

# Ethics

## Embodying Attachment-Based Practice

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**Course Format:** in-person and/or online

**Course Objectives:** to extend theoretical understanding into practical applications of professional ethics and standards of use of touch in practice

**Students will learn to:**

- Define the practice and purpose of Perfect Touch
- Define and implement informed consent, confidentiality and its limits
- Describe PT's process, session structure, and arc of sessions till termination
- Define and identify transference/counter-transference and their use in the PT process
- Recognize professional roles and boundaries
- Define and identify potential (positive and negative) impacts of dual relationships
- Recognize significance of professional competency
- Recognize importance of professional development and supervision

**Students will be able to:**

- Create and cultivate relationships with clients in accordance to professional ethics
- Educate clients on the ethics and boundaries of their relationships
- Identify their role and ethical stance in relation to client's history and needs
- Develop transparency in practice for the benefit of clients
- Employ a reliable decision-making process for ethical practice
- Make appropriate attempts to reach ethical decisions

**Participants:** This course is suitable for students of Somatic Sex Education (and Sexological Bodywork) and other qualified practitioners in the field of sexuality, trauma, and bodywork who wish to be well-informed about ethical attachment-based practice, potential risks of dual relationships, and their impact on their work with their clientele. The information presented helps create a clear map for ethical decision making in complex relationships and situations as well as ongoing professional growth.



**Outline:** Through a combination of lectures, discussion of suggested readings, online video presentations, and/or in-person practice the course covers a range of relevant topics including the following:

- Definitions of ethics and ethical practice
- Definition and examples of dual relationships
- Discussion of attachment styles in relation to transference and counter-transference
- Possible scenarios of dual relationships
- Ethical decision-making process
- Individual student presentations of ethical questions supported by peer consultation and supervision

## **Final Assignment**

Successful completion of this course requires a short paper on a real or hypothetical situation posing ethical questions in relation to professional standards of practice.