes of influencing policy development and implementation 10. Supervision and self-care 11. Professional issues including professional organisations, professional development, industry standards, networking 12. Integrating learnings for personal professional frameworks 13. Lifelong development of ethical integrity
Learning outcomes	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have demonstrated that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. defined their own personal values and how these may impact professional practice; 2. analysed the major ethical principles and frameworks that underpin applied social sciences practice; 3. critically analysed and reflected on the major policies related to the practice of applied social sciences in Australia and processes involved in their development; 4. identified and reflected on important ethical issues related to professional practice; 5. reflected on ethical and policy principles from a distinctively Christian perspective; and 6. communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammars, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing, and presentation.
Assessment tasks	<p>Task 1: Reflective Essay</p> <p>Write an essay reflecting on one topic of ethical relevance considering your own values and desired practices, client considerations, and a Christian perspective on the topic.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 1,500 words</p> <p>Weighting: 30%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-2, 4-6</p> <p>Assessed: Week 6</p>

	<p>Task 2: Case Study Report</p> <p>Choose one of the case studies from the four case studies provided. Identify the legal and ethical issues present in the case study, and a process for managing any ethical issues that are apparent in the case.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 2,000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 40%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 2-6</p> <p>Assessed: Week 10</p> <p>Task 3: Professional Framework</p> <p>Develop and define your own professional framework explaining your own current ethical framework developed from this unit for your particular context.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 1,800 words</p> <p>Weighting: 30%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 4-6</p> <p>Assessed: Week 13</p>
Unit summary	<p>This unit focuses on the ethical issues that an applied social sciences practitioner may encounter in their professional practice, and is designed to equip the student with industry knowledge and resources to manage such dilemmas.</p>

SAMPLE