Course Syllabus

Jump to Today ✎ Edit

College of Health Sciences | MA in Clinical Counseling

PSY6011: Professional Ethics and Law

3 Units

Fall 2026 | Quad 1

August 31 - October 25

In-Person

Meeting Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Meeting Times: 5:30 PM – 8:15 PM

Meeting Location: Mission Valley Campus, Room 303

Final Exam: (Day/Time): N/A

Instructor: Dan Jenkins

Email: DJenkins@pointloma.edu (mailto:DJenkins@pointloma.edu)

Phone: 619.347.3457

Office Location and Hours:

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Course Description

Professional ethics and laws that apply to the counseling profession are identified and discussed. These include ethical, legal, and biblical standards for conduct, professional organizations, licensure, and developing a plan for lifelong professional and personal development with integrity.

Although professional counselors need to operate under a personal and professional code of ethics, often these guidelines leave many questions unanswered. No single universally “right" answer exists for most ethical dilemmas. Rather than arrive at one answer, it is important to learn how to think through ethical issues in a systematic manner.

Course Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, you should be able to:

1. Explain the history of the counseling movement.
2. Identify the roles and responsibilities of a professional clinical counselor and marriage and family therapist.
3. Examine the role of ethics and values in the counseling process.
4. Evaluate counseling situations based on professional ethical standards and Biblical standards.
5. Understand the licensure processes for the professional clinical counselor and the marriage and family therapist.
6. Make a professional clinical presentation.
7. Delineate the effects of counseling on their person and strategies for managing the effects.
8. Begin to develop a professional identity and its associated responsibilities based on the student’s chosen emphasis.
9. Develop a plan for obtaining professional employment.
10. Understand and explain issues of collaboration with other professionals in diverse settings as they apply to the student’s chosen emphasis.

Program Learning Outcomes

The educational goals of Point Loma Nazarene University's ***Masters of Arts in Clinical Counseling (MACC)*** are to develop graduate students and clinicians who are:

1. competent clinicians and professionals that practice from a wide-range of clinically valuable and research-based approaches;
2. able to cultivate self-awareness and apply professional ethics to the practice of clinical counseling; and,
3. providing services that are respectful of individuals and families as well as the cultural contexts that shape them, particularly focusing on those who are underserved.

PLO 1: Demonstrate competent application of theoretical models and research-based clinical interventions to therapeutic work with individuals, couples, groups and/or families

Competency 1: Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of theories, principles, and practices relevant to clinical counseling, particularly across the lifespan and in family systems.

Competency 2: Utilize assessment tools effectively to diagnose, develop treatment plans, and monitor progress.

Competency 3: Apply clinical knowledge by effectively implementing theory-informed intervention with individuals, couples, groups, and families.

Competency 4: Evaluate and apply relevant research to the practice of clinical counseling.

PLO 2: Develop and apply self-awareness and professional ethics to the practice of clinical counseling.

Competency 1: Demonstrate knowledge of the ACA/AAMFT code of ethics and identify ethical issues when they arise with clients

Competency 2: Demonstrate awareness and effective use of self in the therapeutic process

Competency 3: Develop personal characteristics that enhance professional competence, most importantly effective communication, empathy, boundaries, self-awareness, and respect for others

PLO 3: Demonstrate competence in working with clients from diverse backgrounds, particularly in settings where sociocultural factors influence treatment and there is limited access to care.

Competency 1: Integrate contextual factors, apply multicultural theories, and modify treatment approaches to effectively work with diverse client populations.

Competency 2: Demonstrate awareness of how personal values, beliefs, and sociocultural context impact work with clients.

Competency 3: Attend to the spiritual dimensions of clients and apply faith integration processes as clinically appropriate.

Institutional Learning Outcomes

1. **Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ**
   Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits of the mind that foster lifelong learning.
2. **Growing, in a Christ-centered Faith Community**
   Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of others as they negotiate complex professional, environmental, and social contexts.
3. **Serving, in a Context of Christian Faith**
   Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings.

Required Texts and Recommended Study Resources

Caldwell, Benjamin. (2026). *Basics of California Law for LMFTs, LPCCs, and LCSWs*, 12th Edition. ISBN 979-8987461716.

