

**HS450-002 (45029): Law, Values, and Health Care**  
**Oakland University**  
**School of Health Sciences, Fall 2017**

**Instructor:** Laurel Stevenson, PhD, MPH

**Contact:** [stevenson@oakland.edu](mailto:stevenson@oakland.edu) (Please use Moodle Messages for main course-related questions/issues)

**Office:** Human Health Building 3099

**Office Hours:** Tuesday/Thursday 10:00am-11:00am or by appointment

**Course description:** This is an online course where we will examine the ethical theories, legal concepts, and institutions that shape and control professional responsibility, licensure and related problems in the organization and delivery of health care services, along with the questions that are associated with maintaining and terminating life. Application of knowledge acquired in general education and core AHS/HS courses. Satisfies the University General Education Capstone Writing Requirement. **Course Prerequisites:** *Senior standing, WRT 160.*

**General Education Learning Outcomes: After completion of this course, students will have:**

**A. Writing**

1. Knowledge of the elements, writing processes, and organizing strategies for creating analytical and expository prose.
2. Effective rhetorical strategies appropriate to the topic, audience, context, and purpose.

**B. Integration Knowledge Area (Capstone)**

1. Appropriate uses of a variety of methods of inquiry and recognition of ethical considerations that arise.
2. The ability to integrate the knowledge learned in general education and its relevance to the student's life and career.

**Course Objectives** (After completion of this course, students will be able to):

1. Identify and understand key ethical and moral principles to apply in analyzing issues in medical ethics.
2. Describe the development of legal concepts and apply them to key subject areas in medical ethics.
3. Comprehend the attributes and limitations that the law brings to biomedical developments.
4. Identify and analyze the rights and responsibilities of health care providers and patients.
5. Apply ethical principles and legal concepts to common dilemmas in medical ethics in classroom discussion and through preparation of a written case analysis.
6. Describe decision-making forums for resolving dilemmas in medical ethics.
7. Identify future trends in medical ethics.
8. Understand the role of licensure and federal and state regulation of medical professionals.
9. Understand the role and influence of professional ethics in health care delivery.
10. Describe the elements of a malpractice claim and the impact of malpractice litigation on health care delivery.
11. Demonstrate appropriate use of a variety of methods of inquiry and recognition of ethical considerations that arise and the ability to integrate the knowledge learned in general education and its relevance to the student's life and career.
12. Successfully apply four cross-cutting generic capacities that are of the Oakland University General Education program, namely, critical thinking, social awareness, effective communications, and subject specific information literacy.
13. Demonstrate knowledge of the elements, writing processes, and organizing strategies for creating analytical and expository prose.

**Required course material and readings:**

Jones, G. & Demarco, J. (2016). *Bioethics in Context: Moral, Legal, and Social Perspectives*. Broadview Press: Ontario, Canada.

Other readings will be posted on Moodle.

Each reading assignment should be completed **prior** to the weekly activities for which it is assigned. The readings provide critical background information and the foundation needed to thoughtfully participate in discussions and to successfully complete class activities.

**Technical Skills Required:** You are expected to have a moderate level of computer proficiency. You should already be comfortable doing all of the following:

- Using your chosen computer operating system and a web browser
- Following online directions for using a new program
- Typing at least 20 words a minute
- Troubleshooting basic computer problems
- Working through problems you can't resolve on your own with remote support technicians

**Instructional methods/course activities:** This course will be delivered online. Weekly activities and assignments will include readings, multimedia presentations, videos, social media activities, group discussion forums, and outside activities you will be asked to complete on your own time. For example, you may be asked to interview a friend or family member and then write a response about the interview.

**Course communication:** Moodle will be used for course-related announcements. The best way to reach the instructor is through Moodle Messages.

All announcements, assignments, and grades will be posted on Moodle. It is the student's responsibility to regularly check for announcements, reading materials, and assignment instructions.

*If any student experiences a problem or issue regarding course content, please contact the instructor with 1) a detailed description of the issue/situation, 2) reason for the issue, and 3) suggested resolution or request.*

**Required Technology:** In order to fully participate in this course you will need:

- An internet connected computer with the most updated versions of your favorite web browser installed. Use of smartphones and tablets is not recommended.
- In the event that your computer crashes or internet goes down, it is essential to have a "backup plan" in place where you are able to log in using a different computer or travel another location that has working internet.
- Any files you intend to use for your course should be saved to a cloud solution and not to a local hard drive, USB stick or external disk. Saving files this way guarantees your files are not dependent on computer hardware that can fail.

