

PSY-570 Final Project Guidelines and Rubric

Overview

The final project for this course is the creation of a case study analysis. The final product represents an authentic demonstration of competency. This competency is shown by the development of specific skill sets including: case study identification, understanding ethical conflict in a psychology-related work settings, increased knowledge in the origin and rationale for ethics orientation in the psychology profession, specific knowledge of the core ethical principles that govern professional behavior, an overview of specific standards as they apply to sub-specialties in psychology, a practical model for ethical decision making, and consideration of alternative decision-making models. The project is divided into **four milestones**, which will be submitted at various points throughout the course to scaffold learning and ensure quality final submissions. These milestones will be submitted in **Modules Two, Three, Five, and Seven**. The final product will be submitted in **Module Nine**.

By understanding the ethical principles of the psychology profession, you will learn how to inform your decision making when it comes to protecting and serving the populations we serve. It is also important that the contemporary psychologist be able to address issues that are unique to our time. Some of these challenges ask us to reconsider ethical frameworks and to be more precise in the language we use to define ethical decision making. This course allows you to explore and apply important ethical concepts to potential situations. These skills are essential for proper behavior in the psychology profession.

This assessment addresses the following course outcomes:

- Assess the impact of the current and emerging ethical codes on the practice of psychology for their influence in developing ethical decision-making strategies
- Assess the influence of culture and social orientations on the development and practice of ethical standards of conduct for consideration when developing ethical strategies
- Distinguish between ethically supported and ethically unsupported strategies for resolving ethical dilemmas in practice
- Develop strategies for incorporating empathy for diverse perspectives into ethically responsible practices
- Develop strategies for evaluating and resolving ethical dilemmas that integrate ethical decision-making models

Prompt

The summative assignment for this course is a case study analysis. The case study is one way for you to showcase the skill sets you have learned in this course coupled with your area of professional interest. You will choose a case study from a pre-determined list. You should choose a case study that is relevant to your concentration and/or a particular career field in which you are interested in working. You will utilize codes of ethics pertinent to your chosen area of interest in psychology to approach this case study analysis. You will develop an ethical strategy for addressing the ethical issues present in your case study and analyze your strategy for how it relates to important ethical concepts in psychology. Your case study choice, including the ethical conflict in the case study will be submitted once for peer and instructor review, and then be resubmitted as a developing case study analysis in Modules Three, Five and Seven following feedback that incorporates suggestions.

Specifically, the following **critical elements** must be addressed:

- I. **Introduction:** For this part of the assessment, begin your case study analysis by examining the many factors that influence codes of ethics in psychology.
 - A. **Summarize** the chosen case study. Be sure to include the important people and key interactions in the case study. This will be used later in your analysis.

- B. Assess **culture** and social orientation and their influence on ethical behavior and the existing codes of conduct. Be sure to provide examples to support your claims.
- C. Assess how **interactions** between the important roles (client, psychologist, researcher, participant, etc.) in psychology are influenced by culture and social orientation and how that influence informs ethical conduct in psychology.
- D. When making ethical decisions in your chosen area of concentration, how would you go about deciding whether or not an ethical strategy is **supported or unsupported**? In other words, what criteria should professionals in your selected concentration or area of interest use to determine which opinions on ethics to consider in shaping their response to the particular situation?
- E. How do **contemporary problems** impact the need for reconsidering supported opinions on ethics in your concentration or chosen area of interest in psychology? Be sure to provide examples to support your claims.

II. **Ethical Analysis:** For this part of the assessment, use the Eight Step Ethical Decision Making Model to show how you would resolve the conflicts or ethical issues in your case study.

- A. Describe the **ethical issues** in your chosen ethical scenario and relate the issues to the important people identified previously. You might consider the following: What are the questions you wish to answer and the ethical issue that must be addressed?
- B. Develop an **ethical strategy** using an Eight Step analysis to address the ethical issues and which could be applied to the chosen scenario. Be sure to explain how your ethical strategy follows supported ethical guidelines. You might consider the following: What series of steps would you take to address the issue? What ethical principles and standards inform this strategy?
- C. Assess how your strategy differs with an **opposing ethical strategy** that could be used to address this situation and justify why your strategy would be more preferable. Be sure to explain whether or not the opposing strategy follows supported ethical guidelines. You might consider the following: What other principles or standards could be implemented? What counter arguments may arise in response to your strategy? How would you answer them?
- D. Assess your strategy for how it addresses ethical problems associated with **multiple-role relationship issues**. You might consider the following: Does your strategy consider the appropriateness of the different relationships psychologists can have with clients?
- E. Assess your strategy for how it addresses ethical problems associated with **multicultural competence issues**. You might consider the following: Does your strategy consider issues of diversity and culture with regard to your chosen ethical issue?
- F. Assess your strategy for your chosen ethical scenario for how it aligns with current and emerging ethical **codes** in your chosen area of interest on the practice of psychology in your concentration or area of interest. You might consider the following: How does your strategy follow more modern opinions on ethics? How does your strategy reflect that ethics in psychology is not stagnant?