Corey, G., Corey, M., Corey, C., & Callanan, P. (2019). *Issues and Ethics in the Helping Professions* (with CourseMate), 10th Edition. Stamford, CT: Cengage.

Kottler, J. (2022). *On Being a Therapist*, 6th Edition. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

***NOTE:** Students are responsible for having the required course textbooks prior to the first day of class. Students are also encouraged to begin reading the books in preparation for the class as soon as possible.*

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law. All supplemental materials posted on this course site (including articles, book excerpts, or other documents) are provided for your personal academic use. These materials may be protected by copyright law and should not be duplicated or distributed without permission of the copyright owner.

Course Credit Hour Information

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3-unit class delivered over 8 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

Estimated Time to Complete Course

Assignments with Point Values			
Assignments	**Pre-Course Hours**	**Course Hours**	**Post-Course Hours**
Face-to-Face Class Sessions		40	
Online Participation in Forums, Groups, etc.	5		5
Reading	10	5	10
Writing		10	20
Other Assignments and Learning Activities	5	5	5
Exams and Quizzes	4	5	5
	24	65	45
TOTAL HOURS			134

Assessment and Grading

1. ***Academic Honesty Verification:*** Students will complete the verification prior to gaining access to the first module.
2. ***Therapist Mentor:*** All students in PSY6011 will meet with a "Therapist Mentor" at least twice during their quad/semester. The mentor will need to confirm by email that they have met with you on at least two occasions. This assignment can be completed anytime within the course time frame. Mentors need to be either licensed or associate therapists who actively practice psychotherapy.
3. ***Interview Questions:*** Please join this discussion by creating several questions that you would like to ask a licensed LMFT and a licensed LPCC. This will be like a brainstorming session and all posted questions will be considered for inclusion but not all will be included in the final selection. Post your questions prior to class on Thursday so that we can talk through these ideas.
4. ***Canvas Journal Questions:*** The course text and lecture materials have been supplemented with questions designed to personalize the material covered in class. It is expected that course material will be read before the scheduled lecture so that informed and lively discussion may be the primary focus of class meetings. Journal questions may also be utilized for class discussion, so please attempt to complete your thoughtful responses prior to class. (Due: As specified in Canvas)

5. ***Reflection Paper:*** Write a reflection paper for *On Being a Therapist*. Some things you might include are: how the reading has shaped your ideas of counseling and counselors, maintaining a balanced life, and self-care. Since these are your reflections, you may use first person in this paper.
6. ***Informed Consent Form:*** Based on class discussions and the reading, students will develop an Information and Consent form suitable for use with clients. Please write it from the perspective of a licensed practitioner. 2-5 pages.
7. ***Four Exams:*** Exams will be objective and include multiple-choice as well as essay. They will not be cumulative. Exams will include assigned reading and lecture material. (Due: As specified in Canvas)
8. ***Professional Presentation on ACA Code of Ethics:*** (Due: At time of presentation)
9. ***California Law Take Home Exam:*** Students will complete the California Law Take Home Exam.
10. ***Self Assessment:*** Students will take a self-assessment in the class.
11. ***Attendance and Participation***: Class participation is necessary to demonstrate familiarity with the assignments and the ability to transfer theory into practice. The following criteria will be used to evaluate participation:
    - Participation in discussions
    - Appropriateness of comments
    - Comments useful for clarification or meaningful contribution to the class
    - Willingness to participate in exercises and simulations
    - Sensitivity to the participation of others in the class; avoids dominating discussions
    - Class participation demonstrates understanding of the learned theory
12. ***Seminar Attendance (Extra credit option):*** Students can attend at least a ½ day counseling seminar (minimum 3 hours) and write a 1-2 page reaction paper. Include in the reaction paper a brief summary of the conference, how effective you felt this seminar was in the professional development of participants, and what you gained from it. Please include a title page and an abstract reference page.

