

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### -- SYNCHRONOUS VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION ONLY --

Class meets on Thursdays,  
4:00 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.

#### Week 1: Thursday, August 20, 2020

##### Discussion:

- Review Syllabus; plan for the semester.
- Textbooks and outside readings.
- Professional Identity. Who are we, and who represents our interests? CAMFT, AAMFT, ACA, IAMFC, etc. The role of professional societies in our development as a profession.
- The code set. Where can we find the laws?
- Realistic view of the profession, where we are going from here.
- MFT, LMFT, LPC? What gives with the alphabet soup?

##### For next meeting:

##### • **Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). 1PM**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 1 (pages 2 - 22) - Values as Context for Therapy
- Atkins et al. Chapter 2A (pages 28 - 34) - "Scope of Practice," 2B (pages 35 - 39) - "Coaching v. Therapy," and 2C (pages 40 - 43) - "Sometimes It's What Don't Say."

- **Assignment:** Acquire a hard copy of **Part I** of the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) "Code of Ethics." You'll find this at <http://camft.org>. On the home page, in the extreme upper left corner, press "About Us," which will take you to "Association Documents" which when clicked will reveal "Governance," under which is the "Code of Ethics." We are only dealing with **PART I: The Standards. Read sections:** 1) Introduction, 2) Responsibility to Patients, 3) Confidentiality, 4) Professional Competence and Integrity, and 5) Responsibility to Students and Supervisees.
- **Assignment:** Spend time looking at the CAMFT web site and be prepared to discuss the services and features available from CAMFT's website.

**Week 2: Thursday, August 27, 2020**

**Discussion:**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 1 (pages 2 - 22) - Values as Context for Therapy
- Atkins et al. Chapter 2A (pages 28 - 34) - "Scope of Practice," 2B (pages 35 - 39) - "Coaching v. Therapy," and 2C (pages 40 - 43) - "Sometimes It's What Don't Say."
- California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) "Code of Ethics - Part I," sections: 1) Introduction, 2) Responsibility to Patients, 3) Confidentiality, 4) Professional Competence and integrity, and 5) Responsibility to students and supervisees.
- Findings from your Internet ramblings through CAMFT's web site.

**For next meeting:**

**• Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). *TPM***

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 2 (pages 23 - 39) - Professional Acculturation
- Atkins et al. Chapter 9A thru C (pages 190 - 206) - Dual Relationships and Unlawful/Unethical Dual Relationships
- **Assignment:** California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) "Code of Ethics - Part I." **Read sections:** 6) responsibility To Colleagues, 7) Responsibility to research participants, 8) Responsibility to the profession, 9) Responsibility to the legal system, 10) Financial arrangements, and 11) Advertising.
- **Assignment:** Acquire hard copy of "Therapy Never Includes Sexual Behaviors" (2020) from the Board of Behavioral Sciences. There are two (2) versions of this document, a "plain" and a "fancy." I have formatted the plain one for you at: <http://hdansmith.com/231pdf/TNISB-plain2020.pdf>

**Have your hard copy with you at our next class meeting . . . read. The law requires you to have this on hand when your practice!** The "fancy" version is very colorful and nicely done, but it is an ink cartridge killer, hence the plain one. Should you desire, you may view and/or download the "fancy" brochure at: <http://hdansmith.com/231pdf/TNISB-fancy2020.pdf>

- **Assignment:** E-mail to me at [dans@mail.fresnostate.edu](mailto:dans@mail.fresnostate.edu) (by attachment; no virus, please) your summary of "Therapy Never Includes Sexual Behaviors." Please specifically comment on the definitions of sexual misconduct and the enforcement procedures. This will also serve as a check to see if you are reading the syllabus.