**Technical Assistance:** If you have general questions about the course (such as due dates, content, etc), please contact the instructor. For Moodle technical issues that you cannot resolve on your own, please contact the e-Learning and Instructional Support office: Phone : (248) 805-1625

Submit a help ticket : <http://www2.oakland.edu/elis/help.cfm?lms=2>

**Ethics and Academic Integrity:** The faculty of the School of Health Sciences believes that the conduct of a student registered or taking courses in the School should be consistent with that of a professional person. Courtesy, honesty, and respect should be shown by students toward faculty members, guest lecturers, administrative support staff, and fellow students. Similarly, students should expect faculty to treat them fairly, showing respect for their ideas and opinions and striving to help them achieve maximum benefits from their experience in the School.

Student academic misconduct refers to behavior that may include plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, falsification of records or official documents, intentional misuse of equipment or materials (including library materials), unauthorized collaboration, and aiding and abetting the perpetration of such acts. The preparation of reports, papers, and examinations, assigned on an individual basis, must represent each student's own effort. Reference sources should be indicated clearly. The use of assistance from other students or aids of any kind during a written examination, except when the use of aids such as electronic devices, books or notes has been approved by an instructor, is a violation of the standard of academic conduct expected in this course. The Oakland University policy on academic conduct will be strictly followed with no exceptions. See catalog under Academic Policies and Procedures.

**Participant and instructor expectations:** Participants are enrolled into this course as a student participant role. There are grades and assignments throughout the course with specific due dates. Course participants are expected to:

- Ensure that their computer is compatible with Moodle
- Login 3-5 times a week; daily login is highly recommended

- Follow the calendar of events and complete all assignments by their deadline
- Respond to emails within 2 days
- Participate in a thoughtful manner
- Respect rules of netiquette
  - Respect your peers and their privacy
  - Use constructive criticism
  - Refrain from engaging in inflammatory comments.

The instructor will:

- Login to the course every day, or at least 5 days per week
- Moderate conversations in forums
- Respond to Q&A Forum replies and Moodle Messages within 1-2 days

**Special needs students:** Students with special needs should inform the instructor *before* the second week of the semester so reasonable accommodations can be arranged. The Office of Disability Support Services is an excellent resource for additional support.

**Late work:** No late work or “make-ups” will be accepted unless discussed prior to a *University Approved Absence (those dealing with illness, death in immediate family, religious observance, and approved participation in intercollegiate athletics or student government activities. Documentation must be provided)*. Plan to turn-in all assignments on time! Assignments due dates will be posted in Moodle.

**Course evaluations:** During the last week of class, a final course evaluation will be solicited by the University. This will be each student’s opportunity to assess the course and the instructor. These evaluations are anonymous and the results will be provided to the instructor after the final course grades have been submitted.

Students are also encouraged to informally contact the instructor with suggestions about the course if it is done in a constructive and respectful manner. These suggestions are invaluable as the instructor may be able to incorporate ideas into the current class mid-semester. Additionally, these suggestions help formulate the course in future semesters.

**Academic assistance:** Students may wish to seek additional resources at:

Help with written assignments:           Oakland University Writing Center  
<http://www.oakland.edu/ouwc/>

General study help:                           The Tutoring Center  
<http://www.oakland.edu/tutoring>

**Grading policies:** In this course, students do not compete against each other for grades. Each student’s grade will be based on the number of points earned during the semester. A grade of “I” (Incomplete) is used in the case of severe hardship beyond the control of a student that prevents completion of course requirements. University regulations do not permit the use of a grade of “I” to avoid a low or failing grade. The student and the instructor must complete the form “Request for an Incomplete Grade,” available from the professor or the Dean of Health Sciences office. The “I” grade must be approved at least one day before the final examination. It is the instructor’s decision whether to allow an Incomplete grade. Procedures for completing the work in the course are spelled out on the “Request for an Incomplete Grade” form. An Incomplete grade must be converted to a numerical grade within the first 12 months after completing the “Request for an Incomplete Grade” form. The Oakland University Academic Policies and Procedures will govern any dispute.

**Grade disputes:** Students have a *ten-day time limit* to make any grade appeals in writing by email to the instructor.