APA Papers

All papers written in the Grad Counseling program should be in APA style. Here are some helpful websites to help you write and format your paper:

- **APA Style Essentials - Prof. Degelman Vanguard University (https://www.vanguard.edu/uploaded/research/apa_style_guide/apastyleessentials.pdf)**
- **Psychology with Style: A Hypertext Writing Guide (https://www4.uwsp.edu/psych/mp/apa/apa4bs.htm)**
- **The OWL at Purdue: APA Style (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/)**

All papers should include the following sections unless indicated otherwise:

1. Title page
2. Abstract
3. Main body with headings
4. Reference page

Please check the *APA Manual* or the websites for further formatting helps.

Course Assignments

Assignments with Point Values	
Assignments	**Points**
Therapist Mentor	50
Interview Questions	30
Canvas Journal Questions (7 @ 10 pts ea.)	70
Reflection Paper on Kottler	75
Chapter 1 Self Assessment	15
Scope of Practice	25
ACA Presentation	30
Informed Consent Form	50
Examinations (4 @ 100 pts ea.)	400
CA Law Take Home Exam	100
Mock Licensing Exam	52
License Application	75
Academic Honesty Verification	5
Attendance and Professionalism	108
TOTAL	1085

Grading Scale

The following grading scale will be used for all exams and final course grades:

- 93 – 100% = A
- 90 – 92% = A-
- 87 – 89% = B+
- 83 – 86% = B
- 80 – 82% = B-
- 77 – 79% = C+

- 73 – 76% = C
- 70 – 72% = C-
- 67 – 69% = D+
- 63 – 66% = D
- 60 – 62% = D-
- 59% or lower = F

Students must achieve a minimum grade of B- to pass this class.

NOTE: It is your responsibility to maintain your class schedule. Should the need arise to drop this course (personal emergencies, poor performance, etc.); you have the responsibility to first contact the professor. Then if no accommodations can be made, you are responsible to follow through (provided the drop date meets the stated calendar deadline established by the University).

Ground Rules of the Course

Together, we will create a dynamic learning environment where:

1. Learning is challenging but safe
2. Learning is experiential and active
3. Communication is open . . . opposing viewpoints are welcomed
4. All are learners and all are teachers. . . we will learn from each other
5. Mistakes are okay. . . this is a no-guilt, no-blame zone
6. The point is to learn and grow. . . grades are a by-product and not the goal
7. Integrity and honesty are expected

Additional Course Policies

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

1. **Identity Fraud**
   Committing identity fraud is considered particularly serious and could have legal as well as institutional implications. Any student who has another individual impersonate or in any other way commit identity fraud in any course, assignment, exam, or any type of academic exercise will be permanently suspended from Point Loma.
2. **Final Examination Policy**
   Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the **Class Schedules (http://www.pointloma.edu/experience/academics/class-schedules)** site. No requests for early examinations will be approved.

3. **Participation**
   Your participation (think of this as 'contribution') in the course is monitored and graded. Your interaction with the course content, the instructor, fellow students, and the learning process directly influences your level of success in the course. You need to demonstrate that you have truly completed the assigned readings, shared what you learned from them, and demonstrate understanding and application of the concepts presented. Participation in the course will benefit your overall online experience as well as the experience of others in the course.
4. **Classroom Etiquette**
   Students are expected to actively engage in an adult learning environment. Behaviors that disrupt the classroom environment and interfere with the learning of others are prohibited. Examples include talking with other students during a presentation or when others are speaking, texting, gaming, internet browsing, or reading non-course related materials. All pagers, cellphones, and other electronic communication devices will be turned off at the beginning of class. Tablets and computers are allowed in class for note-taking purposes only, unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Arriving late and leaving early are strongly discouraged and disruptive to the class.
   Respect each person's opinions. Be considerate while your peers are speaking and actively engage them only when they have completed their point. Discourteous comments and side conversations will not be tolerated and will be addressed openly and directly by the instructor. Should a student's behavior become disruptive to the productivity of the course they will be asked to leave the classroom and not receive credit for attendance.
5. **University Catalog**
   For additional Point Loma policy items, review the latest **Point Loma Nazarene University Catalog (https://catalog.pointloma.edu/index.php)** .
6. **Accessibility of Historical Data in Point Loma Classes**
   PLNU strives to protect and preserve student data in accordance with FERPA laws. It is important for students and faculty to note that due to the nature of digital information, no data transmitted via emails or online learning management systems is entirely free from observation. The contents of this class, including the class discussion, may be monitored by PLNU faculty and staff at any time for the purposes of assisting students, gathering data, instructor training, or assessing the program.
7. **Confidentiality of Course Discussion and Assignments**
   Materials posted to the class discussion or to an assignment thread are for class use only. Students and faculty are to protect the confidentiality of all classroom materials and should never transmit any classroom materials without specific written permission of the person quoted and the instructor.

