

Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare

HCA 300

Dr. Paul Zimmerman
Online Summer I, 2019

Dr. Paul Zimmerman
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Office Hours: I will not have office hours, but will check email regularly. If you need to speak with me, email and I will arrange a time to discuss your questions.

Required Readings

Textbook: George D. Pozgar, *Legal and Ethical Issues for Health Professionals*. Fifth Edition. Jones and Barlett Learning, 2020. ISBN: 9781284144185.

Additional readings may be posted on the class page at my.ncwc.edu.

Course Description

Purpose: This course presents an overview of legal and ethical issues facing managers and providers in health care. It provides students with a foundation of health law and ethics and reviews a wide variety of health care legal and ethical situations and dilemmas. The goals are to provide students with practical knowledge of health laws and ethics and their application in the real world of health care.

General Course Objectives: By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- Assess and demonstrate health care leadership styles, proficiencies, and competencies required to manage diverse health care settings to achieve excellence.
- Demonstrate collective leadership capabilities to discuss health care issues, collaborate on administrative solutions, and provide feedback to peers.
- Analyze specific health care case studies, situations, issues, and or research to demonstrate critical thinking for effective problem solving, analysis, and decision making.
- Conduct professional research and literature review to analyze findings.
- Lead and or collaborate in teams to address problems faced by health care administrators or leaders utilizing program knowledge to weigh problems and solutions.
- Demonstrate high quality academic written and oral communication skills including professional and appropriate language of the industry/field, including medical terminology.

Academic Honesty Policy: Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, falsification, forgery, stealing, buying, or selling information. Cheating is taking credit for work, which has been completed by another person, or assisting others in the misrepresentation of their academic work. If you are still unsure what constitutes academic honesty, see the college's policy regarding plagiarism and cheating, pages 76-78 of the 2014-15 Catalogue.

ADA Act: Students with a documented disability who believe that they may need accommodations in this class should contact the Director of Counseling and Disability Services

in the Student Success Center as soon as possible to coordinate and implement accommodations in a timely fashion.

Email Attachments: Everything that you send to me as an email attachment must be sent as an **.doc or .docx** file. If you submit an assignment that cannot be opened because it is formatted incorrectly, it will be considered late even if it is sent before the deadline.

Case Study Analysis: You will complete FOUR CSA throughout the term – one for each unit of the course. For each analysis you will summarize the content of the case study and answer the questions relating to each one found in the textbook. The page numbers for each case study that you will analyze are given below. Each CSA should be 2-3 double-spaced pages.

Unit 1: Spousal Rights in Decision Making, Page 116, Chapter 3

Unit 2: The Court Was Appalled, Page 163, Chapter 6

Unit 3: Sexual Assault in the Recovery Room, Page 235, Chapter 8

Unit 4: Abuse of Residents, Page 355, Chapter 13

CSAs are due on Thursdays by 11:59 pm (see the schedule below). Please contact me in advance of the deadline if you have any questions.

These assignments should be uploaded onto the class page under “Coursework.” Name the file including your last name and the number of the assignment. For example:

YourLastNameCSA1.doc for the first analysis, YourLastNameCSA2.doc for the second, etc...

CSAs are worth up to 20% of your total grade.

Discussion Posts: Each Sunday you will see that new discussion questions will be posted on our class page. Click on “Collaboration” and then “Forums” to access the questions. You must respond to the questions posted the week that you are responding. You may post at any point during the week but they **MUST** be done by each Wednesday at 11:59 pm. You will **NOT** receive credit for answering questions posted from a previous week. It is **your responsibility** to keep track of how many discussion posts you have completed and have remaining to complete by the deadlines.

While the purpose of these posts is to encourage a thoughtful, engaging discussion, everyone must be respectful of one another. These posts should be scholarly and thoughtful – therefore it is necessary that you read earlier posts to make sure that your comments are relevant. You will be graded not only on the timeliness of your post but also the quality of your response. Mean-spirited, disrespectful, or culturally insensitive posts will not be accepted.

Students must complete **EIGHT** total posts throughout the course. In total, discussion posts are worth 10% of your total grade.

Exams: Tests will cover the material from the unit we have most recently covered. Exam material will come from the textbook. Exams will include short answer (1-2 paragraph answers) and identification.

