

Multicultural Counseling

Academic Year 2004-2005

Program Covenant

A. Expectations and Responsibilities of Students

1. You are expected to be a responsible and committed member of the learning community. Your first priority is your program. Attending school full time is more than a full time job. Do not create opportunities to be resentful by having multiple commitments simultaneously. Cutting class in order to do other things (going to work, doing homework, other social obligations, etc.) is neglecting your commitment to the program. You are expected to not monopolize the class. Faculty does not evaluate students' participation by how often they speak, but by how well they balance their need to talk with consideration for the class community.
 - (1) Be aware of how your verbal and nonverbal behaviors affect members in the learning community and be honest about how their verbal and nonverbal behaviors affect you.
 - (2) Use "I" message communication technique to assert yourself. Do not wait for someone else to know about what you want and how you feel without your direct verbal communication.
 - (3) Think about the purpose of communication before you express yourself.
 - (4) Ensure that all members have opportunities and encouragement to speak.
 - If you are a talker, make sure that you do not monopolize.
 - If you are a listener, try to express yourself so that we get to know you.
 - (5) Do not personalize the class members' verbal and nonverbal behaviors. You are here to learn and challenge your intellectual as well as emotional growth. Personalization prevents your learning.
 - (6) When you want to address your concerns, only speak from your perspective. Do not include what other members think and say (e.g. "I know lots of students are frustrated..."). The faculty cannot help other students unless they come and raise issues. Dragging in others is often a sign of non-assertiveness or desire to create chaos. Communicate to the faculty what she can do to facilitate your learning. **Do not complain when you chose not to let your faculty know.** Think and feel about your responsibility for your own "irritation" (issue or problem).
2. You are expected to commit yourself to intensive academic work and participate in all facets of the program (book and process seminars, lectures, movement and art workshops, small group activities, learning summary group, etc.) in order to experience interconnectedness as an individual and as a member of the learning community. When you miss any part of the program, you may feel disjointed and disconnected from the program and the class community. Your absence will interfere not only with your learning but also with others'. Your presence as well as absence matters to the class community. Attendance will be taken and will be included as a part of your evaluation. You may lose one credit per three-day absences. **Tardiness will be accumulated and included in attendance.**
3. You are expected to be punctual and stay all the way to the end of the day. When you leave early or come late, you are not only disturbing the class community, but you are also not participating in all facets of the program. There are other students who also have an intense schedule, and even if they want to leave early and take care of other things they stay because they have committed to the program. How you balance self and community will be one of the focal points of faculty evaluation of you.
4. You are expected to complete the assigned readings prior to class. If you don't, you can't fully participate in the discussions and you will find yourself pretending that you've read it or will be worried about someone finding out about the fact that you did not complete your

reading. You will be anxious or use defense mechanisms to “save face”. These will not lead to learning; they will only enable you to pretend, and pretending creates stress, agitation and anxiety. Do not kill your soul by pretending.

5. You are expected to submit complete assignments and projects by the due date. Written assignments must be typed, use font size 11, use uniform margins (at least one inch), be double spaced, be stapled, have page numbers, and have your name on the back of the last page (excluding self- and faculty evaluations). Faculty will not read papers that do not meet these requirements. Please do not wait until the morning of due dates to complete your work, since it is possible to have printer and/or computer problems on that day. If you are going to be absent due to an emergency on the due date, mail to faculty on that day. As indicated above, late assignments will not be counted towards your evaluation. My responsibility as faculty is to allow you to practice skills that lead to professionalism, inner peace and a sense of accomplishment
6. You are expected to balance your rights and responsibilities. When you are responsible as a learner (completing reading assignments, being on time from breaks, etc.), you assert your rights as a learner. When you do not take responsibility as a learner, you are choosing to forfeit your rights (e.g. do not complain about the decisions made while you were absent or late).
7. You are expected to show respect when a faculty member, guest speaker, or another student is talking to the class by listening to the speaker. Your talking or whispering disrupts others’ learning and presenting. One whisper affects everyone in class. If you have questions, ask the speaker and not someone near you. Please assist faculty in creating an optimum learning environment for the class community.
8. You are expected to work with and respect each member (male, female, transgender) who represents various race, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, class, religious affiliation, learning style, language, and emotional, physical and mental abilities.
9. Showing respect includes not using cursing.
10. You are expected to uphold academic honesty. As a program participant, you agree that whenever you copy or use ideas, arguments, or data from sources that you did not create, you will cite the source. You also agree to acknowledge joint authorship of program assignments. All forms of academic dishonesty, including cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism are violations of the Evergreen Social Contract.
11. You are expected to read and act in accordance with the Evergreen social Contract, the Student Conduct Code and the Sexual Harassment Policy. Violators will be dismissed from the program.
12. You are expected to follow the campus grievance and appeals procedure, outlined in the Student Conduct Code. If you have a grievance, it is your responsibility to first take it up with the individual involved. If you feel uncomfortable with a face-to-face encounter, you should consult your faculty. If still no resolution can be reached, the faculty will suggest students go to the Academic Deans, and finally, to follow the college’s formal grievance procedure.
13. You are expected to successfully demonstrate appropriate, college-level writing, thinking, and oral communication skills.
14. Food will be tolerated during class time only if it is not disruptive to others, and only if you clean up after yourself. This is to respect students’ right to process instructional material without distraction.
15. You are expected to learn to use electronic resources. You are expected to check the web page to print and read paper copies of all handouts.
16. You are expected to call (360) 867-6000 on potential days of inclement weather since the college places a message regarding school closures on its telephone system..

B. Evaluation and Award of Credit

1. Criteria for your evaluation are spelled out on the syllabus and in the program covenant. By remaining in this program, you agree to abide by the requirements set forth thereon. Please read the syllabus and the covenant at least **once a week** to remind yourself about the program expectations and due dates. Remember! Faculty evaluation is based on what you have created. Your faculty does not have the right to devalue or change what you have created. You are the **agent** and not the **victim**.
2. You receive credit for fulfilling program requirements and meeting college-level performance standards. At Evergreen, it is possible for a student to attend regularly yet receive reduced credit because of unsatisfactory performance or missing work. Assessment will be based on faculty, peer, and your own written and oral work, participation in seminars and group activities, in-class seminar book essays, and portfolios.
3. If you exhibit a pattern of absence from any program activity, you can expect some loss of credit.
4. You are required to write a self-evaluation (Submit **Thurs. 10th wk**) and a faculty evaluation (**bring** with you for **your eval. conference**) at the end of each quarter. The evaluations must be signed, proofread, typed on the required forms.
5. Deadline for the revision of faculty evaluation of you and your evaluation of your own achievement will be Friday of the first week in a new quarter.

C. Requirements for Requesting a Letter of recommendation from Faculty

1. You need to complete **all three quarters** with attendance of least 90% of the program activities (classes, learning summary group, etc.) **and submitting** at least 95% of all required work for the program on time and with excellent quality for **each quarter**.
2. Give faculty a copy of the goal statement and cover letter you have written to the agency or institution(s) to which you are applying.
3. Make sure you have filled out your portion (such as your name and address) of a form, if you want faculty to fill out the same form.
4. Make your request at least **15 working days prior** to the deadline and provide faculty with the exact destination address.

****My signature below indicates I have read the program covenant and agree to abide by it throughout the year.****

Print your name

Your signature

Date

***Make your own copy before submitting this to your faculty.**