General Course Concerns

If you have a concern related to the content or structure of this course, please bring your concern(s) to me (the instructor) in a timely manner, so that we have the opportunity to discuss your thoughts and work together toward a solution.

Incompletes and Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted by the due dates.

- Assignments submitted up to 24 hours past the due date will be deducted 25% of the grade.
- Assignments submitted up to 48 hours past the due date will be deducted 50% of the grade.
- Any assignment turned in after 48 hours past the due date will receive no credit.

Students are encouraged to alert the professor if an assignment is anticipated to be late. Professors can extend these late penalties if arrangements are made in advance.

If missing assignments result in the failure to meet learning outcomes, you may receive a letter grade reduction on the final grade in addition to the loss of points for missing work. Assignments will be considered late if posted after the due date and time using Pacific Standard Time. No assignments will be accepted after midnight on Sunday night, the last day of class.

Exceptions for extenuating circumstances must be pre-approved by the instructor and the program director.

PLNU Spiritual Care

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end, we provide resources for our Graduate and Accelerated Undergraduate students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. We have onsite chaplains at our different campuses who may be available during class break times across the week. If you have questions or a desire to meet or share any prayer requests with our chaplains, you can find them at the **Chaplain's Page (https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/chaplains)** via myPLNU.

In addition, the Mission Valley and Balboa campuses have a prayer chapel for use as a space set apart for quiet reflection and prayer.

Student Success

The Center for Student Success supports our Graduate and Professional Studies students throughout their academic journey. We provide student services such as academic advising and planning, resource workshops, and connect students to career services, writing support, tutorial services, and wellness resources. The Center itself is located on the first floor of the Mission Valley Campus. If you have any questions about how to access resources at PLNU, please start by reaching out to the Center for Student Success **by email (mailto:studentsuccess@pointloma.edu)** or by phone at 619-563-2850. Please visit **myPLNU Student Success (https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/student-success-center)** for more details. If you are in the School of Education, please contact **SOE Advising (mailto:soeadvising@pointloma.edu)** .

State Authorization

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on **State Authorization (https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures)** to view which states allow distance education outside of California.

PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Recording Notification

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when, in reality, they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course.

For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the Universi Catalog. See **Graduate Academic and General Policies (https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.co -**

catalog/academic-general-policies/#text) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

During the first week of class, you will be asked to submit an Academic Honesty Verification Statement. Submitting the statement is a requirement of this course. By submitting the Academic Honesty Verification Statement, you will be verifying all assignments completed in this course were completed by you. Carefully review the Academic Honesty Statement below.

Statement: “In submitting this form, I am verifying all the assignments in this course will be completed by me and will be my own work.”

PLNU Academic Behavior Policy

Both faculty and students at Point Loma Nazarene University have the right to expect a safe and ordered environment for learning. Students are expected to take the initiative to learn and conduct themselves in a mature and civil manner in the classroom environment. Any student behavior that is disruptive or threatening is a serious affront to Point Loma Nazarene University as a learning community. Students who fail to adhere to these behavioral standards may be subject to disciplinary action, including removal from class or further university sanctions. For a full definition of disruptive behavior, response procedures, and the appeal process, please consult the **Academic Behavior Policy (https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/grad-catalog/academic-general-policies/#academicbehavior)** in the **University Catalog (https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/grad-catalog)**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

MLA Style Center: Citing Generative AI (https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/)

APA Style: How to Cite ChatGPT (https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt)

Chicago Manual of Style: Citing Content Developed or Generated by AI (https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/qanda/data/faq/topics/Documentation/faq0422.html)

