Professional Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting

All students must agree to abide by professional confidentiality in all matters, which means that they will preserve anonymity by disguising the identity of cases when seeking consultation and case reporting.  Student disclosures to one another and to the professor will remain confidential, unless the law requires otherwise.  In all cases, students must be aware of the mandatory reporting laws of the state in which they provide professional caregiving. If they are designated spiritual caregivers within their religious tradition, they need to also be aware of what their religious organization requires.  If students have reason to suspect or have first-hand knowledge of recent, current, or ongoing child abuse or neglect perpetrated on a child currently under the age of 18 years, elder abuse, sexual and domestic violence, or threats of homicide or suicide in any of the pastoral situations they use for fulfilling the requirements of this course they need to seek immediate consultation with supervisors, denominational leaders, and the professor of this course so that proper reporting procedures can be ascertained. We will work together to establish an appropriate pastoral relationship with all parties facing these crises.

State laws on mandatory reporting are available at [State Laws on Mandatory Clergy Reporting (Links to an external site.)](http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/clergymandated.cfm)  Colorado mandatory reporting requirements may be found at [Colorado Revised Statutes (Links to an external site.)](http://www.michie.com/colorado/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp) 19-3-304, 1a, 2(aa, II, III); 13-90-107c.