Chapter 2: Professional Preparation and Ethical and Legal Issues

Multiple Choice

1. All of the following are accrediting bodies setting standards for graduate programs, EXCEPT

a. Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs.
*d. American Association of Parents.

Cognitive domain: Knowledge
Answer location: Formal Study and Professional Affiliation
Question type: MC

2. What is the term used to recognize the competence of practitioners by authorizing them to use the title adopted by the profession?

a. Continuing education
b. Degree
*c. Certification
d. Diploma

Cognitive domain: Knowledge
Answer location: Certification and Licensure
Question type: MC

3. What entity can issue legal sanctions to a professional counselor?

* a. License board
b. Certification officer
c. Accrediting body
d. Graduate program

Cognitive domain: Comprehension
Answer location: Certification and Licensure
Question type: MC

4. Janelle has completed 60 graduate school class hours and has a master’s degree in counseling. What other requirement, if any, is needed for her to be eligible for licensure?

*a. A doctoral degree
b. To pass an examination
c. No further requirements
d. More graduate class hours

Cognitive domain: Comprehension
Answer location: Certification and Licensure
Question type: MC

5. Most certification and licensing bodies require ____________ to maintain credentials.

a. supervision
b. co-counseling
6. What is the primary ethical responsibility of counselors?

*a. To respect the dignity and promote the welfare of clients
b. To warn others of dangers
c. To protect society
d. To ensure competency in all areas
Cognitive domain: Application
Answer location: The Art and Science of Ethical-Legal Issues
Question type: MC

7. Ethically, what is the necessary step to take when a client is not benefiting from counseling service?

a. Try a new theoretical approach
b. Increase the number of sessions
*c. Refer client to another counselor
d. Take a few weeks off from sessions
Cognitive domain: Comprehension
Answer location: CLIENT WELFARE
Question type: MC

8. What is typically NOT an item included on a “professional disclosure statement”?

a. Limits to confidentiality
b. Type of license
c. Theoretical orientation
*d. Graduate training program
Cognitive domain: Comprehension
Answer location: INFORMED CONSENT
Question type: MC

9. In regard to ethical standards and dual relationships, a counselor must
a. avoid them at all times.
*b. take caution to ensure they do not cause conflict.
c. contact the Ethics Board to report.
d. let the client decide to stay in the dual relationship or not.
Cognitive domain: Application
Answer location: Dual Relationships
Question type: MC

10. In regard to a sexual relationship with a previous client, APA ethical code mandates that it
a. never occurs.
   *b. is only acceptable if at least two years have passed since end of counseling and no sexual exploitation is proven.
   c. is acceptable as long as the client is not planning on returning to counseling with the same therapist.
   d. is acceptable as long as the client was not receiving counseling for sexual concerns.

Cognitive domain: Knowledge
Answer location: SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS
Question type: MC

11. Which item is NOT considered a legal exception to violating confidentiality?

   *a. Client terminates counseling out of anger.
   b. Client is in danger of hurting himself.
   c. Counselor believes a client under the age of 16 is being abused.
   d. Client is in danger of hurting another.

Cognitive domain: Comprehension
Answer location: LEGAL ISSUES
Question type: MC

12. Who “owns” privilege of communication in the counseling setting?

   a. Judge
   b. Counselor
   *c. Client
   d. No one

Cognitive domain: Knowledge
Answer location: PRIVILEGE COMMUNICATION
Question type: MC

13. According to Keeton, what four elements are needed to constitute malpractice?

   a. Client had duty to counselor, duty not met, client injured, and a connection between these elements exits.
   b. Counselor had duty to client, duty was met, client injured, and a connection between these elements exits.
   c. Counselor had duty to client, duty not met, client does not need to be injured, and a connection between these elements exits.
   *d. Counselor had duty to client, duty not met, client injured, and a connection between these elements exits.

Cognitive domain: Comprehension
Answer location: MALPRACTICE
Question type: MC

14. According to Knapp (1980), malpractice is an __________ or __________ by a counselor that is inconsistent with reasonable care and skill used by other reputable counselors and that results in injury to the client?
a. omission; statement
*b. act; omission

Cognitive domain: knowledge
Answer location: MALPRACTICE
Question type: MC

15. The need for “informed consent” pertains to the client’s right to

a. have access to the counselor at all hours to inform counselor.
b. change the theoretical orientation of the counseling.
c. pay for counseling services or not.
*d. decide whether to participate in counseling or not.

