



# CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR: MAINTAINING AN ETHICAL POSTURE IN A POLITICALLY CHARGED CLIMATE

**MAY 21, 2026**

**1:00pm - 4:15pm**

**MSOM | Fletcher Center**

11120 Medical Campus Rd  
Hagerstown, MD 21742

**\$89**

includes 3 CE Hours

**Contact:**

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*Full attendance and evaluation must be completed to receive course credit/certificate of attendance*

## Description:

Political identity and sociopolitical stressors are increasingly presenting in counseling settings, impacting client wellbeing, relationships, and therapeutic dynamics. This workshop explores how counselors can ethically and effectively navigate politically charged discussions while maintaining respect for client autonomy and the therapeutic relationship. Participants will examine the influence of personal and client values on clinical practice, review relevant ethical and multicultural counseling principles, and develop practical strategies for addressing political diversity in counseling through guided reflection and case examples.

## Participant Learning Objectives:

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Identify ways political beliefs and sociopolitical identities may influence client functioning, counselor perceptions, and the therapeutic relationship.
2. Describe relevant ethical principles and professional standards that guide counselor responses when politically charged issues arise in clinical practice.
3. Recognize potential ethical risks, including value imposition, countertransference, and boundary concerns, when political differences emerge between counselors and clients.
4. Explain ethical decision-making strategies that support therapeutic neutrality while honoring client autonomy.
5. Apply a structured clinical framework for engaging politically charged topics in counseling while maintaining ethical integrity and the therapeutic alliance.

**See back for registration information**

## Featuring Speaker:

**Andrew Graham, PhD, LMHC, LMFT** is Associate Professor of Counselor Education at Asbury Theological Seminary and a licensed clinician in both mental health counseling and marriage and family therapy. He has more than two decades of clinical and teaching experience at the intersection of psychology, theology, and cultural formation. Dr. Graham's scholarship and training focus on faith integration, ethical practice, and counselor development. He regularly presents at national and international conferences on topics related to spirituality in clinical practice, crisis of faith, and ethical care within faith-based contexts.

## Continuing Education Credits

### **Maryland Social Workers:**

Brook Lane is authorized by the Board of Social Work in Maryland to sponsor social work continuing education learning activities and maintains full responsibility for this Program. This training qualifies for Category 1 continuing education units and provides 3.0 credit hours; partial credit will not be awarded.

### **Counselors/Therapists:**

Brook Lane has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 5452. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. Brook Lane is solely responsible for all aspects of the program. This program will provide 3 clock hours; partial credit will not be awarded.



### **Maryland Psychologists:**

The Maryland State Board of Examiners for Psychologists will accept continuing education hours provided by Brook Lane, an approved CE sponsor by the State Board of Social Worker Examiners in Maryland; partial credit will not be awarded.

**Other Professionals:** A certificate of completion noting the number of educational contact hours will be provided.



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