

# HSP 4335.DS1

## Healthcare Ethics and Legal Issues

### Spring 2022

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00 - 11:00, and other times by appointment.

## Course Information

### Course Description

This course introduces HSP students to legal and ethical issues health professionals face.

### Course Credits

3

### Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

none

### Prerequisite Skills

Accessing Internet websites, using ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Techsmith Knowmia are expectations of HSP 4320.

### 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.

## **Course Delivery**

This is an online course with learning resources, supplemental materials, and assignments posted on Blackboard.

## **Required Texts and Materials**

Pozgar, G. P. Legal and Ethical Issues for Health Professionals 2020. ISBN: 978-1-284144185.

## **To complete some of the assignments, you will need the following technology as required for ASU's distance education programs:**

- 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](#)

## **Course Objectives**

- Introduce ethical and legal concepts in an easily understood format.
- Introduce the basic principles of ethics and the law.
- Provide insight into how ethics and the law are intertwined, particularly in decision-

making processes in healthcare settings.

- Present case studies to illustrate real-life issues.
- Guide the reader to additional resources in the study of ethics and the law.
- Explore the use of ethics and the law to assist the student in resolving ethical conflicts and dilemmas.
- Review the boundaries between what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior in an organization.
- Describe the conflict between ethical principles and values and provide wisdom on making better choices.
- Provide a strong foundation on which the student can build a successful and rewarding career.

## Topic Outline

Week	Topic	Assignment	Chapter
Week One 3/21 – 3/27	Introduction to Ethics and Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas	Weekly Lecture 1 Weekly Discussion 1 Weekly Quiz 1	1 & 2
Week Two 3/28 – 4/3	End-of-Life Dilemmas and Healthcare Ethics Committee	Weekly Lecture 2 Weekly Discussion 2 Weekly Quiz 2	3 & 4
Week Three 4/4 – 4/10	Development of Law and Introduction to Law	Weekly Lecture 3 Weekly Discussion 3 Weekly Quiz 3	5 & 6
Week Four 4/11 – 4/17	Government Ethics and the Law, Organizational Ethics and the Law	Weekly Lecture 4 Weekly Discussion 4 Weekly Quiz 4 Mid Term Exam	7 & 8
Week Five 4/18 – 4/24	Healthcare Professional Legal-Ethical issues and Physicians' Ethical and Legal Issues	Weekly Lecture 5 Weekly Discussion 5 Weekly Quiz 5	9 & 10
Week Six 4/25 – 5/1	Employee Rights and Responsibilities, and Patient Consent	Weekly Lecture 6 Weekly Discussion 6 Weekly Quiz 6	11 & 12
Week Seven 5/2 – 5/8	Patient Abuse, Patient Rights and Responsibilities, and Summary Case: Search for Truth	Weekly Lecture 7 Weekly Discussion 7 Weekly Quiz 7 Current Events 1 – 5 Case Presentation	13, 14, 15
Week Eight 5/9 – 5/11		Final Exam	

## Communication

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 48 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

**Written communication via email:** All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, **include the course name and section number in your subject line.**

## Grading

### Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

Assessment	Points of Total Grade
Weekly Lectures 7 X 10 points	70 Points
Weekly Discussion 7 X 30 points	210 Points
Weekly Quizzes 7 X 30 points	210 Points
Case Discussions 5 X 20 points	100 Points
Current Events 5 X 20 Points	100 Points
Case Presentation	70 Points
Mid Term	120 Points
Final	120 Points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>

**This course is graded strictly on points NOT percentages. The amount of points you earn determines your grade in the course. I DO NOT ROUND UP GRADES at the end of the semester. It is your responsibility to keep track of the total course points you have accumulated.**

### 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 = 900.00-1000 points

B = 800.00-899.99 points  
C = 700.00-799.99 points  
D = 600.00-699.99 points  
F = 0-599.99 points (Grades are not rounded up)

## **Teaching Strategies**

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**

### **Weekly Lectures: 7 x 10 points = 70 points**

Each week I will post an online lecture. The online lectures will be short introductions to the materials for that week and not full lectures on the chapters from the book. Each lecture will have questions embedded, totaling 10 points for the lecture. Weekly lectures are due Sunday night at 11:59 pm., the week they are assigned.

### **Weekly Discussions: 7 x 30 points = 210 points**

Our weekly discussions will vary depending on the materials we are currently studying. Some weeks you will only need to post once, and others will need to post and respond to your classmates. Look closely at each week's description and grading rubric in Blackboard. Weekly discussions are due Sunday night at 11:59 pm., the week they are assigned. **NOTE: Derogatory, harassing, or attacking post will result in a 0 for this grade and may result in failing or being removed from this course.** See **A Note on Discussions** under **Assignment Submission**.

### **Weekly Quizzes 7 x 30 points = 210 points**

Each week you will have a quiz over the chapters covered that week in class. The quizzes are in an open book and open note format. The quizzes will have 60 questions and will be limited to 90 minutes to complete, but you will have two opportunities to take each quiz, with the higher grade being the grade recorded in Gradebook. Weekly Quizzes will be due Sunday night at 11:59 pm., the week they are assigned.