Exams will be made available at 11:59 pm on Tuesdays and be due by 11:59 pm on Fridays – this means that you have a 72 hour window to complete your exams. You may access the exams by clicking on “Coursework,” then “Unit,” and “Exam.”

Make-up exams and extensions to due-dates will be granted only to students who have well documented health, family, or work-related emergencies. If you fail to take an exam, you fail the class. Make-up exams or missed assignments must be dealt with within TWO DAYS of missing exam or assignment. After that point, regardless of reason, you will receive a 0 for the assignment.

Final Exam: Unlike the exams for Units 1-3, the final exam will cover material only related to Chapter 15, which is a large case study. It will only contain short answer questions.

Keep These Points in Mind:

- As this is an online class, students must be well organized and stay on top of readings and assignments. It is your responsibility to contact the instructor if you have questions – you cannot expect that I am aware of difficulties you may be having in the course, so be in frequent communication to help yourself if you have trouble or fall behind.
- The course is divided into four learning units. There will be an exam over each unit’s material.
- The main sources of information for the course are the textbook, sourcebook and posted lecture notes – you should read the text and notes thoroughly.
- Just like in any course, all of your answers – in discussion posts, lecture summaries, and exams – **MUST BE IN YOUR OWN WORDS**. Failure to do this is **PLAGERISM** and will result in an F for the course and you will be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs.
- It is your responsibility to check your my.ncwc email regularly because this is the primary means of finding out about announcements and changes to the schedule.
- Also, all email communications must include a salutation (Dear Dr. Zimmerman) and a signature (your name).
- Finally, and I cannot stress this enough, **YOU MUST HAVE ACCESS TO A RELIABLE INTERNET CONNECTION**. Poor internet connections are not sufficient reasons for late assignments or missed assessment deadlines. Failure to meet this basic requirement would be like missing class because your alarm clock didn’t go off. **UNACCEPTABLE!**

Grading Schema:

Exam 1	10%
Exam 2	10%
Exam 3	10%
Exam 4 (Final exam)	20%
Discussion Posts	10%
<u>Case Study Analysis</u>	<u>40% (10% each)</u>
TOTAL	100%

Grading Scale:

93-100%	A
90-92.9%	A-
87-89.9%	B+

83-86.9%	B
80-82.9%	B-
77-79.9%	C+
73-76.9%	C
70-72.9%	C-
67-69.9%	D+
63-66.9%	D
60-62.9%	D-
Below 60	F

Class Schedule

May 6 – June 28

Unit 1: Introduction to Health Care Ethics – May 6 - 18

Textbook Chapters:

- 1: Introduction to Ethics
- 3: End of Life Dilemmas

Assessment:

- Introductory Post: Due by Tuesday, May 7
- Discussion Post 1: Due by Wednesday, May 8
- Discussion Post 2: Due by Wednesday, May 15
- Case Study Analysis 1: Spousal Rights in Decision Making (p. 116): Due by Thursday, May 16
- Exam 1: Due by Friday, May 17

Unit 2: Health Care Law – May 19 – June 1

Textbook Chapters:

- 5: Development of Law
- 6: Introduction to Law

Assessment:

- Discussion Post 3: Due by Wednesday, May 22
- Discussion Post 4: Due by Wednesday, May 29
- Case Study Analysis 2: The Court Was Appalled (p. 163): Due by Thursday, May 30
- Exam 2: Due by Friday, May 31

Unit 3: Ethical and Legal Issues for Organizations and Physicians - June 2 - 15

Textbook Chapters:

- 8: Organizational Ethics and the Law
- 10: Physicians' Ethical and Legal Issues

Assessment:

- Discussion Post 5: Due by Wednesday, June 5
- Discussion Post 6: Due by Wednesday, June 12
- Case Study Analysis 3: Sexual Assault in the Recover Room (p. 235): Due by Thursday, June 13
- Exam 3: Due by Friday, June 14

Unit 4 – Patients' Rights and Ethical Dilemmas – June 16 - 29

Textbook Chapters:

13: Patient Abuse

14: Patient Rights and Responsibilities

15: Summary Case: Search for Truth

Assessment:

Discussion Post 7: Due by Wednesday, June 19

Discussion Post 8: Due by Wednesday, June 26

Case Study Analysis 4: Abuse of Residents (p. 355) Due by Thursday, June 27

Exam 4: Due by Friday, June 28

****This syllabus can be adjusted as needed throughout the term.****