UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF NURSING

COURSE SYLLABUS

FALL 2015

COURSE NUMBER               NUR 3826 Section 6876

COURSE TITLE                     Legal and Ethical Issues in Nursing

CREDITS                                2

PLACEMENT             BSN Program: 3rd Semester Upper Division

PREREQUISITES                  NUR 3825 Introduction to the Profession of Nursing

COREQUISITES None

FACULTY Sally Bethart, MSN, ARNP, APHN-BC

[Sbeth12@ufl.edu](mailto:Sbeth12@ufl.edu) (352) 273-6372 HPNP 4203

Office hours: Wednesdays 1:00PM-3:00PM and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION   The purpose of this course is to examine legal issues and ethical dilemmas in nursing practice. Consequences of ethical misconduct and legal malpractice are explored. Emphasis is on ethical decision making processes and recognition of negligent practices. Focus is on case analysis of legal and ethical issues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES         Upon completion of this course, the student will:

1. Analyze basic legal concepts relevant to the issues of negligence in the practice of professional nursing.
2. Describe ethical principles related to decision making with clients across the lifespan.
3. Use an ethical decision making model to analyze complex ethical dilemmas in diverse populations.
4. Discuss accountability for protecting confidential and private healthcare information from diverse information sources.
5. Analyze potential conflicts between personal beliefs and values and professional values on legal and ethical dilemmas in practice.
6. Evaluate professional responses to selected ethical and legal issues.

COURSE SCHEDULE

E-Learning in Canvas is the course management system that you will use for this course. E-Learning in Canvas is accessed by using your Gatorlink account name and password at <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>. There are several tutorials and student help links on the E-Learning login site. If you have technical questions call the UF Computer Help Desk at 352-392-HELP or send email to [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

It is important that you regularly check your Gatorlink account email for College and University wide information and the course E-Learning site for announcements and notifications.

Course websites are generally made available on the Friday before the first day of classes.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

 Advanced legal concepts relevant to health care

* 1. negligence
  2. malpractice
  3. intentional torts

1. Liability for actions in practice
   1. consequences for negligence
   2. privacy
   3. advocacy
   4. peer review
2. Ethical theories and principles
3. Ethical decision making process
4. Rights-based issues across the lifespan
5. Informed consent

TEACHING METHODS

Lectures and quizzes to be completed prior to class. Classroom time will be utilized for small group discussions, case analysis and class presentations.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Participation in small group cases analysis, presentations, completion of e-learning assignments, written paper (required learning activity), and continuing development of e-portfolio.

EVALUATION METHODS/COURSE GRADE CALCULATION

Quizzes 20%

Current Event Presentation 20%

Legal Case Analysis Paper 20%

Code of Ethics Paper 20%

Ethical Case Analysis Paper 20%

100%

*Assignments/Papers will be returned within 2 weeks of assignment due date.*

MAKE UP POLICY

This course does not permit make-up work for unexcused assignments not completed by the due date. Students who have extraordinary circumstances preventing assignment completion should notify the course instructor **prior** to the scheduled due dates or as soon as possible thereafter. The course instructor will then make an effort to accommodate reasonable requests. One assignment point will be deducted for each day on a late submission.

GRADING SCALE/QUALITY POINTS

A 95-100 (4.0) C 74-79\* (2.0)

A- 93-94 (3.67) C- 72-73 (1.67)

B+ 91- 92 (3.33) D+ 70-71 (1.33)

B 84-90 (3.0) D 64-69 (1.0)

B- 82-83 (2.67) D- 62-63 (0.67)

C+ 80-81 (2.33) E 61 or below (0.0)

\* 74 is the minimal passing grade

For more information on grades and grading policies, please refer to University’s grading policies: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

University and College of Nursing Policies:

Please see the College of Nursing website for a full explanation of each of the following policies - <http://nursing.ufl.edu/students/student-policies-and-handbooks/course-policies/>.

* Attendance
* Academic Honesty
* UF Grading Policy
* Accommodations due to Disability
* Religious Holidays
* Counseling and Mental Health Services
* Student Handbook
* Faculty Evaluations
* Student Use of Social Media

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological*

*Association.* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Guido, G. (2012). *Legal and ethical issues in nursing*. (6th ed.). USA: Pearson

WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE – (subject to change at the discretion of the course instructor)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **TOPIC** |
| Week 1  08/26/15 | Welcome – Start Here Module   * Introduction to Course   Module 1   * Introduction to the U.S. Legal System |
| Week 2  09/02/15 | Module 1   * Introduction to the U.S. Legal System (continued) |
| Week 3  09/09/15 | Module 2   * Cause of Action   + Case Analysis |
| Week 4  09/16/15 | Module 3   * Cause of Action   + Case Analysis |
| **DATE** | **TOPIC** |
| Week 5  09/23/15 | Module 4   * Cause of Action   + Case Analysis |
| Week 6  09/30/15 | Quest Lecturer  Attorney David Delaney, Partner at Dell Graham Law Firm |
| Week 7  10/07/15 | Module 5   * Law and Ethics: The Gray Areas   + Case Analysis |
| Week 8  10/14/15 | Module 6   * Ethical Theories * Ethical Decision Making Frameworks * Nursing Code of Ethics |
| Week 9  10/21/15 | Module 7   * Professional Nursing Ethics: Reproductive Issues   + Case Analysis * Nursing Code of Ethics |
| Week 10  10/28/15 | Module 8   * Professional Nursing Ethics: Infant/Child/Adolescent Rights   + Case Analysis * Nursing Code of Ethics |
| Week 11  11/04/15 | Module 9   * Professional Nursing Ethics: Genetics and Genomics   + Case Analysis * Nursing Code of Ethics |
| Week 12  11/11/15 | Veteran’s Day Holiday – No Class |
|  | Module 10   * Professional Nursing Ethics: Death and Dying   + Case Analysis * Nursing Code of Ethics |
| Week 13  11/18/15 | Module 11   * Professional Nursing Ethics: Vulnerable Populations in Research   + Case Analysis * Nursing Code of Ethics |
| Week 14  11/25/15 | Thanksgiving Holiday – No Class |
| Week 15  12/02/15 | Module 12   * Professional Nursing Ethics: Public Health * Case Analysis   Nursing Code of Ethics |
| Week 16  12/09/15 | Module 13   * Professional Nursing Ethics: Vaccines   + Case Analysis   Nursing Code of Ethics |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Approved: | Academic Affairs Committee:  General Faculty:  UF Curriculum Committee: | 07/05; 10/07; 09/09, 04/13  07/05; 10/07; 09/09, 04/13  08/00; 10/09 |