

Legal and Ethical Aspects of Health Information (HITT 1253) Fully Online



Credit: 2 semester credit hours (2 hours lecture)

Prerequisite/Co-requisite: HITT 1401; Completed the Online Orientation and answered 7+ questions correctly on the Online Learner Self-Assessment:

<http://www.lit.edu/depts/DistanceEd/OnlineOrientation/OOStep2.aspx>

Course Description:

Concepts of privacy, security, confidentiality, ethics, health care legislation, and regulations relating to the maintenance and use of health information. *This course is time-bound, structured and completed totally online.*

Required Textbook and Materials:

1. *Legal and Ethical Issues for Health Professionals* by G. Pozgar, 3rd edition. Jones and Bartlett Publishing.
 - a. ISBN: 978-1-4496-7211-9
2. Access code
 - a. If book is purchased new, the Student Companion Website Access Code comes with it.
 - b. If the book is purchased used, access to the Companion Website may be purchased separately at go.jblearning.com/Pozgar3E
3. Computer with internet access.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Apply local, state, and federal standards and regulations for the control and use of health information.
2. Demonstrate appropriate health information disclosure practices.
3. Identify and discuss ethical issues in health care.

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Course Syllabus

Course Outline:

A. Ethics

1. Introduction to Ethics
 - a. Ethics
 - b. Morality
 - c. Ethical Theories
 - d. Principles of Ethics
 - e. Virtue Ethics and Values
 - f. Religious Ethics
 - g. Secular Ethics
 - h. Atheism
 - i. Situational Ethics
 - j. The Final Analysis
 - k. The Moral Compass
2. Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas
 - a. Noteworthy Historical Events
 - b. Abortion
 - c. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
 - d. Artificial Insemination
 - e. Organ Donations
 - f. Research, Experimentation, and Clinical Trials
 - g. Sterilization
 - h. Wrongful Birth, Life, and Conception
 - i. Surrogacy
 - j. Human Genetics
3. End of Life Issues
 - a. Euthanasia
 - b. Advance Directives
 - c. Futility of Treatment
 - d. Withdrawal of Treatment
 - e. Do-Not-Resuscitate Orders
4. Health Care Ethics Committee
 - a. Committee Structure
 - b. Goals of the Ethics Committee
 - c. Committee Functions
 - d. Requests for Consultations
 - e. Expanding Role of Ethics Committee
 - f. Convening the Ethics Committee
 - g. Reasoning and Decision Making

B. Development of Law

1. Development of Law
 - a. Sources of Law
 - b. Government Organization
 - c. Administrative Departments and Agencies
2. Introduction of Law

- a. Tort Law
 - b. Negligence
 - c. Intentional Torts
 - d. Criminal Law
 - e. Contracts
 - f. Trial Procedures and the Courtroom
3. Government, Ethics, and the Law
 - a. United States Office of Government Ethics
 - b. Public Policy as a Principle of Law
 - c. XIV Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
 - d. Civil Rights Act (1964)
 - e. Sherman Antitrust Act (1890)
 - f. Privacy Act (1974)
 - g. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (1996)
 - h. Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (1986)
 - i. Health Care Quality Improvement Act (1986)
 - j. Agency for Health Care Research and Quality
 - k. Ethics in Patient Referral Act (1989)
 - l. Patient Self-Determination Act (1990)
 - m. Sarbanes-Oxley Act (2002)
 - n. Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (2010)
 - o. Political Malpractice
 - p. Ethics in Public Service
 4. Organizational Ethics and the Law
 - a. Code of Ethics for Organizations
 - b. Organizational Conduct Under Scrutiny
 - c. Doctrine of Respondeat Superior
 - d. Corporate Negligence
 - e. Corporate Duties and Responsibilities
 - f. Avoid Conflicts of Interest
 - g. Provide for Effective Communications