III. **Conclusion:** For this part of the assessment, develop a conclusion explaining the different influences on your own strategy. Be sure to incorporate peer and instructor feedback you have received in order to properly reflect on your strategy.

- A. Explain the influence of **culture and social orientation** on the development of your ethical strategy. You might consider the following: What cultural implications did you feel you had to consider when developing your strategy?
- B. Explain the influence of **diversity and equality** on the development of your ethical strategy. You might consider the following: What issues of diversity and equality were in the ethical scenario, and how were they addressed? How did this influence your thought process and decisions while developing your ethical strategy?
- C. Explain how **controversial issues** in ethics have shaped emerging ideas in ethics. Be sure to provide your thoughts on this and how the development of your strategy was or was not influenced by controversial issues. You might consider the following: Did you follow a strictly traditional model, or did you use a more modern approach? How did this influence your thought process and decisions while developing your ethical strategy?

- D. Explain how your strategy could be changed to further address **issues of multiple-role relationships** and justify your claims. In what ways does your strategy lack in its consideration of multiple-role relationships?
- E. Explain how your strategy could be changed to further address **issues of multicultural competence** and justify your claims. In what ways does your strategy lack in its consideration of multicultural competence?
- F. Develop a **conclusion** summarizing your ethical strategy and how you believe it could be implemented to solve the chosen ethical scenario.

Milestones

Milestone One: Case Study Selection

In **Module Two**, you will read through the set of case studies from our course text, *Ethics in Psychology and the Mental Health Professions: Standards and Cases*, and select a case study in your area of interest to analyze for your final project, the Case Study Analysis. The case studies, divided according to specialties (Child and Adolescent Development, Industrial Organizational, and Forensics), are found as an attachment in Module Two Resources. In the Case Study Selection journal, identify your selected case study, describe your interest in the case, and discuss what you hope to learn from completing the final project. **This milestone will be graded with the Milestone One Rubric.**

Milestone Two: Case Study Analysis Outline

Milestone Two is your opportunity to produce an outline of your final case study analysis. In **Module Three**, you will identify the ethical conflict in the study. Note if there is one or more than one conflict. Clearly express what the conflict is. Form the basics of an outline for the entire paper. You don't need to fill in all the required areas at this time, but you do need a working outline of your final project. You will return to this outline throughout this course and continue to fill in the blanks. Typically the outline will include the following:

1. Title Page
2. Case Study Abstract
3. Detailed Case Study Description
4. The Ethical Conflict
5. The APA Code of Ethics Principles
 - a. List all five principles
6. The APA Code of Ethics Standards
7. List those that might apply in your case study dilemma
8. Statement of Culture and Social Orientations in the Case Study
9. Statement of Dual Relationships or Multiple Relationship Issues in the Study
10. The Ethical Decision-Making Model (Eight Step Model)
 - a. List the steps
11. An Alternative Decision-Making Model
 - a. List one or more
12. Summary and Conclusion

You are required to address at least the first Four Elements (title page, case study abstract, the detailed case study description, and the ethical conflict) for Milestone One. **This milestone will be graded with the Milestone Two Rubric.**



Milestone Three: Applying the APA Code of Ethics Five Principles and Exploring Ethical Standards

In **Module Five**, you will apply the APA Code of Ethics to your case study. In order to understand how your ethical conflict in your case study is in conflict with ethics you will need to understand the ethical code. We use the APA Code for the psychology professions. In your text you will find several ethical codes used in psychology detailed in the back of the book. The APA Code elements are found within all of the other codes of conduct.

For your Milestone Two paper you will go back to your outline and now explain the five general guiding ethical principles found within the APA Code of Ethics. List them and explain them in an organized fashion. Then explain which principles are at question in your case study. Next note the specific standards along with their numerical codes that apply to your case study conflict. All of the standards are found in the APA Code of Ethics in the textbook at the end or by using the class resource PDF, APA Code of Ethics. Lastly, make a statement about the cultural and social considerations in your case. All cases have considerations of this kind, but they may be less obvious in some case studies. **This milestone will be graded with the Milestone Three Rubric.**

Milestone Four: The Ethical Decision-Making Process, Alternative Considerations, Diversity Issues, Dual Relationships, and Multiple-role Relationships.

