HTEC-1110: ETHICS FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: HTEC-1110 : Ethics for Health Care Professionals

Board of Trustees:
May 2026

Academic Term:
Fall 2026

Subject Code
HTEC - Health Technology

Course Number:
1110

Title:
Ethics for Health Care Professionals

Catalog Description:
Survey course emphasizing basic definitions, concepts and issues of clinical law and ethics for health care professionals. Ethical decision-making models will be explained utilizing professional-patient relationship and case studies.

Credit Hour(s):
1

Lecture Hour(s):
1

Lab Hour(s):
0

Other Hour(s):
0

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite
ENG-0995 Applied College Literacies, or appropriate score on English Placement Test.

Note: ENG-0990 Language Fundamentals II taken prior to Fall 2021 will also meet prerequisite requirements.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):
Explain/Interpret ethical situations from the perspective of a patient, a health care practicioner, or advocate of medical care.

Objective(s):
1. Define basic clinical ethics terms, principles, values, theories, duties, and character traits.
2. Identify clinical ethics resources, issues and problems, using appropriate terminology and making appropriate distinctions.
3. Explain basic concepts of health care law and patient/professional rights involved in medical care.
4. Describe the basic steps in the decision-making process with ethical dilemmas.
5. Discuss personal beliefs and values, and the social and legal considerations which influence decisions about ethical issues.

Methods of Evaluation:
1. Examinations
2. Assignments

3. Case Study
4. Participation in classroom discussion

Course Content Outline:

1. Overview of the clinical ethics movement
   a. Research abuses in the United States
   b. The National Research Act
   c. Medical discovery and technology
   d. Major U.S. court cases
2. Clinical ethics defined, described and distinguished
   a. Ethics morality and law
   b. Sources of moral belief
   c. Ethical theories
   d. Deontological ethics
   e. Teleological ethics
3. Health care law defined and described
   a. Basic types
      i. contract law
      ii. tort law
      iii. assault and battery
      iv. liability
   b. Professional and personal liability
   c. Patient"s right to self-determination
   d. Causation, damages and scope of duty
   e. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
4. Core concepts in clinical ethics: principles and values
   a. Ethical principles and values
      i. autonomy
      ii. beneficence
      iii. non-maleficence
      iv. justice
   b. Duties and rights
   c. Moral agency of the professional
      i. clinical skills, competence and standards
      ii. character traits and virtues
      iii. paternalism
5. Concept of ethical decision making related to medical care and the professional-patient relationship
   a. Five-step process
      i. data collection
      ii. issue identification
      iii. option identification and evaluation
      iv. decision and action
      v. evaluation
   b. Casuistry
      i. identification of case details
      ii. identification of analogous cases
      iii. determination of moral maxims
      iv. accumulation of arguments for options
      v. resolutions and decisions
6. Ethical and moral issues across the life span
   a. Care for the terminally ill
   b. Forgoing life support
   c. Advanced directives
7. Professional and institutional relationships and society
   a. Responsibilities to self and personal integrity
   b. Peer relationships
   c. Business concerns and conflicts of interests

d. Allocation of health care resources
e. The professionals as good citizens

Religious Accommodation

Before reviewing the course schedule, students should carefully review the following religious accommodation policy and other required instructional policies:

Religious Accommodation:

Students seeking an accommodation for absences permitted under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act must provide the instructor with written notice of the specific dates for which the student requires an accommodation and must do so not later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of instruction. Please submit requests for accommodations at this link: https://portal2.tri-c.edu/ReligiousAccommodation/ Religious Accommodation Form. Students with questions about their religious accommodations under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act may contact the College's Office of General Counsel and Legal Services by phone at 216.987.4856 or via email at legal@tri-c.edu.

Other Required Instructional Policies:

https://www.tri-c.edu/student-resources/curriculum/documents/syllabus-part-b.pdf

Weekly Schedule

	Topics
Week 1	Introduction to Ethics
Week 2	Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas, End-of-Life Dilemmas
Week 3	Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas, End-of-Life Dilemmas
Week 4	Health Care Ethics Committee, Development of Law
Week 5	Health Care Ethics Committee, Development of Law
Week 6	Introduction to Law, Government Ethics and Law
Week 7	Introduction to Law, Government Ethics and Law
Week 8	Organizational Ethics and the Law, Health Care Professionals Legal-Ethical Issues
Week 9	Organizational Ethics and the Law, Health Care Professionals Legal-Ethical Issues
Week 10	Physician Ethical and Legal Issues, Employee Rights and Responsibilities
Week 11	Physician Ethical and Legal Issues, Employee Rights and Responsibilities
Week 12	Physician Ethical and Legal Issues, Employee Rights and Responsibilities
Week 13	Physician Ethical and Legal Issues, Employee Rights and Responsibilities
Week 14	Patient Consent, Patient Abuse, Patient Rights and Responsibilities
Week 15	Patient Consent, Patient Abuse, Patient Rights and Responsibilities
Week 16	Final Exam Week

The Course Schedule is subject to change due to pedagogical needs, instructor discretion, parts of term, and unexpected events.

Required/Recommended Readings

Pozgar, G. D., *Legal and ethical issues for Health Professionals*. Jones & Bartlett Learning.

Resources for the Instructor

Elsevier. (2023) *Legal And Ethical Issues for Health Professions*, New York, NY: Elsevier.

Tamparo, Carol. (2022) *Medical Law, Ethics, & Bioethics for the Health Professions*, Philadelphia, PA: F.A. Davis.

Fremgen, Bonnie. (2024) *Healthcare Law and Ethics*, Harrisburg, PA: Pearson.

Morrison, Eileen E. (2025) *Health Care Ethics: Critical Issues for the 21st Century*, Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett.

Hammaker, Donna K., Knadig, Thomas M., et al. (2022) *Health Care Ethics and the Law*, Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett.

vaughn, Lewis. (2022) *Bioethics: Principles, Issues, and Cases*, New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Sanbar, S. Sandy. (2024) *Legal Medicine: Health Care Law and Medical Ethics*, New York, NY: Elsevier.

Additional Resources for the Instructor

Black's Law Dictionary. Thomson Reuters. (n.d.). https://legal.thomsonreuters.com/en/products/law-books/blacks-law-dictionary

Top of page
Key: 2374