

Healthcare Law and Ethics – AH 231

Number of credits: 1

Course Description: This course is designed to provide the student with an overview of medical law and ethics helping them to understand the multiple legal and ethical issues encountered in the healthcare setting.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- Describe similarities and differences between law and ethics.
- Describe criminal actions that relate to the healthcare worker.
- Describe conduct that may result in the loss of a license/certification for a healthcare professional.
- Describe the term "standard of care."
- Describe various types of medical malpractice.
- Define patient's rights and patient self-determination acts.
- Define differences between licensure and certification.
- Describe confidentiality and the patient's medical record.
- Describe ethical issues relating to life and death.

Instructor: Melissa Coleman, CMT, AHDI-F

Office: Thatcher Hall 2213

Office Hours: MWF 9:00 to 10:00, 1:00 to 4:00; TuThu 1:00 to 4:00

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Textbook: Medical Law and Ethics, 4th Edition; Bonnie F. Fregman; ISBN 978-0-13-255922-5

Course Requirements:

- The student is expected to read the assigned reading material and come to class prepared for discussion.
- The student will be expected to participate in class discussions.
- The student will be required to complete all assignments, chapter tests, and final exam. If prior arrangements have not been made, late assignments are worth half credit.
- Exams are to be closed book, closed notes, and closed neighbors. Only 1 make-up exam is allowed during the semester.
- A letter grade will be awarded upon the completion of the course.

Tentative Course Outline:

January 11:

- Syllabus overview
- Chapter 1: Intro to Medical Law, Ethics, and Bioethics
- Assignment: Article pertinent to medical law, ethics, or bioethics from a reputable website or current newspaper or magazine article for presentation on Jan 20

January 18:

- Chapter 2: The Legal System
- Presentations

January 25:

- Chapter 3: Importance of the Legal System

February 1:

- Chapter 4: Today's Healthcare Environment

February 8:

- Exam: Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4

February 15:

- Chapter 5: The Physician-Patient Relationship

February 22:

- Chapter 6: Professional Liability and Medical Malpractice

March 1:

- Chapter 7: Public Duties of the Physician and the Healthcare Professional
- Assignment: Article pertinent to medical malpractice to present on March 22

March 8:

- Exam: Chapters 5, 6, and 7

March 15- NO class – SPRING BREAK

March 22 :

- Chapter 8: Workplace Law & Ethics
- Presentations – medical malpractice
- Assignment: Article pertinent to confidentiality to present on April 5

March 29 – NO class – EASTER Break

April 5 –

- Chapter 9: The Medical Record
- Chapter 10: Patient Confidentiality and HIPAA
- Presentations – Confidentiality

April 12

- Exam: Chapters 8, 9, and 10

April 19

- Chapter 11: Ethical and Bioethical Issues in Medicine
- Assignment: Article pertinent to ethical issues to present on April 26

April 26

- Chapter 12: Ethical Issues Relating to Life
- Presentations – Ethical Issues

May 3

- Chapter 13: Death & Dying

May 6 - May 9

- Exam: Chapters 11, 12, and 13

Course Evaluation Method: Final grades will be based on 300 points in this course.

- 4 multiple chapter exams worth 50 points each
- 4 presentations worth 10 points each
- Attendance worth 2 points each week = 28 points

282 – 300 A = 94%

264 – 281 B = 88%

246 – 263 C = 82%

228 – 245 D = 76%

265 and below =FAIL

Academic Integrity: Respect for fellow students and the instructor is required. All students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity. Dishonesty in the classroom or laboratory and with assignments, quizzes and exams is a serious offense and is subject to disciplinary action by the instructor and college administration. For more information, refer to the Student Handbook.

Disabilities and Special Needs: If you have a disability for which you need accommodations, you are encouraged to contact your instructor and the Learning Center (228-5479 or 1-888-918-5623) to request disability support services as early as possible during the beginning of the semester.