WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE: Medical Law & Ethics
COURSE NUMBER: ALH 402 DIS

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

With successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze conceptual foundations relevant to ethical decision making related to the delivery of healthcare.
2. Examine medical laws and ethical issues relevant to the healthcare workplace and care delivery continuum.
3. Evaluate the role of various health care practitioners as members of the health care team related to ethical decision making when complying with medical law.
4. Evidence critical thinking skills in class discussion, written work, online assignments, and oral/visual/voice-enhanced presentations.

II. METHODOLOGY & POLICIES

A. Teaching Method Options
   Readings, Lecture, Multimedia, Discussion Board, and Group Activities

B. Evaluation Methods
   Rubrics and grading criteria are provided for all assignments. Please read the rubrics and the grading criteria before completing the assignments. Following the assignment criteria will optimize your efforts toward successful course completion.

Legal/Ethical Case Review (Group Blackboard Discussion): (Objectives 1 – 4)

Each week a group discussion board topic will be posted. Students will be expected to post to the forum and make a minimum of two responses to the topic online each week. Grades will be based on the posted discussion board rubric.

Internet Activities (Objectives 1 – 4)

Students will complete the assigned internet activity and prepare a 1-2 page discussion on the topic including references to the readings in the text. Each paper should address how each student’s place of work addresses or is affected by the specific topic. The assignments are designed to enhance learning related to medical law and ethics, and the student’s professional healthcare practice. A grading rubric will be available in the course document section on the blackboard menu bar.
Structured Viewing / Group Discussion / Film Worksheet (Objectives 1 – 4)

During designated sessions, students will view a specific film, meet via “Group Pages” to discuss the films medical ethics and legal issues, and then present their finding to the group via discussion board. The purpose of this assignment is to objectively identify medical laws or statutes and apply ethical understanding to specific situations that are depicted in this film. Your grade will depend on your ability to 1) objectively evaluate the ethical issues presented in the film, 2) apply ethical concepts discussed to date, and 3) clearly and concisely communicate your conclusions by answering each question on the worksheet. A grading rubric will be available in the course document section on the blackboard menu bar. The assigned films are the following: The Island, First Do No Harm, John Q. The films are available through Netflix and the Wilmington University library.

Ethics Committee Research Paper: (Objectives 1 – 4)

***This assignment is used for outcomes assessment and cannot be altered. Use of grading tool required for grading. Faculty must complete established outcomes assessment process. ***

Each student will write a 10- 12 page paper discussing the following: The role and functions of an Ethics Committee The procedure for requesting a Ethics Committee consult A review of the ethical issue, the student’s recommendations including the supporting legal / ethical references. The paper must demonstrate knowledge about the issue and the associated state laws/statute that apply to the problem. A grading rubric will be available in the course document section on the blackboard menu bar.

Participation (Objectives 1 – 4)

The success of this course depends on active participation, group work, and critical thinking by all students.

Please Note: A minimum grade of C- is required to pass this course.

III. COURSE POLICIES:

College of Health Professions Attendance Policy: Because class sessions are highly interactive, any student’s absence diminishes the quality of learning for everyone.

Students are expected to attend all in-class sessions and to log on and participate in all online sessions as the course format requires. Failure to do so may be considered an unexcused absence. Be apprised that faculty have the ability to monitor your access to Blackboard sessions. Please note that your weekly attendance is electronically tracked and is a criterion for your final course grade. Communication with your course faculty is essential.

College of Health Professions Response Time Policy:
Faculty will generally respond to all student communication within 24-48 hours unless a weekend or holiday. Please refer to your course faculty’s specific availability as noted within the course.

**Online Learning Considerations:**

Online learning courses are offered in a seven week format which is designed to move the motivated student through the nursing curriculum at an accelerated pace. A significant amount of the student learning is done via independent assignments and requires the use of the Internet and the Blackboard course learning management system.

Resources for Online Students, including Blackboard Technical Support, can be accessed at: http://www.wilmu.edu/onlinelearning/dl_current.aspx

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