In **Module Seven**, you will return to your outline once again. Your goal with this milestone is to list the eight-step ethical decision-making model, to provide an alternative or opposing model of decision-making that you discuss, and to put your case study conflict through the decision-making eight-step model. Be comprehensive about your decision-making. Address whether or not dual relationships or multiple-role relationships were present in your case study. If they are present please detail their importance in problem-solving a dilemma. If they are not present provide a statement that shows you understand what these standards are and their importance in all psychology disciplines. Provide a paragraph that details how you considered diversity issues, social concerns, multi-cultural considerations, and equality in your problem solving of an ethics dilemma. **This milestone will be graded with the Milestone Three Rubric.**

Final Submission: Case Study Analysis

In **Module Nine** you will submit your final project. It should be a complete, polished artifact containing **all** of the critical elements of the final product. It should reflect the incorporation of feedback gained throughout the course. **This submission will be graded with the Final Product Rubric.**

Deliverables

Milestone	Deliverable	Module Due	Grading
1	Case Study Selection	2	Graded separately; Milestone One Rubric
2	The Case Study Analysis Outline	3	Graded separately; Milestone Two Rubric
3	Applying the APA Code of Ethics Five Principles and Exploring Ethical Standards	5	Graded separately; Milestone Three Rubric
4	The Ethical Decision-Making Process, Alternative Considerations, Diversity Issues, Dual Relationships, and Multiple-role Relationships	7	Graded separately; Milestone Four Rubric
	Case Study Analysis	9	Graded separately; Final Product Rubric

Final Product Rubric

Guidelines for Submission: The case study analysis paper should be 8-10 pages, double-spaced, using 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and discipline-appropriate APA citations.

Critical Elements	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (90%)	Needs Improvement (70%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Introduction: Summary	Meets “Proficient” criteria and uses industry-specific language to establish expertise	Comprehensively summarizes the chosen scenario, the important people, and the important interactions present in the case study	Summarizes the chosen scenario, the important people, and the important interactions present in the case study but is lacking in detail or breadth	Does not summarize the chosen scenario, the important people, and the important interactions present in the case study	4
Introduction: Culture	Meets “Proficient” criteria and offers keen insight into the influence of culture and social orientation on ethical behavior	Assesses the influence of culture and social orientation on ethical behavior and adherence to codes of conduct	Assesses the influence of culture and social orientation on ethical behavior and adherence to codes of conduct but examination lacks depth or detail	Does not assess the influence of culture and social orientation on ethical behavior and adherence to codes of conduct	6
Introduction: Interactions	Meets “Proficient” criteria and offers keen insight into the interactions between important roles in psychology	Assesses how interactions between different roles in psychology affects the cultural development of ethical practice	Assesses how interactions between different roles in psychology affects the cultural development of ethical practice	Does not assess interactions between different roles in psychology affects the cultural development of ethical practice	6

			practice but examination lacks depth or detail		
Introduction: Supported or Unsupported	Meets “Proficient” criteria and clearly articulates how the opinions on ethics relate to the area of interest	Distinguishes between supported and unsupported opinions on ethics for resolving ethical dilemmas in area of interest	Identifies supported and unsupported opinions on ethics for resolving ethical dilemmas in area of interest but does not differentiate between them	Does not distinguish supported and unsupported opinions on ethics for resolving ethical dilemmas in area of interest	6
Introduction: Contemporary Problems	Meets “Proficient” criteria and offers keen insight into the impact of contemporary problems on the reconsideration of supported opinions on ethics	Assesses the impact of contemporary problems on the reconsideration of supported opinions on ethics in area of interest	Assesses the impact of contemporary problems influencing the reconsideration of supported opinions on ethics but examination lacks depth or does not connect to the area of interest	Does not assess the impact of contemporary problems influencing the reconsideration of supported opinions on ethics	6
Ethical Analysis: Ethical Issues	Meets “Proficient” criteria and described ethical issues encompass a variety of types of ethical dilemmas	Describes the ethical issues and potential questions and how the important people in the case study relate to the ethical issues	Describes the ethical issues and potential questions and how the important people in the case study relate to the ethical issues but description lacks depth or detail	Does not describe the ethical issues and potential questions and the important people in the case study	6
Ethical Analysis: Ethical Strategy	Meets “Proficient” criteria and uses industry-specific language to establish expertise	Develops an ethical strategy using Eight Step analysis and explains how the strategy follows supported ethical guidelines	Develops an ethical strategy but does not use Eight Step analysis or does not explain how it follows supported ethical guidelines	Does not develop an ethical strategy using Eight Step analysis	6
Ethical Analysis: Opposing Ethical Strategy	Meets “Proficient” criteria and justification acknowledges counter arguments and the relationship between the arguments and strategy presented	Justifies why developed strategy is more preferable than an opposing strategy	Explains how developed strategy would be more preferable than an opposing strategy but does not justify claims	Does not explain how strategy would be more preferable than an opposing ethical strategy	6
Ethical Analysis: Multiple-Role Relationship Issues	Meets “Proficient” criteria and offers keen insight into how the strategy addresses issues with multiple-role relationships	Assesses strategy for how it addresses ethical problems associated with multiple-role relationships	Assesses strategy for how it addresses ethical problems associated with multiple-role relationships but examination lacks depth or detail	Does not assess strategy for how it addresses ethical problems associated with multiple-role relationships	6
Ethical Analysis: Multicultural Competence Issues	Meets “Proficient” criteria and offers keen insight into how the strategy addresses issues with multicultural competence and	Assesses strategy for how it addresses ethical problems associated with multicultural competence and social	Assesses strategy for how it addresses ethical problems associated with multicultural	Does not assess strategy for how it addresses ethical problems associated with multicultural competence	6

