

HPEM 6370 Healthcare Law and Ethics Credit Hours: 3

Semester: Fall Year: 2022

Class Day/Time: Class Location: Online

Modules open on Mondays at 8am and close one-week later Monday at 7:59am All times are CST.

Instructor of Record: Kimberly Elliott, PhD

Assistant Professor

Office: SCRH H262

Office Phone: (903) 877-1498

E-Mail: kelliott@uthct.edu kelliott@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to legal issues in public health and healthcare. Basic legal principles underlying the legal system, governmental regulation, development of legal rules, and how to interact effectively with the legal system as a public health practitioner will be explored. This course has two main purposes: first, to examine the legal context of the relationship between the individual and the community; and second, to understand public health regulation in the context of a market-driven system.

Prerequisite: None. Co-requisite: None.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO or "course objective"):

- 1. Appreciate the legal, ethical, and practical issues that arise in challenging healthcare and public health decision-making situations. (Program Learning Objective [PLO] Links 4.1, 4.2, 4.3,)
- 2. Describe legal principles, values, and ethical dilemmas in public health and health policy formulation, implementation, modification, and assessment. (PLO Links 4.1,4.2,4.3)
- 3. Discern the primary sources of law in the United States pertaining healthcare. (PLO Links 1.1, 3.6, 4.3)
- 4. Analyze how law and statutes apply to the health care provider-patient relationship. (PLO Links 4.1,4.3)
- 5. Appreciate law, statutes and ethical mandates that bear on the obligations to treat and admit patients (PLO Links 1.1, 4.1)



Argue for and against current health law reform implementation proposals (PLO Links 1.1, 2.1, 4.1)

Instructional Methods

Readings

You are expected to complete all weekly assigned readings. Beyond the assigned readings students will be required to use various sources of information (e.g., print and online books, newspapers, peer-reviewed journal articles, relevant professional organization's websites, government websites and legal documents) in order to address the topics covered each week. This will provide you with a broader context of the concepts and principles presented in the course and allows for more meaningful dialogue in the online discussions. Please share your findings with the class and use them as references in your submitted assignments which include discussion board postings, presentations and research papers.

Module PowerPoint Slides

PowerPoint slides will be provided to provide guidance on the material that students should pay closer attention to.

Multi-media Resources

Videos, podcasts and websites will be assigned for review in order to provide the most current and relevant sources of information from the field.

Course Assessment/Methods of Evaluation

The assessments and methods of evaluation for this course are described in detail below:

Assessment/Evaluation	Description
Peer Assessment	 Each student will submit a peer assessment form to assess the participation of each member of their team for the semester.
Written Assignments	 FOUR written deliverables will be assigned. Students are required to submit their assignment by Monday morning at 7:59am prior to the start of the next module/Week. A thorough response should address all components listed in the assignment. Successful leaders develop written communication skills which demonstrate the ability to communicate succinctly in writing.
Video Reflection	 Students will be divided into teams who will interact on our non-synchronous weeks to reflect on the course content. Teams will record a 10-15 minute video journal reflecting on any material that has been covered for that week. The instructor may provide questions or prompts that you will use to formulate your responses.



	 Each team will post their video journal to the discussion board for that week as well as to the corresponding dropbox for grading. Students will watch and respond to each other's video journals. A rubric for this assignment will be provided.
Synchronous Discussion	 The class will have a total of 6 synchronous online meetings for discussion. Meetings will be on Wednesday evening from 6 to 9 pm CST. The instructor will post the questions each week on Sunday at 11:59 pm CST in advance of the meeting date. Each group will choose one question and prepare a response that they will share in the synchronous session. Teams will present their response by providing main points on one Executive slide. Responses must include a minimum of one outside source (peer reviewed article or textbook) cited in APA format. Your required textbook can be used but will not count as the external source. Any graphs, or figures must be appropriately cited as well. Sessions 1-4 will be used for discussion and team activities. Sessions 5 and 6 will be used for teams to present their Final Projects.
Final Project: Policy Analysis paper and Presentation	 This is a team assignment. As a team you will write one paper based on a current health care issue. A presentation and writing assignment will also be required. The teams shall analyze a current topic of interest within the healthcare and/or public health arena. Students will be provided a list of approved topics. An oral presentation (including PowerPoint slides appropriately formatted and sourced) will be required. The time frame length of presentation will be provided by the instructor. An accompanying paper (to submit for grade) should be 10-15 pages with at least 5 additional references (in addition to textbook or course supplemental readings) and include all the elements from the associated assignment file/document. (PLO Links 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 4.1, 5.1)



	 Your topic must be approved by the instructor before proceeding with the research. In addition to the paper, teams will present to the class. Your presentations will be between 25-30 minutes with 10 minutes for Q &A. Your paper should be approximately 15-20 double-spaced pages, 12pt Times New Roman font, with an abstract, title page,
	table of contents, and reference section. (Your prefatory pages will not count toward your total number of pages; consequently, your total number of pages might be as many of 24 pages. Regardless, your paper should not exceed 26 pages including all parts).
	 Your paper must include at least 5 outside references using APA format.
	 Although this paper is considered a research paper, you should present the issue along with an analysis of the problem, and subsequently, identify strategic alternatives/solutions to remedy or alleviate the problem.
	A rubric for this assignment will be provided.
Mid-Term Exam	 One mid-term exam will be administered on-line. Exam format will be closed book and closed notes. Frames will be announced in the course module. The exam may be any combination of true/false, multiple choice, short-answer and essay questions. (PLO Links 2.1,4.1,3.6)

^{*}Grading rubrics will be provided. Please read them carefully.



