Course Information

Course Description
This course critically examines the central ethical issues in the health care field and the associated implications for health professionals. Students will gain an understanding of principles of liability, legal aspects of medical ethics, and legislative and regulatory factors in health care delivery.

Course Credits
Three Semester Credit Hours (3-0-0)

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses
None

Prerequisite Skills
Accessing internet web sites, use of ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint are expectations of the Health Science Professions Program. Computer access requirements are further delineated in the Undergraduate Handbook. Tutorials for ASU Library and for Blackboard are available through RamPort. The ASU Undergraduate/Graduate Student Handbook should be reviewed before taking this course.

Program Outcomes
Mission Statement
The Bachelor of Science in Health Science Professions prepares students to enter health science professions either directly upon graduation or to enter advanced graduate study in healthcare. Students gain knowledge in ethics, policy, epidemiology, organization and leadership, research and evidence based practice, and communication skills that span multiple health science
disciplines.

Goals
The Bachelor of Science in Health Science Professions strives to enhance multidisciplinary healthcare education and evidence-based principles to provide patient-centered care. Students will develop communication, decision-making, social, analytical thinking, and personal development skills necessary for professional practice as a healthcare professional.

Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Identify and explain the major theories of health care ethics as well as the principles derived from those theories.</td>
<td>Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Ethical Case Study, Movie Critique</td>
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<td>2. Analyze and explain the current restrictions and opportunities of health care professionals in terms of surrogacy, reproductive technologies, abortion, and cloning.</td>
<td>Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Ethical Case Study, Movie Critique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Analyze and explain current restrictions and opportunities of health care professionals concerning the determination of competency, appropriateness of long term care placement, and other end of life issues.</td>
<td>Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Ethical Case Study, Movie Critique</td>
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<td>4. Recognize technological advances in health care and their advantages and potential disadvantages.</td>
<td>Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes</td>
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<td>5. Evaluate inequities in health care on both an individual and societal level.</td>
<td>Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Ethical Case Study, Movie Critique</td>
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<td>6. Describe the general impact of the new health care reform.</td>
<td>Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Develop a framework for ethical decision-making, especially as it applies to the healthcare industry.</td>
<td>Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Ethical Case Study, Movie Critique</td>
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Course Delivery
This course is an online course offering and will NOT meet on campus. Most content will be delivered via class Lecture/Video, Discussion and Course Assignments. The course will also use the Blackboard Learning Management System for online components. The course site can be accessed at http://blackboard.angelo.edu
Required Texts and Materials

  ○ Textbook is purple. There is a new edition that you may also be able to use but the chapters may be labeled differently.

Technology Requirements

BROWSER COMPATIBILITY CHECK
It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the browser used to access course material on his/her computer is compatible with ASU’s Blackboard Learning System. The faculty reserve the right to deny additional access to course assignments lost due to compatibility issues. Students are responsible for reviewing the guidelines posted in this course regarding accessing Blackboard assignments. Problems in this area need to be discussed with faculty at the time of occurrence, either via a phone call (preferred) during posted acceptable hours for calling, or via email notification during times outside those posted for calls.

Be sure to perform a browser test. Select the “Support” tab from the Blackboard homepage (http://www.blackboard.angelo.edu) Select “Test your Browser” option.

To participate in one of ASU’s distance education programs, you need this technology:

- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OSX 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

Refer to Angelo State University’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements: Angelo State University's Distance Education Website

Topic Outline

TOPIC OUTLINE
Part I - Foundations in Theory
- Theory and Healthcare Ethics
- Principles in Healthcare Care

Part II – Critical Issues for Individuals
- Moral Status of Gametes and Embryos
- Ethical Challenges of the New Reproductive Technologies
Part III – Critical Issues for Healthcare Organizations

- Healthcare Ethics Committees
- Ethics in the Management of Health Information Systems
- Technological Advances in Healthcare
- Ethics and Safe Patient Handling and Mobility
- Spirituality and Healthcare Organizations
- The Ethics of Healthcare Reform

Part IV – Critical Issues for Society’s Health

- Health Inequalities and Inequities
- The Ethics of Epidemics
- Ethics of Disasters
- Domestic Violence
- Looking Towards the Future

Communication

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via Blackboard: It is an expectation of this class that you use formal writing skills giving appropriate credit to the source for your ideas. Follow APA (2010) 6th edition (2nd Printing or higher only) guidelines for referencing.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes.

