

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO**



Sault College

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**COURSE TITLE:** Professional Growth II  
**CODE NO. :** MST304 **SEMESTER:** 5  
**PROGRAM:** Massage Therapy Program  
**AUTHOR:** Doug Cressman, Ruth Wilson  
**DATE:** Sept/03 **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** Sept/02

**APPROVED:**

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**DEAN**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

**TOTAL CREDITS:** 3

**PREREQUISITE(S):** MST114

**HOURS/WEEK:** 3

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*For additional information, please contact the Dean*  
*School of Health and Human Services*  
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**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to examine the concept of professional responsibility and accountability in massage therapy practice at an advanced level. The student will explore issues from clinical and business perspectives to further examine the ethical, legal and professional implications of professional practice. The student will examine legislation, current realities and trends both in the health care system and in society. The student will explore how massage therapists can influence both personal and organizational change. Basic research skills will be introduced.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF PERFORMANCE:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. analyze research in massage therapy utilizing critical thinking skills.
  - a. describe the purpose of massage therapy research and how it is evolving.
  - b. describe the steps of the research process.
  - c. describe ethical considerations in conducting a massage research study.
  - d. compare and contrast different research methodologies that can be applied to massage therapy practice (ie. Quantitative/qualitative).
  - e. evaluate the validity of arguments based on quantitative and qualitative information in order to accept and/or challenge the ideas of others.
  
2. examine selected ethical and legal dilemmas relevant to massage therapy and business practice.
  - a. review moral/ethical decision making model (Professional Growth I).
  - b. analyze various moral/ethical and legal issues relevant to clinical practice using model.

*Possible topics can include:*

- the ethics of accepting consent by a substitute decision maker
- the management of strongly held client beliefs which clash with strongly held therapist beliefs (conflict in value system)
- how to deal with a client the therapist genuinely dislikes
- facing barriers to advocacy
- dealing with a client that doesn't wish to get better
- resolving "grey areas" of the Standards of Practice
- facing interaction with another therapist with whose philosophical approach to massage we profoundly disagree
- privacy issues in a small community
- relationships and boundary issues in communities of various sizes
- parameters of professional conduct
- dealing with tips/gratuities

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF PERFORMANCE:**

- c. analyze various moral, ethical and legal issues relevant to business practice using model.

Possible topics can include:

- billing practices with third party payers
- inadequate record keeping/documentation
- the use of barter
- conflict of interest
- misleading advertising
- use of a sliding scale

3. develop insight and personal commitment to the professionalism of massage therapy.

- a. through reflective journaling, explore the following professional concepts:

- meaning of “professional” practitioner
- commitment to a caring profession
- role of advocacy in massage therapy

4. investigate the impact of current political realities in health care on the practice of massage therapy.

- a. analyze relevant legislative acts and documents which empower and control massage therapy.

- Bill 59 (The Automobile Insurance Rate Stability Act)
- RHPA
- Massage Therapy Act
- Health Care Consent Act
- Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice

5. apply basic concepts of critical thinking.

- a. utilize strategies that maximize conscious choices and decision.

- determining sufficient and appropriate questions
- evaluating answers
- generating alternatives
- determining consequences
- selecting an appropriate course of action
- evaluating decision for future consideration

- b. employ techniques in professional practice.

- reference and research material
- professional communication and development
- clinical practice and management

**III. TOPICS:**

1. Basic Research Skills
2. Legislation and Self Regulation
3. Ethical/Legal Issues in Clinical/Business Practice
4. Professionalism
5. Critical Thinking

**IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:**

- R.H.P.A.
- Massage Therapy Act
- Health Care Consent Act
- Standards of Practice
- CMTO Policies and Guidelines

**V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:**

1. The passing grade in this course is 60%
2. Assignments:
 

a. Reflective Journals	15%
b. Research Presentation	20%
c. Final Exam	45%
d. Assignments	20%
Total	100%

*The following semester grades will be assigned to students in postsecondary courses:*

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 - 100%	4.00
A	80 - 89%	3.75
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
F (Fail)	59% or below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	

**V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:**

X	A temporary grade. This is used in limited situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course (see <i>Policies &amp; Procedures Manual – Deferred Grades and Make-up</i> ).
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office. This is used to facilitate transcript preparation when, for extenuating circumstances, it has not been possible for the faculty member to report grades.
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES:**

Special Needs:

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your instructor and/or the Special Needs office. Visit the Special Needs office so that support services can be arranged for you.

Retention of course outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Rights and Responsibilities*. Students who engage in “academic dishonesty” will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Course outline amendments:

The Professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

**VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:**

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the professor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

**VIII. DIRECT CREDIT TRANSFERS:**

Students who wish to apply for direct credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain a direct credit transfer form from the Dean's secretary. Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related to the course in question.