**Week 3: Thursday, September 3, 2020**

**Discussion:**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 2 (pages 23 - 39) - Professional Acculturation
- Atkins et al. Chapter 9A thru C (pages 190 - 206) - Dual Relationships and Unlawful/Unethical Dual Relationships
- California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) "Code of Ethics - Part I," sections: 6) responsibility To Colleagues, 7) Responsibility to research participants, 8) Responsibility to the profession, 9) Responsibility to the legal system, 10) Financial arrangements, and 11) Advertising.
- "Therapy Never Includes Sexual Behaviors"
- Beginning discussion of psychotherapist-patient privilege

**For next meeting:**

**• Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). *TPM***

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 3 (pages 42 - 70) - Promoting Ethical Practice
- Atkins et al. Chapter 5A (pages 95 - 104) D & E (pages 111 - 123) - Confidentiality Issues; Chapter 7A thru D (pages 143 - 169) - Dangerous Patients; Chapter 8A thru E (pages 170 - 189) – The Psychotherapist-Patient Privilege

**Week 4: Thursday, September 10, 2020**

**Discussion:**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 3 (pages 42 - 70) - Promoting Ethical Practice
- Atkins et al. Chapter 5A (pages 95 - 104) D & E (pages 111 - 123) - Confidentiality Issues; Chapter 7A thru D (pages 143 - 169) - Dangerous Patients; Chapter 8A thru E (pages 170 - 189) – The Psychotherapist-Patient Privilege
- *VITALY TARASOFF v. REGENTS OF UNIV. OF CA., ET AL.* (1976).
- Dan's famous "Colorado Dangerous Patient" movie!
- Dan's famous "Poop-on-the-Door Dangerous Patient" movie!
- The elements of privileged communication. HUGE issue in our business.
- **The subpoena.**

**For next meeting:**

**• Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). ~~1PM~~ X 2**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 4 (pages 71 - 88) - Unique Ethical Considerations 1  
Chapter 8 (pages 142 - 169) - Contemporary Ethical Issues 2
- Atkins et al. Chapter 10A thru C (pages 207 - 220) - Telehealth; Chapter 14B (pages 291 - 299) - Revisiting Informed Consent
- **Assignment; Scavenger Hunt:** Find two (2) on-line therapists; jot down their URL so that we can look at them in class next time. Take some notes and be ready to discuss their sites, the set-up as best you can determine. Read and be ready to discuss BBS position on "on line therapy" from their web site.
- **Assignment:** Go to the BBS website (<http://www.bbs.ca.gov/>) and search "online therapy." The first two "hits" will be documents entitled, "Consumer Information Regarding Online Psychotherapy" [for consumers], and "Online Psychotherapy Services" [for licensees]. Print **BOTH** of these items and bring to class next week.

**Week 5: Thursday, September 17, 2020**

**Discussion:**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 4 (pages 71 - 88) - Unique Ethical Considerations 1  
Chapter 8 (pages 142 - 169) - Contemporary Ethical Issues 2
- Atkins et al. Chapter 10A thru C (pages 207 - 220) - Telehealth; Chapter 14B (pages 291 - 299) - Revisiting Informed Consent
- Examination of your two favorite (or most outrageous) online psychotherapy web sites from your search per last week's assignment. We'll take a look at them, too.
- Discussion of technology's impact on the profession. You'll probably be counseling on-line in your future ... one never knows. Discussion of online therapy and how it has developed over the past 10 years, review of Dan's favorite web sites where therapists are promoting themselves as online therapists. Taking a look at BBS expectations for online treatment, as well as NBCC ethical standards for online therapists.

**For next meeting:**

- **EXAM 1 NEXT WEEK.** The exam will be of an "objective nature" and will evaluate the full range of readings and discussion to date in the Wilcoxon et al. text, the Atkins et al. readings, and the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) "Code of Ethics - Part I."

I don't know at this time whether the exam will be on line, in person or what . . . stay tuned.

**Week 6: Thursday, September 24, 2020**

**EXAM 1**, as noted above. We'll talk more about psychotherapist-patient privilege for a while before the exam . . .

**• Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). TPM**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 5 (pages 89 - 104) - Unique Ethical Considerations 2
- Atkins et al. Chapter 12A thru E (pages 241 - 273) - Civil Liability, Disciplinary Actions, and Ethics Complaints

**Week 7: Thursday, October 1, 2020**

**Discussion:**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 5 (pages 89 - 104) - Unique Ethical Considerations 2
- Atkins et al. Chapter 12A thru E (pages 241 - 273) - Civil Liability, Disciplinary Actions, and Ethics Complaints
- Discussion of how the practice of MFT differs from individual therapies; there are many distinctions that feel awkward and pose legal and ethical problems if appropriate principles are not followed or ignored. Unique confidentiality considerations, application of paradoxical procedures, poverty, trauma, and cultural issues. Also, liability issues for MFTs and disciplinary actions, including DUIs (and other consequences of how you live your life).

