



Approving University Official(s): Yorkville University Academic Council

Responsible Office: Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities

Effective date: January 1, 2024

Last Reviewed Date: December 1, 2023

Next review date: 3 years

[MACP Professional Suitability Policy]

Purpose

In addition to meeting the standards of academic conduct expected of all students at Yorkville University (the “University”), students in the Master of Arts in Counselling Psychology program (the “MACP Program”) are expected to approach their professional responsibilities as counsellors in a manner consistent with the generally accepted ethical standards related to the methods and practice of counselling and psychotherapy. The University holds a reasonable expectation that students in the MACP Program will adhere to recognized ethical obligations and professional standards such as those codified by the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association in its *Code of Ethics*.

This Policy pertains to professional conduct and applies to any course or related learning environment, including practicum placements within the MACP Program, as well as public conduct that impacts on these environments. This Policy reflects the commitment of the University and its Faculty of Behavioural Sciences to support and assist students in becoming professional counsellors, and recognizes the importance of protecting the confidential information, safety and well-being of all students, staff, faculty members, fellow counsellors, and clients.

The University recognizes adherence to ethical and professional standards as integral to graduation from the MACP Program. The University is accordingly committed to ensuring that MACP Program graduates are capable of meeting the ethical and professional standards of their profession, and reserves the right to deny graduation, or to impose discipline, educational requirements, or other remediation, in accordance with this Policy, with respect to any student who demonstrably fails in meeting these standards.

The purposes of this Policy are to identify the type of student conduct that might require

review by the University and to provide guidelines for a fair, timely and effective process of review and resolution. General standards of student conduct are separately defined and governed by the University's policies on Academic Integrity and Honesty, as well as by the Student Code of Conduct. The provisions set out in this Policy shall be implemented in accordance with all applicable legislation, including applicable provincial human rights legislation.

Values and Principles Underlying Ethical and Professional Conduct, as defined by the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association

- Beneficence: being proactive in promoting the client's best interest
- Fidelity: honoring commitments to clients and maintaining integrity in counselling relationships
- Nonmaleficence: not wilfully harming a client and refraining from actions that put clients at risk
- Autonomy: respecting the rights of clients to self-determination
- Justice: respecting the dignity and just treatment of all persons
- Societal Interest: respecting the need to be responsible to society

The full Professional Suitability Policy and Procedures and supporting documents related to that policy can be found at [Yorkville University: Resources](#) (scroll to "Policies and Supporting Documents").

Audience

Definitions

Policy Statement

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Related Information

- MACP Professional Suitability Procedures
- Student Code of Conduct, Policy and Procedures

Contacts

Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities
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Revision Log

Policy URL: