

**SES's L.S. RAHEJA COLLEGE OF ARTS and
COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)**



BOARD OF STUDIES: Psychology

**PROGRAMME: MA Psychology (with Clinical
Specialization)**

SEMESTER: III

**NOMENCLATURE OF THE COURSE: Ethics in the field
of Psychology**

NEP Vertical: ELECTIVE

Credit: 4

(As Per Choice Based Credit System (under NEP 2020) with
effect from the academic year 2025-26)



Programme:	MA Psychology (with Clinical Specialization)
Nomenclature of the Course	Ethics in the field of Psychology
Total Marks	100
Semester:	III
Academic year	2025-26

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand and define key ethical principles relevant to counselling psychology and research.
2. Identify client rights and comprehend the legal and ethical responsibilities of mental health professionals.
3. Evaluate dual relationships and boundary issues within clinical and counselling practice
4. Interpret ethical guidelines related to psychological testing, including neuropsychological and projective tests.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

1. Explain and apply ethical principles and codes of conduct in counselling psychology
2. Critically analyze ethical issues in psychological research, including IRB processes and use of deception
3. Apply ethical standards in psychological assessment, considering cultural sensitivity and preventing misuse of tests
4. Apply the course to solve ethical dilemmas using case studies, and demonstrate sound decision-making skills in diverse scenarios

Module	Module Content	Module Wise Pedagogy Used	Module Wise Duration
I	1. Ethics in Counselling Psychology 1.1 What are the Ethics? 1.2 Rights of Clients 1.3 Dimensions of Confidentiality 1.4 The Counsellor's Ethical and Legal 1.5 Responsibilities	Interactive lectures PowerPoint presentations Observation and Analysis Case studies	15
II	2.1 Confidentiality and Limits to Confidentiality 2.2 Informed Consent in Therapy and Psychological Assessment 2.3 Dual Relationships and Boundaries in Clinical Practice 2.4 Ethical Issues in Psychotherapy (e.g., Misuse of Power, Therapist-Client Relationship) 2.5 Handling High-Risk Cases: Suicide, Abuse, and Duty to Warn (Tarasoff Case)	Interactive lectures PowerPoint presentations Observation and Analysis Case studies	15
III	3. Ethical issues in Psychological Research: 3.1 Ethical Issues in Research Design and Methodology 3.2 Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) and Ethical Approval Process 3.3 Deception in Research: Justifications and Controversies 3.4 Ethical Issues in Animal Research	Interactive lectures PowerPoint presentations Observation and Analysis Case studies	15

	3.5 Case Studies		
IV	<p>4.1 Ethical in Psychological Assessments: Ethical Considerations in Psychological Testing</p> <p>4.2 Cultural Sensitivity and Fairness in Assessment</p> <p>4.3 Misuse and Misinterpretation of Psychological Tests</p> <p>4.4 Ethical Guidelines for Neuropsychological and Projective Testing</p>	<p>Interactive lectures</p> <p>PowerPoint presentations</p> <p>Observation and Analysis</p> <p>Case studies</p>	15

REFERENCE BOOKS

Harris, R. (2018). *ACT questions and answers: A practitioner's guide to 50 common sticking points in acceptance and commitment therapy*. New Harbinger Publications.

Hayes, S. C. (2024). *The act in context: The canonical papers of Steven C. Hayes*. Routledge.

Hayes, S. C., & Lillis, J. (2012). *Acceptance and commitment therapy*. American Psychological Association.

Hayes, S. C., Strosahl, K. D., & Wilson, K. G. (2016). *Acceptance and commitment therapy, second edition: The process and practice of mindful change* (2nd ed.). Guilford Publications.

Luoma, J. B. (2007). *Learning ACT: An acceptance & commitment therapy skills-training manual for therapists*. New Harbinger Publications.

Polk, K. L., Schoendorff, B., Webster, M., & Olaz, F. O. (2016). *The essential guide to the ACT matrix: A step-by-step approach to using the ACT matrix model in clinical practice*. New Harbinger Publications.

Westrup, D. (2014). *Advanced acceptance and commitment therapy: The experienced practitioner's guide to optimizing delivery*. New Harbinger Publications.

Lauer, E. (2023). *DBT skills for highly sensitive people: Make emotional sensitivity your superpower using dialectical behavior therapy*. New Harbinger Publications.

Linehan, M. M. (2014). *DBT (R) Skills Training Manual, Second Edition* (2nd ed.). Guilford Publications.

(N.d.). Com.Ar. Retrieved February 12, 2025, from <https://cursosdepsicologia.com.ar/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/THEDIA1.pdf>

QUESTION PAPER PATTERN

(A) FOR CONTINUOUS EVALUATION

20 MARKS (MCQ Test)	MOCK SESSION WITH PEERS AND REPORT FOR THE SESSION
--------------------------------	---

(A-1)

(A-1) RUBRICS FOR CONTINUOUS EVALUATION

20 MARKS	Assignment (10 Marks)
	Viva Voce (10 Marks)

(B)

QUESTION PAPER PATTERN FOR SEMESTER END EXAMINATION

60 MARKS	Q1. Answer in brief (1/2)----- 15 marks
	Q2. Answer in brief (1/2)----- 15 marks
	Q3. Answer in brief (1/2)----- 15 marks
	Q4. Answer in brief (1/2)----- 15 marks