Virtual communication: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone or Skype. Please contact the Instructor to set up a virtual appointment. Refer to Angelo State University’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements: Angelo State University's Distance Education Website

Use Good "Netiquette":

- Check the discussion frequently and respond appropriately and on subject.
- Focus on one subject per message and use pertinent subject titles.
- Capitalize words only to highlight a point or for titles. Otherwise, capitalizing is generally viewed as SHOUTING!
- Be professional and careful with your online interaction. Proper address for faculty is by formal title such as Dr. or Ms./Mr. Jones unless invited by faculty to use a less formal approach.
- Cite all quotes, references, and sources.
- When posting a long message, it is generally considered courteous to warn readers at the beginning of the message that it is a lengthy post.
- It is extremely rude to forward someone else’s messages without their permission.
• It is fine to use humor, but use it carefully. The absence of face-to-face cues can cause humor to be misinterpreted as criticism or flaming (angry, antagonistic criticism). Feel free to use emoticons such as J or :) to let others know you are being humorous.

(The "netiquette" guidelines were adapted from Arlene H. Rinald's article, The Net User Guidelines and Netiquette, Florida Atlantic University, 1994, available from Netcom.)

Grading

GRADING SYSTEM
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- A = 450-500 points
- B = 400-449 points
- C = 350-399 points
- D = 300-349
- F = 0-299 (Grades are not rounded up under ANY circumstances)

EVALUATION AND GRADES
Graded assignments, activities and percent of the overall course grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>PERCENT OF TOTAL GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Assignments</td>
<td>100 Points (25%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Quizzes</td>
<td>100 Points (8 Quizzes) (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>50 points (10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100 Points (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Review</td>
<td>50 Points (10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics Case Assignment</td>
<td>100 points (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL COURSE GRADE</td>
<td>500 points total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Teaching Strategies

• This course will be taught online through the Internet with Blackboard™ as the learning platform. It will employ a variety of teaching-learning methods including lecture presentation/notes, asynchronous online workgroups, discussions forums, quizzes, self-directed activities, and weekly quizzes. Web-based technology is also used to provide additional sources of information, prepare and submit student assignments, provide ongoing student-faculty and student-student interaction and dialogue, and facilitate peer support. Synchronous group consultation and interaction offered by appointment via Bb Collaborate.
• Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions
*Please note: Rubrics for all assignments and activities are located on Blackboard.

ASSIGNMENT/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS
*Please note: Rubrics for all assignments and activities are located at the end of this syllabus.

Discussion Board Activities: (100 points/ 25 points each) There will be four discussion board assignments, one for weeks 2, 3, 4 & 6. Discussion boards provide an avenue for synthesis of material / information. A Discussion Board is provided in this course as a way to help students’ process course materials, express thoughts, and engage others opinions and ideas in a healthy and productive learning environment. Students are expected to respond to all discussion board assessments using the “Online Discussion Rubric” to support individual answers to the assigned questions throughout this course.

Weekly Quizzes: (100 points) Students will have eight weekly quizzes to assess course knowledge. Quizzes are timed (2-3 minutes per question) and will consist of 10 to 30 multiple choice questions, True/False or Fill in the Blank Questions. Access to quizzes will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Students may use written materials as well as their textbook; however use of another electronic device is prohibited. There are two practice quizzes: a) one is a Webcam test and b) a short 10 question practice quiz over ASU trivia that is not graded. These tools will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through these practice quizzes in advance of taking a graded quiz. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve testing environment.

Midterm and Final Exams: (150 points) The Midterm and Final Exams account for 50 and 100 pts respectively for 150 pts of the total course grade. The exams are designed to test understanding of textbook material and the application of the material covered in both the textbook and lectures.

Movie Critique Assignment: (50 points) The objective of this written assignment is to help students identify the key ethical theories and principles. The essay should provide an analysis of the ethical issues presented in a film selected by the student (with approval from the instructor). The assignment is NOT a recount of the movie, but a summary of the key ethical aspects in the film.
**Ethical Case Study Assignment:** (100 points) The objective of this written assignment is to help students apply the information they have learned during the course to a specific bioethical scenario. The essay should provide an overview of the ethical dilemma, outline of the potential courses of action, and a justification for the best course of action.

**Assignment Submission**
In this class, all assignments need to be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard course site. This is for grading purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at Dinah.harriger@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

**Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy**
The course is set up on weekly modules. The week begins on Tuesday and ends on Monday. Assignment due dates are shown on the calendar/schedule or posted within Blackboard. Late assignments are not accepted without prior approval of faculty. Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date.

**General Policies Related to This Course**
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

**Student Responsibility and Attendance**
**Online:** This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings which you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities i.e. discussion boards, course projects, reflective logs, etc. Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average.

**Academic Integrity**
Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.
The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.iii

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website.iv The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Proceduresv for more information.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policyvi in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.
Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center. vii

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day viii for more information.

**Copyright Policy**

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

**Syllabus Changes**

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

**Title IX at Angelo State University**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form
Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu
Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences. Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

1. Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends). **Important**
2. Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories. **Important**
3. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions). **Essential**
4. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course. **Important**
5. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view. **Important**

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i [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)
ii [https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/](https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)
iii [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php)
iv [https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/)
v [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)
vii [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)
viii [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)