**For next meeting:**

**• Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). *TPM***

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 6 (pages 105 - 119) - Intimate Partner Violence
- Atkins et al. Chapter 4A thru F (pages 58 - 94) - Child and Elder Abuse

**Week 8: Thursday, October 8, 2020**

- **Discussion:** *This discussion will cover 1/7 of the mandatory child abuse assessment and reporting instruction relegated to this class. We will have a detailed discussion of the law and your responsibilities, who is a mandated reporter, and reporting procedures.*
- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 6 (pages 105 - 119) - Intimate Partner Violence
- Atkins et al. Chapter 4A thru F (pages 58 - 94) - Child and Elder Abuse
- Dan's famous "Child Abuse" movie. **Brace yourself for this one! You'll never be the same after seeing this. Once seen, it can't be un-seen!**
- IPV per your readings.

**For next meeting:**

**• Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). *TPM***

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 7 (pages 120 - 141) - Contemporary Ethical Issues 1
- Atkins et al. Chapter 3A thru C (pages 44 - 57) - Consent for Treatment of Minors; Chapter 5B and C (pages 105 - 110) - Confidentiality and Minors, Collateral Visitors

**Week 9: Thursday, October 15, 2020**

**Discussion:** *This will bring us to 3/7 of the mandatory child abuse assessment and reporting instruction relegated to this class.*

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 7 (pages 120 - 141) - Contemporary Ethical Issues 1
- Atkins et al. Chapter 3A thru C (pages 44 - 57) - Consent for Treatment of Minors; Chapter 5B and C (pages 105 - 110) - Confidentiality and Minors, Collateral Visitors
- Diagnosis in family therapy; incompatibility of orientations, Managed Care, etc.

**For next meeting:**

**• Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). *TPM***

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 10 (pages 200 - 232) - MFTs in the Legal System
- Atkins et al. Chapter 1A thru C (pages 8 - 27) - Advertising/business cards, fees, Internet, etc.; Chapter 6A thru D (pages 124 - 142) - Patient Records, and Chapter 13A and B (pages 274 - 284) - Therapy Termination

**Week 10: Thursday, October 22, 2020**

**Discussion:** *This will bring us to 5/7 of the mandatory child abuse assessment and reporting instruction relegated to this class.*

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 10 (pages 200 - 232) - MFTs in the Legal System
- Atkins et al. Chapter 1A thru C (pages 8 - 27) - Advertising/business cards, fees, Internet, etc.; Chapter 6A thru D (pages 124 - 142) - Patient Records, and Chapter 13A and B (pages 274 - 284) - Therapy Termination **yes to here**
- Dan's famous "Business Cards *Faux Pas*" exercise.
- Liability Insurance: types and necessity for California MFTs.
- Review of Fresno State's liability program through Lloyds of London.
- Problems encountered when you allow your employer (or school) to supply your liability insurance

**For next meeting:**

**• Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). *TPM***

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 11 (pages 233 - 261) - Family Law
- Atkins et al. Chapter 11A thru D (pages 221 - 240) - Health Insurance
- **EXAM 2 NEXT MEETING.** The exam items will come from readings in Wilcoxon et al., the California child abuse and neglect reporting law, and the items from Atkins et al. *Completion of this exam will bring us to 7/7 of the mandatory child abuse assessment and reporting instruction relegated to this class.*

**Week 11: Thursday, October 29, 2020**

**EXAM 2**, as noted above. We will use the last hour and a half for this task. *The exam will complete 7/7 of the mandatory child abuse assessment and reporting instruction relegated to this class.*

- **Lecture first, EXAM after the break.** Lots to do tonight; **discussion precedes EXAM 2**. Please have your studying done **BEFORE** you come to class so you can concentrate on the discussion.