	social awareness and competence	orientation awareness and competence	competence but examination lacks depth or detail		
Ethical Analysis: Codes	Meets “Proficient” criteria and provides cogent reasoning with regard to how current and emerging ethical codes shape ethical decision making in area of interest	Assesses strategy for how it aligns with current and emerging ethical codes in area of interest	Assesses strategy for how it aligns with current and emerging ethical codes in area of interest but examination lacks depth or detail	Does not assess strategy for how it aligns with current and emerging ethical codes in area of interest	6
Conclusion: Culture and Social Orientation	Meets “Proficient” criteria and provides cogent reasoning with regard to the influence of culture and social orientation on ethical strategies	Explains the influence of culture and social orientation on the development of ethical strategy	Explains the influence of culture and social orientation on the development of ethical strategy, but discussion lacks detail or depth	Does not explain the influence of culture and social orientation on the development of ethical strategy	6
Conclusion: Diversity and Equality	Meets “Proficient” criteria and provides cogent reasoning with regard to the influence of diversity and equality on ethical strategy	Explains the influence of diversity and equality on the development of ethical strategy	Explains the influence of diversity and equality on the development of ethical strategy but discussion lacks detail or depth	Does not explain the influence of diversity and equality on the development of ethical strategy	6
Conclusion: Controversial Issues	Meets “Proficient” criteria and provides cogent reasoning with regard to the influence of controversial issues on the development of ethical strategies	Explains how ethical controversies shape ethical frameworks and how they influenced or did not influence development of strategy with regard to emerging ideas in ethics	Explains how ethical controversies shape ethical frameworks and how they influenced or did not influence development of strategy with regard to emerging ideas in ethics but lacks detail or depth	Does not explain how ethical controversies shape ethical frameworks and how they influenced or did not influence development of strategy with regard to emerging ideas	6
Ethical Analysis: Issues of Multiple-Role Relationship	Meets “Proficient” criteria and clearly articulates elements of strategy that are lacking	Justifies how your strategy could be changed to further address issues of multiple-role relationships	Explains how your strategy could be changed to further address issues of multiple-role relationships but does not justify claims	Does not explain how your strategy could be changed to further address issues of multiple-role relationships	6
Ethical Analysis: Issues of Multicultural Competence	Meets “Proficient” criteria and clearly articulates elements of strategy that are lacking	Justifies how strategy could be changed to further address issues of multicultural competence	Explains how strategy could be changed to further address issues of multicultural competence but does not justify claims	Does not explain how strategy could be changed to further address issues of multicultural competence	6
Conclusion: Conclusion	Meets “Proficient” criteria and uses industry-specific language to establish expertise	Comprehensively summarizes your ethical strategy and discusses how it could be implemented to address the scenario	Summarizes ethical strategy and discusses how it could be implemented to address the scenario, but is lacking in breadth or detail	Does not provide a summary of ethical strategy	4

Articulation of Response	Submission is free of errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, and organization and is presented in a professional and easy to read format with language that is appropriate to the intended audience	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, organization or audience-appropriate terminology	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, organization, or audience-appropriate language that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, organization, or audience-specific language that prevent understanding of ideas	2
Earned Total					100%