C. Legal Issues

1. Health Care Professionals' Ethical and Legal Issues
 - a. Chiropractor

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- b. Dentist
 - c. Dental Hygienist
 - d. Dietitians
 - e. Emergency Department Staff
 - f. Emergency Medical Technician
 - g. Medical Technologists
 - h. Medical Assistant
 - i. Medical Records
 - j. Nurse
 - k. Pharmacist
 - l. Physical Therapist
 - m. Physician Assistant
 - n. Psychologist
 - o. Respiratory Therapist
 - p. Radiology Technologist
 - q. Social Worker
 - r. Certification of Health Care Professionals
 - s. Licensing Health Care Professionals
 - t. Helpful Advice for Caregivers
 - 2. Physicians' Ethical and Legal Issues
 - a. Principles of Medical Ethics
 - b. Credentialing Professionals
 - c. Hospital's Duty to Ensure Competency
 - d. Honoring a Patient's Right to Autonomy
 - e. Failure to Provide Informed Consent
 - f. Abandonment
 - g. Aggravation of a Preexisting Condition
 - h. Alternative Procedures: Two Schools of Thought
 - i. Confidential Communications
 - j. Falsification of Records
 - k. Failure to Respond: Emergency Department Call
 - l. Failure to Read Nurses' Notes
 - m. Failure to Refer for Consultation
 - n. Failure to Obtain Adequate History and Physical
 - o. Infection Control Issues
 - p. Medications
 - q. Misdiagnosis
 - r. Obstetrics and Gynecology
 - s. Physician-Patient Relationship
- D. Rights and Responsibilities
- 1. Employee Rights and Responsibilities
 - a. Employee Rights
 - b. Employee Responsibilities
 - c. Helpful Advice
 - d. The Caregiver's Pledge
 - 2. Patient Consent
 - a. Informed Consent
 - b. Consent and Ethical Codes
 - c. Accessing Decision-Making Capacity
 - d. Adequacy of Consent
 - e. Proof of Consent
 - f. Who May Authorize Consent?
 - g. Implied Consent
 - h. Right to Refuse Treatment
 - i. Statutory Consent
 - 3. Patient Abuse
 - a. Child Abuse
 - b. Senior Abuse
 - c. Look Closer, See ME
 - 4. Patient Rights and Responsibilities
 - a. Patient Rights
 - b. Patient Responsibilities

Grade Scale:

90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
0 - 59	F

Course Evaluation:

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

Discussions	20%
Course assignments	20%
Unit Exams	30%
Final Exam (Proctored)*	30%

*The student will be required to take the comprehensive final in a proctored environment.

Course Requirements:

1. Students can complete this course without physically visiting the institution offering the course.
2. The student will post discussions as instructed along with any other assignments instructed to complete.
3. Search for current ethical issues
4. The student will post discussions as instructed along with any other assignments instructed to complete.
5. The student will complete online quizzes and unit exams by the due dates shown on the course calendar.
6. Write paper discussing topics covered throughout the semester.
7. The student will be required to take the final exam in a proctored environment. If you live within 60 miles from campus, please plan to take the proctored exam within the LIT ACT Testing Center located in T1 Building. Learners from a distance may make alternative arrangements. Acceptable proctors include: Elementary or secondary school superintendent, principal, or guidance counselor; Certified Librarian at a public library; Officer at a Testing Center; Human Resources Manager; or Education Coordinator.

Course Policies:

1. Students must provide their own textbooks, writing instruments, and other necessary supplies for classes.
2. Students must log onto Blackboard and access this course a minimum of three times per week.
3. Students must respect one another and all faculty.
4. Internet Usage – Students are expected to use proper net etiquette while participating in course emails, assignment submissions, and online discussions.
5. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated.
6. All exams will be taken on the scheduled dates. There will be **NO MAKE UP EXAMS**.
7. All assignments are due when stated. Late assignments are not accepted.
8. Additional course policies are outlined in “Classroom Policies” provided at the beginning of the semester.
9. Students are expected to follow the Lamar Institute of Technology Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy
10. Any violation of classroom policies may result in student being asked to leave class and result in an absence.

11. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and dropping the course. If you stop logging-in to the course and do not complete the course drop process, then you will receive an “F” grade for the course.
12. The instructor will respond to e-mail and voice mail communication within 48 hours Monday through Friday. Assignment grades will be published within 2 weeks of the assignment due date.

Technical Requirements:

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, software, Java, etc. can be found online at:

<http://kb.blackboard.com/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=25368512>

A functional internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of the online technology and resources.

Disabilities Statement:

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the office in Student Services, Cecil Beeson Building

<http://www.lit.edu/depts/stuserv/special/default.aspx>

Course Schedule:

Week of Semester	Topic	Textbook Reference
Week 1	Welcome and Introductions Chapter 1: Introduction to Ethics	pp 1 - 60
Week 2	Chapter 1 continued	
Week 3	Chapter 2: Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas	pp 63 - 117
Week 4	Chapter 3: Health Ethics Committee Chapter 4: End-of-Life Dilemmas	pp 121 – 160 pp 163 - 177
Week 5	Exam 1: Chapters 1 – 4 Chapter 5: Development of Law	pp 179 - 191
Week 6	Chapter 6: Introduction of Law	pp 193 - 234
Week 7	Chapter 7: Government, Ethics & the Law Chapter 8: Organizational Ethics a & the Law	pp 237 – 260 pp 261 - 308
Week 8	Chapter 8 continued; Exam 2: Chapters 5 - 8	
Week 9	Spring Break	
Week 10	Chapter 9: Health Care Professionals' Ethical & Legal Issues	pp 309 - 349
Week 11	Chapter 10: Physician' Ethical & Legal Issues	pp 351 - 376
Week 12	Chapter 11: Employee Rights & Responsibilities Exam 3: Chapters 9 - 11	pp 379 -400

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Week 13	Chapter 12: Patient Consent	pp 403 - 421
Week 14	Chapter 13: Patient Abuse	pp 423 - 439
Week 15	Chapter 14: Patient Rights & Responsibilities	pp 441 - 462
Week 16	Review; Final Exam: Chapters 12 - 14	