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center on the PL campus, the first floor of the Balboa campus, and the second floor of the Mission Valley campus. For all students, including the Bakersfield campus, virtual appointments are available. You can reach the Educational Access Center (EAC) **by email (mailto:EAC@pointloma.edu)** or phone at 619-849-2533. Students can access both requests for and evidence of disability through the Accommodate link off the main page of **OneLogin (https://pointloma.onelogin.com/portal)**. Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines approved accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through **Accommodate (https://pointloma-accommodate.symplicity.com/)**.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their approved accommodations in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive; as such, clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability-related need should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. In accordance with ADA, accommodations cannot constitute a fundamental alteration to course outcomes; therefore, planning ahead is vital in establishing appropriate accommodations for equal access to this course. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC eligibility process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

Language and Belonging

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outsi[illegible]e

religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination, you can find more information on reporting and resources at **PLNU's Nondiscrimination webpage (http://www.pointloma.edu/nondiscrimination)** .

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the **Title IX Office (https://www.pointloma.edu/title-ix)** . Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the **Title IX Office (https://www.pointloma.edu/title-ix)** .

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact **Counseling Services (mailto:counselingservices@pointloma.edu)** or **consult the list of campus pastors (https://www.pointloma.edu/title-ix/get-help-now)** .

If you (or someone you know) has experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources via the **Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy (http://www.pointloma.edu/nondiscrimination)** .

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation in each course are minimal requirements.

If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

Students who anticipate being absent for an entire week of a course should contact the instructor in advance for approval and make arrangements to complete the required coursework and/or alternative assignments assigned at the discretion of the instructor. Acceptance of late work is at the discretion of the instructor and does not waive attendance requirements.

Note: If a student incurs a third absence, they may petition the faculty to remain enrolled in class. The faculty will provide a make up assignment proportionate in length and difficulty to the class missed. This third absence may also result in a referral to the Student Development Committee.

In addition to the university policy, 10% of your course grade will reflect your attendance. Coming to class is mandatory and expected. As extenuating circumstances may happen that prevent you from attending class, a student may incur one absence without losing points. Each subsequent absence will drop this portion of the grade by 5% of the total course points (up to 10%). Note: absences are not categorized as excused or unexcused.

Attending class on time is essential to promote a respectful and professional learning environment. Arriving to class more than 15 minutes late is counted as a tardy. Two tardies count as one absence. Arriving 30 minutes or more late to a class will be considered an absence.

Refer to **Academic Policies (https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/grad-catalog/academic-general-policies/)** for additional detail.

Synchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

For synchronous courses that have specific scheduled meeting times (including in-person, hybrid, and synchronous online courses), absences are counted from the first official meeting of the class regardless of the date of the student's enrollment. For courses with specific attendance requirements, those requirements are outlined in the course syllabus.

Professionalism

Student professionalism will be assessed in each course, constituting 10% of the total course grade. Professionalism indicators include class participation, interactions with peers and instructors, and self-awareness. The full rubric can be found here: **PLNU MACC Professionalism Rubric (https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_1JfZZPjLAXrE5izT3p_m_-4bNiieJqx46ZqDztHgi8/edit?tab=t.0)** .

Course Modality Definitions

1. Online Courses: These are courses with class meetings where all instruction and interaction are fully online.
    1. Synchronous Courses: At least one class meeting takes place at a designated time.
    2. Asynchronous Courses: All class meetings are asynchronous.
2. Hybrid Courses: These are courses with class meetings that take place both in the classroom and online synchronously and/or asynchronously.
3. In-Person Courses: These are courses that meet in person with the instructor and students in a physical classroom setting. With approval by the area dean, this may include up to 25% of qu[illegible] class interactions through a Learning Management System (such as Canvas).

Use of Technology

MACC is committed to a distraction-free learning environment. Students are welcome to bring devices to class, but they *must remain stored* throughout class time unless directed otherwise by the instructor. Phones, laptops, iPads/tablets, and other personal devices are not permitted to be passively used during lectures, discussions, or any other activity unless expressly communicated by the instructor.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

GPS Academic Resources

PLNU offers the following free academic resources virtually for Graduate Professional Studies (GPS) Students. Visit myPLNU through the links below for more information.