Cognitive domain: Comprehension
Answer location: INFORMED CONSENT
Question type: MC

16. Online counselors have ethical and legal mandates to ensure that minors are eligible to receive counseling services. According to Nystul, what percentage of online counselors did not obtain the age and date of birth of clients?

a. 13%
*b. 57%
c. 95%
d. 25%

Cognitive domain: Ethical Issues Relating to Online and Technology-Assisted Counseling
Answer location: Knowledge
Question type: MC

17. What diversity elements are not specifically addressed in the ACA and APA code of ethics?

a. Age
b. Ethnicity
*c. Health status
d. Spirituality

Cognitive domain: Compression
Answer location: DIVERSITY ISSUES
Question type: MC

18. Why are online counselors obligated to obtain clients’ contact information?

a. For billing purposes
*b. For emergencies and duty to warn
c. To find a local therapist
d. To verify that the client is who he or she says to be

Cognitive domain: Comprehension
19. Dugger and Francis’ “Lessons Learned” are particularly helpful for what setting?

a. Outpatient counseling
b. Hospital settings
*c. Counseling in the university setting

d. Residential and institutional settings

Cognitive domain: Comprehension

Answer location: ISSUES RELATING TO COUNSELOR’S VALUES

Question type: MC

20. A professional license in counseling is

a. earned from a graduate program.
*b. authorized by state legislation.
c. obtained once course work is completed.
d. achieved after 30 hours of continuing education.

Cognitive domain: Comprehension

Answer location: Certification and Licensure

Question type: MC

True/False

21. When a client has AIDS, the counselor should encourage the client to inform any sexual partner that they may have been exposed to the virus.

*a. True
b. False

Cognitive domain: Comprehension

Answer location: ISSUES RELATING TO AIDS

Question type: TF

22. It is not considered ethical or legal to “abandon” clients who no longer have the financial means for counseling.

*a. True
b. False

Cognitive domain: Comprehension

Answer location: LEGAL ISSUES IN MANAGED CARE

Question type: TF

23. A licensed counselor cannot utilize third-party insurance to help clients pay for counseling services.

a. True
*b. False

Cognitive domain: Comprehension
24. Dual relationships are never acceptable.
   a. True
   *b. False
   Cognitive domain: Knowledge
   Answer location: DUAL RELATIONSHIPS
   Question type: TF

25. The counselor “owns” privilege communication that occurs in the counseling session.
   a. True
   *b. False
   Cognitive domain: Knowledge
   Answer location: PRIVILEGE COMMUNICATION
   Question type: TF

26. The counselor is obligated to advocate for a client in need of counseling services, but being denied coverage from insurance.
   *a. True
   b. False
   Cognitive domain: Knowledge
   Answer location: LEGAL ISSUES IN MANAGED CARE
   Question type: TF

27. The landmark case Tarasoff v. The Board of Regents of the University of California (1974, 1976) resulted in a counselor’s “duty to warn.”
   *a. True
   b. False
   Cognitive domain: Knowledge
   Answer location: LEGAL ISSUES
   Question type: TF

28. Continuing education is needed to maintain a license and/or certification in counseling.
   *a. True
   b. False
   Cognitive domain: Knowledge
   Answer location: CONTINUED EDUCATION
   Question type: TF

Essay
29. Per suggestions made by Dugger and Francis, what are three things a university should have established to manage lawsuits in the counseling arena?

Response should include mention of three of the following: disciplinary policies need to be known; policies need to be followed; university has identified procedures for responding to lawsuits; know that all communications can be subpoenaed; plaintiffs may use “court of public opinion”—do not do the same and request support from professional organizations.

Cognitive domain: Comprehension
Answer location: ISSUES RELATING TO COUNSELOR’S VALUES
Question type: ESS

30. Discuss two exceptions to privilege communication.

Response needs to include two of the following: court orders disclosure; client initiates a lawsuit or complaint against counselor; client is at risk to harming self or others; or suspicion of child abuse or neglect.

Cognitive domain: Comprehension
Answer location: PRIVILEGE COMMUNICATION
Question type: ESS

31. You are a counselor at a community mental health clinic and the young adult male you are treating in counseling was convicted of drunk driving. The client wants you to attend the court trial to confirm that he is in treatment. The judge asks that you disclose specific information about the treatment that the client does not want you too. Discuss what you should do and the ethical considerations you have.

Response should include mention that the ethical concern is that the counselor does not own privilege, the client does. The client does not want the counselor to disclose this information and the counselor must not. Response may also include strategies for managing the legal involvement such as seeking out support from professional organizations, lawyer, etc.

Cognitive domain: Application
Answer location: PRIVILEGE COMMUNICATION
Question type: ESS