**Discussion:**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 11 (pages 233 - 261) - Family Law
- Atkins et al. Chapter 11A thru D (pages 221 - 240) - Health Insurance
- We'll take a look at the insurance billing forms and some procedure codes.
- More on Family law issues. Marriage ("rules of engagement"), Annulment (Catholic v. Secular), Divorce (decrees, child support information, spousal support, treatment considerations where divorce is involved, blended families, etc.), Subpoenas, etc.

**For next meeting:**

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS NO **TPM** FOR CHAPTER 13!**

• **Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion).**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 13 (pages 290 - 308) - Professional Issues: Identity
- Atkins et al. Chapter 15A thru E (pages 304 - 325) - Registered Associate MFTs, Trainees and Supervisors



**Week 12: Thursday, November 5, 2020**

**Discussion:**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 13 (pages 290 - 308) - Professional Issues: Identity
- Atkins et al. Chapter 15A thru E (pages 304 - 325) - Registered Associate MFTs, Trainees and Supervisors
- More on Insurance

**For next meeting:**

**• Textbook Reading Assignments (Check box for completion). *TPM***

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 14 (pages 309 - 328) - Professional Issues: Supervision, Licensure, and Professional Development
- Atkins et al. Chapter 14A (pages 285 - 290) - Tale of Two Supervisees; Chapter 14C (pages 300 - 303) - Ariadne's Thread; Chapter 16A Thru C (pages 326 - 347) - Working in Schools.  
**If you have no plan or desire to work in schools, you can skip this one. If you do plan or desire to work in schools, these three chapters can be lifesavers. Take my word.**
- **Assignment; Scavenger Hunt:** Acquire from the BBS web site (<http://www.bbs.ca.gov>) all the materials needed to register as an Intern. Spend some time exploring the web site and be ready to discuss.
- Examine various BBS forms and procedures.
- MCE (Mandatory Continuing Education) for MFTs.
- MFT consultation, a growing perspective.

**Week 13: Thursday, November 12, 2020**

**"MFT/LPCC Essentials":**

BBS rules/regulations for MFT licensure; information on COUN 239 placements and requirements for the field experience.

- *Board of Behavioral Sciences Statutes and Regulations*, Latest Revision.
- Examine various BBS forms and procedures.
- MCE (Mandatory Continuing Education) for MFTs.
- Discussion of various licensure issues; how to get your IR number, questions to ask your supervisor, where you can work, what to expect, etc.

**Discussion:**

- Wilcoxon et al. Chapter 14 (pages 309 - 328) - Professional Issues: Supervision, Licensure, and Professional Development
- Atkins et al. Chapter 14A (pages 285 - 290) - Tale of Two Supervisees; Chapter 14C (pages 300 - 303) - Ariadne's Thread;

**Week 14: Thursday, November 19, 2020**

**Discussion:** "MFT/PCC Essentials" COUN 239, hours, supervision, etc.

Tonight, we will participate in a Webinar with Cathy Atkins, lead attorney at the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) in San Diego, CA. You should know her name as she is the lead author on your *Compendium*. As the semester progresses, we will note which topics we'd like to cover more deeply, or from an attorney's perspective. I have some ideas, but I want to know what you need from her.

**Week 15: Thursday, November 26, 2020**  
**No class. THANKSGIVING BREAK!**



**Week 16: Thursday, December 3, 2020**

**Discussion:** Continue with "MFT/PCC Essentials" COUN 239, hours, supervision, etc.

**Week 17: Thursday, December 10, and Friday, December 11, 2020**

**Consultation Days.** No class; Dan will be available for advising.

**YOUR FINAL EXAM WILL BE POSTED ON THE CLASS WEB SITE AT 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020 (SECOND CONSULTATION DAY).**

**Week 18: Thursday, December 17, 2020**

**Final Examination: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (More information forthcoming on exact time and place of the "exam").** The exam will cover readings and discussions and will attempt to crystallize the emerging gestalt into a succinct formulation, thus bringing closure to this life experience. Say what? This MAY be a take-home exam.