

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Human Values and the Health Sciences PH-447

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**This course has been approved as a Colonnade Connections course under the Social & Cultural sub-category.*

Course Description

This course is designed to help students explore and analyze some of the difficult ethical, legal, and social dilemmas confronting patients, medical practitioners and other health-care professionals in contemporary society. Consideration will be given to the philosophical, theoretical, and practical aspects facing both, health care providers and health care consumers. Students will be presented with ethical situations commonly encountered in the delivery and consumption of health care services. Students will also be exposed to various Codes of Ethics which guide the health professions. Through the use of case studies students will be challenged to resolve an array of ethical dilemmas. Finally, students will discuss a contemporary health and medical ethics case study.

This course is structured differently than your traditional 16 week course. It is presented in modules instead of weeks so it's pretty much self-paced meaning that you can proceed at your own pace. However, you will need adhere to the due dates. **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

This course also requires students to be familiar with Blackboard. Course assignments can be found on Blackboard and you will be expected to submit your work to me using this utility. All class material will be archived here as well.

Required text

1- Ruggiero, V.R., Thinking Critically about Ethical Issues 9th ed. (2015), McGraw Hill Publishers.

OR

2- Ruggiero, V.R., Thinking Critically about Ethical Issues 8th ed. (2012), McGraw Hill Publishers.

2- Picoulet, J., My Sister's Keeper (2004) Atria Books: New York. [ISBN 9781416549178](#). [ISBN 141654917X](#).

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the role of personal values and principles as they apply to ethical decision making.
2. Discuss significant ethical theories in terms of their key values or principles.

3. Recognize and discuss the obligations and ethical responsibilities of health care professionals to various stakeholders.
4. Identify and discuss the challenges inherent in clinical ethics in areas such as informed consent, patient self-determination, confidentiality, and genetic technologies.
5. Compare and contrast the ethical considerations of various perspectives regarding health care allocation, and access.
6. Analyze and synthesize the impact of health policy on various health issues and to various stakeholders.
7. Demonstrate critical thinking skills. Critical thinking means to let go of feelings and employing a conscious mental process to solve a problem, make a decision, or gain understanding.

Class Policies

1. All work will be submitted to the instructor on the Blackboard utility. Email is not acceptable.
2. All communication for this course should be conducted using the email feature on Blackboard. Do not expect a response to emails sent from or to other accounts.
3. Feedback on assignments will be sent to the student within 5 working days.
4. Any evidence of academic misconduct shall be treated in accordance with college/university rules and procedures.
5. All rebuts to grades earned must be made in writing and submitted in within one week after receiving the grade.
6. Additional assignments for extra credit will not be given, please don't ask.

Disability Statement

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aid or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services (OFSDS), located in the Student success Center in DUC A201. The OFSDS can be reached at (270) 745-5004 V/TDD. Please do not request accommodations directly from the instructor without a letter from the OFSDS.

WKU Policy on Plagiarism

To represent ideas or interpretations taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offence. The academic work of students must be their own. Students must give author(s) credit for any source material used. To lift directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage after having changed a few words, even if the source is cited, is also plagiarism.

WKU Policy on Cheating

No student shall receive or give assistance not authorized by the instructor in taking examinations or in the preparation of an essay, laboratory report, problem assignment, or other project that is submitted for purposes of grade determination.

Course Requirements:

	<u>Objectives</u> <u>Met</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Assignments Due</u>
Module 1	1,2	Course Introduction (The need for Ethics) Plagiarism Basics of Ethics	Read Chapters 1-5 and Chapter 12 Re-read Chapter 1 Quiz 1 the Context for Ethics. Assignment 1 (The Nature of Man)
Module 2	1,2	The Role of the Majority View & The Role of Feelings Writing about Moral Issues (pg. 192)	Re-read chapters 2&3 Read "Writing about moral issues and researching moral issues" found in the Appendix. Assignment 2 (Plagiarism) Complete Inquiry. Quiz 2 Writing about Ethics
Module 3	1,2	The Role of Conscience	Re-read Chapter 4 Complete Inquiry. Assignment 3 (Right or Wrong).
Module 4	1,2	The Role of Culture in Ethics	Re-read Chapter 5 Assignment 4 (Common Religious Concepts) Complete inquiry
Module 5	3,4	A Foundation for Judgment Codes of Ethics	Read Chapters 6-12 Re-read Chapter 6 Assignment 5 (Religion and Americans) & Assignment 6 (Christianity and Morality)
Module 6	3,4	Basic Criteria	Re-read Chapter 7 Assignment 7 (Codes of Ethics)
Module 7	2,3,4	Considering Consequences	Re-read Chapter 8 Assignment 8 (Constitution & Health Care). Complete Inquiry
Module 8	4,5,6	Considering Obligations	Re-read Chapter 9 Assignment 9 Health Care: a Right or Privilege?
Module 9	1,2,3,4,5,6	Considering Moral Ideals Determining Moral Responsibility	Re-read Chapter 10-11 Complete assignments 10 Ethical Conundrums
Module 10	3,4,5,6	My Sister's Keeper	Re-read Chapter 11 Complete Assignments 11a and 11b
Module 11	3,4,5,6	Dollars & Dentists	Dollars & Dentists Complete Assignment 12 Dollars & Dentists

Assignment Values

Assignment 1	The Nature of Man	10
Assignment 2	Plagiarism	10
Assignment 3	Right or Wrong?	10
Assignment 4	Common Religious Concepts and Ethics	15
Assignment 5	Religions & Americans	20
Assignment 6	Religion & Morality	15
Assignment 7	Code of Ethics	30
Assignment 8	The Constitution & Health Care	10
Assignment 9	Health Care Right or Privilege?	50
Assignment 10	Health Care Conundrums	60
Assignment 11a	Medical Ethics Terminology	30
Assignment 11b	Stem Cell & Umbilical Cord Research	20
Assignment 12	Dollars & Dentist	60
Inquiry's		100
Quizzes		50
	Total Points Possible	490

Grading Scale

A = 100-90% of points possible

B = 89-80%

C = 79-70%

D = 69-60%