**Course Grading Scale:**

Letter	Points	Grade									
A	1000	4.0	B	890	3.5	C	790	2.9	D	690	1.9
	990	4.0		880	3.5		780	2.8		680	1.8
	980	4.0		870	3.4		770	2.7		670	1.7
	970	3.9		860	3.4		760	2.6		660	1.6
	960	3.9		850	3.3		750	2.5		650	1.5
	950	3.8		840	3.3		740	2.4		640	1.4
	940	3.8		830	3.2		730	2.3		630	1.3
	930	3.7		820	3.2		720	2.2		620	1.2
	920	3.7		810	3.1		710	2.1		610	1.1
	910	3.6		800	3.0		700	2.0		600	1.0
	900	3.6							F	≤590	0.0

Course Assignments	Points
Discussion forums/Reflections (6@ 80 points each)	480
Case Analysis	320
Quizzes (2@ 100 points each)	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>

**Discussion Forums/Reflections:** A large portion of this class includes participation in discussion forums or reflections. You will be expected to participate in discussions and reflections in this course using the discussion forum early and throughout the week. You do not need to respond to every post, but your discussion or reflections should start and sustain a conversation. Please make sure that your posts are thoughtful and complete. Try to be creative with your posts, and don't just repeat what others have already said. Your participation in the discussion forum will be graded on the following:

- Posted on-time with substantive content and length (but verbosity is not encouraged)
- Establishes a sense of community through initial post & replies to others showing an understanding of activity
- Responses to others' initial posts and replies to comments under your initial post
- Formatted and proper writing
- Note that other rules of "netiquette" apply – don't flame, troll or provoke negative replies.
- Do not monopolize any discussions, or post much more text than what is required (be concise).
- Act in a way that you would if the course was face-to-face.

**Tentative Course Schedule-Weeks run Monday-Sunday in general\***

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings**</b>	<b>Task***</b>
1	Jan 3-7	Introduction to the course and issues in bioethics	Syllabus Grady, 2014 Article	Familiarize yourself with the course layout Read the course syllabus Read the Grady Article Activities: Forum #1: Introduce yourself Upload a picture of yourself on your Profile page of Moodle, update profile
2	Jan 8-14	Ethical theories (Utilitarianism, Kantian Deontology, Rule Theory) Major moral principles	pp. 25-48  Munson, 2012 Article	Review the Moodle Lecture Complete assigned readings Activities: Forum #2: Discussion
3	Jan 15-21	Basic Law Justice and the Right to Care The ACA	pp. 73-83 pp.85-128	Review the Moodle Lecture Complete assigned readings Activities: Begin working on your Case Analysis Paper
4	Jan 22-28	The Right to Care and The ACA cont.	Supplemental reading to be posted	Review the Moodle Lecture Complete assigned readings
5	Jan 29-Feb 4	Nazi medicine Research Ethics	pp.443-468	Review the Moodle Lecture Complete assigned readings Activities: Forum #3 Discussion
6	Feb 5-11	Research Ethics and Informed Consent cont.	pp. 157-211	Review the Moodle Lecture Complete assigned readings Activities: Upload Case Analysis Paper DUE Feb 11 at 11:55pm
7	Feb 12-18	Quiz #1		Activities: Quiz #1
8	Feb 19-25	WINTER RECESS		Enjoy the break!!!
9	Feb 26-Mar 4	Cultural Competency	pp. 329-363	Review the Moodle Lecture Complete assigned readings Activities: Forum #4 Discussion
10	Mar 5-11	Issues in Human Reproduction-Abortion	pp. 367-381	Review the Moodle Lecture Complete assigned readings
11	Mar 12-18	Issues in Human Reproduction-IVF, Surrogacy, Sterilization	pp. 381-389	Case Analysis Revisions DUE Mar 18 at 11:55pm
12	Mar 19-25	Issues in Human Reproduction-Genetic Testing, Enhancement, Stem Cells, and Cloning	pp. 390-410	Review the Moodle Lecture Complete assigned readings Activities: Forum #5 Discussion
13	Mar 26-Apr 1	Informed Refusal and the Discontinuation of Treatment Continued	pp. 221-261	Review the Moodle Lecture Complete assigned readings Activities: Study for Quiz #2
14	Apr 2-8	Quiz #2		Activities: Quiz #2
15	Apr 9-15	Wrap-up		Activities: Forum #6: Course Reflections

**\*This syllabus and tentative schedule are subject to change if necessary to meet the needs of the students, guest speakers, or the instructor.**

**\*\*All readings should be completed by the class period for which they are assigned, and additional readings will be posted on Moodle. All readings and page numbers are from the textbook, unless otherwise noted.**

**\*\*\* All activities are due within the active week. While forums occur early and carry on throughout the week, assignments and quizzes are due by the end of the active week. Day 1 of a week is Monday.**