

**Common Course Outline**  
**CMDP 213**  
**Ethics in Chemical Dependency Counseling**  
1 credit hour

**The Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**Ethics in Chemical Dependency Counseling**

Introduces issues in the chemical dependency counseling field including professional codes of ethics, values underlying codes of ethics in the helping professions, client confidentiality, professional impairment, licensing and certification; focuses on process of ethical decision making for addictions professionals.

Prerequisite: CMDP 102.

**Overall Course Objectives.**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Define professional ethics.
2. Identify at least two professional codes of Ethics in the CDC field.
3. Define ethics, morals and values and describe the relationship between these concepts.
4. Identify the four common values that underlie codes of ethics in most helping professions.
5. Identify the confidentiality issues in the CDC field, and show a working knowledge of the laws and regulations governing disclosure of client information, as well as the ethical dilemmas that might be presented in the area of patient confidentiality.
6. State the steps involved in an ethical decision making model.
7. Apply ethical principles and the ethical decision making model to a series of case studies given in class, and work with classmates to determine preferred outcome(s) of the case studies.
8. Discuss the special ethical issues inherent in the chemical dependency counseling field, e.g. need for supervision, professional impairment and credentialing.

**Major Topics**

Why study Ethics?

Ethics, values and morals.

Underlying values in the ethics of helping

What is different about addictions counseling?

NAADAC Code of Ethics./Board of Professional Counselors Code

Patient Rights and Confidentiality

Competence and Credentialing

Ethical Decision Making: A model

Personal Values and Professional Ethics

Patient exploitation

Economics

Case Studies in Ethics of Addictions Counseling

**Course Requirements**

Grading/Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

1. Attendance and participation
2. Two written (2-4 page) assignments
3. Small Group applications of case studies

**Other Course Information**

This course is a program requirement for the Chemical Dependency Counseling degree and certificate programs.