- **The GPS Writing Center (https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/writing-center-gps) offers:**
  - **Zoom Writers Workshops** offered each quad on a variety of helpful topics
  - **One-to-one appointments** with the Writing Coach
  - **Microlearning YouTube Video Library** for helpful tips anytime
- **Research Help Guide (https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/research-help)** to help you start your research
  - The physical office is located on the third floor of the **Mission Valley Regional Center (https://maps.app.goo.gl/CRXui8PJUnSkvokC9)** off the student lounge
- **Academic Writing Resources Course (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/64301) :** Found on your Canvas Dashboard, this course is non-credit with 24/7 access, no time limits, and self-paced content. **Watch a quick video run-through (https://youtu.be/4H8KTZ4BOaY)** and take time now to explore!
- **Grammarly (https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/writing-center-gps)** : Students have unlimited FREE access to Grammarly for Education, a trusted tool designed to help enhance writing skills by providing real-time feedback, identifying areas for improvement, and providing suggestions. Grammarly's Generative AI is NOT available with our student accounts.
- **Tutoring (https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/tutoring-gps)** : Students have access to 24/7 live or scheduled subject tutoring through Tutor.com, including a Paper Drop-Off Service with feedback within 12 hours.

Course Schedule and Assignments

For the schedule of topics and assignments, see the **Course Schedule** (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/pages/course-schedule) page.

Assignments-at-a-Glance

The course summary below lists our assignments and their due dates. Click on any assignment to review it.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Tue Sep 1, 2026	Session 1 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
	Academic Honesty Verification Statement (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342820)	due by 11:59pm
	Instructor Welcome Video	to do: 11:59pm
Thu Sep 3, 2026	Session 2 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
	Student Self-Introduction Discussion (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342825)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Sep 8, 2026	Journal Question 1 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342828)	due by 5:30pm
	Session 3 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
	Set up Meetings with a Therapist Mentor	to do: 5:30pm
	Turn-in Self Assessment Results	due by [illegible]m

Date	Details	Due
	(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342845)	
Thu Sep 10, 2026	Journal Question 2 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342839)	due by 5:30pm
	Session 4 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
Tue Sep 15, 2026	Session 5 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
Thu Sep 17, 2026	Journal Question 3 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342830)	due by 5:30pm
	Session 6 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
	Exam 1 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342822)	due by 8:15pm
Tue Sep 22, 2026	Turn-in Informed Consent Form (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342844)	due by 5:30pm
	Session 7 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
Thu Sep 24, 2026	Interview Questions (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342824)	due by 5:30pm
	Journal Question 4 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342831)	due by 5:30pm
	Session 8 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
Tue Sep 29, 2026	Session 9 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm

Date	Details	Due
	Session 10 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
Thu Oct 1, 2026	Exam 2 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342831)	due by 8:15pm
Tue Oct 6, 2026	Session 11 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
Thu Oct 8, 2026	Journal Question 5 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342832)	due by 5:30pm
	Scope of Practice (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342842)	due by 5:30pm
	Session 12 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
Mon Oct 12, 2026	Licensure Application Due (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342835)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Oct 13, 2026	Turn-in Ch. 10 Self Assessment Results (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342843)	due by 5:30pm
	Session 13 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
	Exam 3: Chapters 7-8 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342833)	due by 8:15pm
Thu Oct 15, 2026	Journal Question 6 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342834)	due by 5:30pm
	Session 14 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm

Date	Details	Due
Tue Oct 20, 2026	Session 15 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
Thu Oct 22, 2026	Journal Question 7 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342834)	due by 5:30pm
	Professional Presentation on ACA Code of Ethics (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342838)	due by 5:30pm
	Session 16 Agenda	to do: 5:30pm
	Exam 4: Chapters 10-11 (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342818)	due by 8:15pm
Sat Oct 24, 2026	Reflection Paper - Kottler (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342840)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Oct 25, 2026	End-of-Course Evaluation (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342826)	due by 11:59pm
	Extra Credit: Counseling Seminar Reflection (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342827)	due by 11:59pm
	Meet with a Therapist Mentor (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342836)	due by 11:59pm
	Calif Law Take-Home Exam (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342819)	due by 11:59pm
	Mid-Course Professionalism Feedback	

Date	Details	Due
	(https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342837)	
	Professionalism (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342839)	
	Roll Call Attendance (https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/89234/assignments/1342841)	