### **Case Discussions 5 x 20 points = 100 points**

We will have 5 Case Discussions during the course. Each Case Discussion will have a case presented, and you will be expected to post a new thread with your supported opinion on the case. Your supported opinion post must be at least 200 words and have at least one reference to support your opinion. Your initial post will be worth 10 points. You will then comment on two other classmates' initial posts. Your comments on your classmates' posts must be at least 50 words, and each will be worth 5 points. Specific grading of all posts will be in the grading rubric on BlackBoard. **NOTE: Derogatory, harassing, or attacking post will result in a 0 for this grade and may result in failing or being removed from this course.** See **A Note on Discussions** under **Assignment Submission**.

### **Current Events 5 x 20 points = 100 points**

You have five opportunities to submit articles on current cases, laws, or other ethical issues related to this class that you find in the news or other verifiable sources published in the last year. Each submission must be on a different topic or law. Your submission must start with the reference in APA format of the item. You will then discuss the item in a minimum of 300 words noting the importance of the item and your opinion of the item. See the Grading rubric in BlackBoard for grading details. Current Events may be submitted anytime, but all five are due on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 11:59 pm.

### **Case Presentation 70 points**

Each student must submit a Case Presentation. The case submitted will be of the student's choice but must be related to healthcare. Students may use cases referenced or discussed in the textbook. Cases may not be more than 10 years old.

#### **Case Presentation Format**

1. **Title.** Each case is given a title that signals the type of case about to be reviewed.
2. **Citation.** Students may wish to research cases cited in this text in order to gain a deeper understanding of the topics covered. A case citation describes the identity of the parties in the case, the text in which the case can be found, and the year in which the case was decided.
3. **Facts.** A review of the details of the case.
4. **Issue.** The issues discussed in any given case are selected for review on the basis of medical and legal importance to the healthcare professional. Although any one case may have multiple issues, only those considered pertinent are reviewed here.
5. **Holding.** The court's ruling based on the facts, issues, and applicable laws pertaining to the case.
6. **Reason.** The rationale behind how the court arrived at its decision based on the facts, issues, and relevant laws surrounding the case.

7. **Discussion.** Discussion questions, although prompted by a particular case, may not necessarily be germane to the facts of the case. The questions are merely presented as opportunities for discussion about the issues raised in the case and do not add to the facts of a specific case.

### **Understanding Case Citations**

A *case citation* identifies the parties in the case, the text in which the case can be found, and the year in which the case was decided. For example, consider the citation *Boulia v. Superior Court (Glenchur)*, 225 Cal. Rptr. 297 (Cal. Ct. App. 1986):

- ***Boulia v. Superior Court (Glenchur)*** identifies the basic parties involved in the lawsuit.
- **225 Cal. Rptr. 297** identifies the case as being reported in volume 225 of the California Reporter at page 297.
- **Cal. Ct. App. 1986** identifies the case as being decided in the California Court of Appeal in 1986.

For this assignment, example discussion questions and a grading rubric are available on BlackBoard. The Case Discussion must be a minimum of 500 words and will be due on Sunday, May 8th, 2022, at 11:59 pm.

### **Mid Term and Final Exam 120 points each = 240 points**

The Mid Term and Final Exams will be comprehensive and will be taken on Respondus Lockdown Browser. Both exams are closed book and closed note. Students are not allowed to use any source of reference during the exam, including but not limited to: books, notes, electronic devices, other persons either in proximity or electronically. Using any source of information other than your mind will result in a 0 on the exam and may result in failing the course. Each exam may only be taken once.

### **Assignment Submission**

All assignments MUST be submitted through the Assignments link on the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at michael.terrill@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. **Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue.** 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.

### **A Note on Discussions**

I hope you will find the topics we discuss to be interesting. You may feel very strongly and passionately about some of the topics we discuss, which is good. I want and expect you to bring your passion to our discussions. However, personal attacks, harassment, or derogatory remarks will not be tolerated. The use of these tactics in our discussions will result in that student receiving a 0 for that assignment and may result in failing the class. Personal attacks and harassment will be reported to appropriate campus authorities.

### **Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy**

Late work will not be accepted unless you have received permission from the instructor prior to the due date. If you miss an assignment due to an unexcused absence, you are out of luck. Show up for the class!

### **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](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)<sup>2</sup>

### **Recommended Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class At ASU**

**As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University strongly recommends the use of masks/facial coverings to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, we strongly recommend that students in this class wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members will also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom.**

### **Student Responsibility and Attendance**

It is the student's responsibility to be on time for class, participate in class discussions, and be actively engaged in the learning process. Instructions and assignments will often be given during class, therefore it is in your best interest to attend. If you have to miss class due to an unforeseen event/accident or illness, please contact the instructor prior to the start of class. Pending the reason for your absence, the instructor may inform you of any missed homework assigned during class. Not acceptable reasons for absences include but are not limited to: over



sleeping, work, wanting to leave early or come back late from the weekend, and celebrating a friend, relative or pet's birthday. If you are sick, let the instructor know and bring a physician's note when you come back to class.

## **Food and Drink Policy**

Only bottles of water or water in containers with lids are allowed in the HHS building.

## **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](#).<sup>3</sup>

## **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](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu). For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).<sup>4</sup> 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](mailto: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 Procedures](#)<sup>5</sup> for more information.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)<sup>6</sup> 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

## **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](#)<sup>8</sup> 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](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: [michelle.boone@angelo.edu](mailto: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](http://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.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)

Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)

Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course

## **End of Syllabus**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing\\_center/academic\\_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>