



PSY 570 Module One Short Paper Guidelines and Rubric

Prompt: The four short paper assignments in this course provide you with an opportunity to explore course concepts to develop your own ideas about ethics in psychology. In this short paper, you will identify and discuss **one** common reason for unethical decision making among practicing psychology professionals in your chosen field of psychology. Such reasons include:

- Incompetence
- Ignorance
- Misinformation
- Irresponsibility
- Vengeance
- Lack of boundaries
- Tendency to overshare

Once you have established a reason why unethical decision making may occur in your chosen field of psychology, you will identify and discuss **one** condition under which a professional is more vulnerable to making an unethical decision. Such conditions include:

- Inadequate anticipation
- Unavoidable dilemma
- Inadequate sources of guidance
- Loyalty conflicts
- Conflicting ethical principles
- Conflicting legal and ethical responsibilities

After identifying and discussing one reason and one condition for unethical decision making, you will find three research articles from the [Shapiro Library](#) to further investigate this reason and condition. From your research you will identify a problem of practice at the root of the reason and a problem of practice at the root of the condition. Based on your research, you will propose a strategy to resolve each problem of practice.

Guidelines for Submission: Your paper must be submitted as a 2–3 page Microsoft Word document with double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and at least three sources cited in APA format.

Rubric

Critical Elements	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (90%)	Needs Improvement (70%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Reasons for Unethical Decision Making	Meets “Proficient” criteria and illustrates reason with example(s)	Identifies and discusses reason for unethical decision making among professionals in the field of psychology	Identifies but does not discuss reason for unethical decision making among professionals in the field of psychology	Does not identify or discuss reason for unethical decision making among professionals in the field of psychology	25
Risk Conditions for Unethical Decision Making	Meets “Proficient” criteria and suggests strategies to work around these conditions	Identifies conditions that place a professional at risk for unethical decision making and explains how they encourage unethical decision making	Identifies conditions that place a professional at risk for unethical decision making but does not explain why they encourage unethical decision making	Does not identify conditions that place a professional at risk for unethical decision making	25
Problem of Practice	Meets “Proficient” criteria and offers insights for chosen professional field	Describes a problem of practice from reasons and risk conditions for unethical decision making	Does not describe a problem of practice from reasons and risk conditions for unethical decision making	Does not identify a problem of practice from reasons and risk conditions for unethical decision making	15
Research	Meets “Proficient” criteria and discusses applications of resources for remediating or preventing the problem	Includes at least three scholarly resources and explains problem of practice’s origin	Includes at least three scholarly resources but does not explain problem of practice’s origin	Does not include at least three scholarly resources	15
Professional Field	Meets “Proficient” criteria and provides examples of how content relates to chosen field	Discusses how content of short paper connects to chosen professional field	Discusses how content of short paper connects to chosen professional field	Does not discuss how content of short paper connects to chosen professional field	10
APA Writing	No errors related to APA organization, grammar, style, and citations	Minor errors related to APA organization, grammar, style, and citations	Some errors related to APA organization, grammar, style, and citations	Major APA errors related to organization, grammar, style, and citations	10
Earned Total					100%