

## 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 1109

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 13:

- 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 20:

- Chapter 2: The Legal System
- Presentations

#### January 27:

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#### February 3:

- Chapter 3: Importance of the Legal System

#### February 10:

- Chapter 4: Today's Healthcare Environment
- Exam: Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4

#### February 17:

- Chapter 5: The Physician-Patient Relationship

**February 24:**

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**March 2:**

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**March 9:**

- Chapter 6: Professional Liability and Medical Malpractice
- Chapter 7: Public Duties of the Physician and the Healthcare Professional
- Assignment: Article pertinent to medical malpractice to present on March 23

**March 23**

- Chapter 8: Workplace Law & Ethics
- Presentations
- Exam: Chapters 6, 7, 8

**March 30**

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**April 6 – Holiday – No class**

**April 13:**

- Chapter 9: The Medical Record

**April 20**

- Chapter 10: Patient Confidentiality and HIPAA
- Center for Rural Health HIPAA certification
- Exam: Chapters 9 and 10

**April 27**

- Chapter 11: Ethical and Bioethical Issues in Medicine
- Chapter 12: Ethical Issues Relating to Life

**May 4**

- Chapter 13: Death & Dying

**May 7 - May 11**

- 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
- 2 presentations worth 25 points each
- Center for Health HIPAA certification worth 50 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.