Assignments and Points

The course assignments and points are listed in the table below:

Assignment (Total #)	Point Value
Written Assignments (4)	20
Video Reflections (5)	20
Synchronous Sessions (1-4)	20
Mid-Term Exam	20
Final Project	40
Total	120

Cou	Course Grade Scale (percentage)		
Α	90-100%		
В	80-89.9%		
С	70-79.9%		
F	<70%		

Grade Calculation Policy

Grades are recorded in the online grade book for all discussion participation and assignments. Grades are awarded as points which are then converted to a percentage of total points earned. Grades on any individual item and the final earned grade are not subject to rounding up. For example, at the end of the course when all grades are totaled and the final grade percentage is an 89.99%, the final course grade would be a B.



Linked Program Learning Outcomes:

The student learning outcomes listed above address the following MHA Program PLOs:

	MHA PLOs	Course LOs
A.1	The student will identify appropriate sources and gather information, effectively and efficiently.	3, 5, 6
C.6	Organizational awareness: Understand and learn from governance structures, formal and informal decision-making structures, and power relationships in an organization, industry, or community	3
D.1	Use legal reasoning as a tool for analysis, communication, strategy and planning.	1, 2, 4, 5
D.2	Behave ethically and promote standards of ethical behavior throughout public and healthcare organizations and professional communities.	1, 2
D.3	Develop an understanding of healthcare state and federal legislation as it affects healthcare organizations	1, 2, 3, 4,

Textbooks:

1. Legal Aspects of Health Care Administration, 13th Edition, by George D. Pozgar. Publisher: Jones & Bartlett, 2019. ISBN-13: 978-1-284-12717-1



Technology Requirements:

- Access to Internet, Acceptable Browsers: Access to a computer with a reliable high-speed Internet connection (cable, DSL, cellular, satellite) is necessary.
- We have learned that Canvas works better with Google Chrome and Firefox than with Internet Explorer. If Internet Explorer is currently your only browser, you may want to install Chrome and/or Firefox. (Internet Explorer 11 and Edge, Chrome 46 or 47, Safari 8 or 9, Firefox 42 or 43)
- Operating System Requirements Best choices: Windows 7, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, Mac OS X 10.6 (Snow Leopard) and higher
- Access to Microsoft Office 2007 or above, or Microsoft Office 365

Other Class Policies:

Attendance:

Regular on-line participation is expected. Make-ups are possible with instructor consent only under certain instances. Arrangements for any make-ups should be discussed directly with the instructor for any material missed.

Participation:

Online Participation: This is an on-line course and Instructors will utilize Canvas for class learning. Students are expected to log into Canvas daily to access course information.

Late Submissions – Assignments and Discussion Posts:

Course Assignments: Late assignments will be accepted but deductions will be reflected in the grade. For each day the assignment is late, 5% will be deducted from the total score. Assignments will not be accepted after 5 days. The instructor has the discretion to alter this policy in the event of an emergency or illness if the student notifies the instructor in a timely manner. In this event, documentation may be required.

Academic Honesty:

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Cheating

Dishonesty of any kind involving examinations, assignments, alteration of records, wrongful possession of examinations, and unpermitted submission of duplicate papers for multiple classes or unauthorized use of keys to examinations is considered cheating. Cheating includes but is not limited to:

- Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class.
- Falsifying or inventing any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise.



Helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Materials, even ideas, borrowed from others necessitate full and complete acknowledgment of the original authors. Offering the work of another as one's own is plagiarism and is unacceptable in the academic community. A lack of adequate recognition constitutes plagiarism, whether it utilizes a few sentences, whole paragraphs, articles, books, audio-visual materials, or even the writing of a fellow student. In addition, the presentation of material gathered, assembled, or formatted by others as one's own is also plagiarism. Because the university takes such misconduct very seriously, the student is urged to carefully read university policies on Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activity 05.00. Examples of plagiarism are:

- Submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another.
- Submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source.
- Incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Adding/Dropping:

The official deadline for adding and dropping courses is as published in the academic calendar and Graduate Bulletin (typically the day before Census Day). However, students are strongly encouraged to meet with their graduate advisor or the Program Coordinator prior to adding/dropping courses. Movement into and out of classes after the 4th class day requires approval of the Program Director. Students can drop until mid-semester without a WP or WF. Drops after mid-semester require approval of the Dean. Each student is responsible for their own enrollment status with the university.

Disability Accommodations:

UTHSCT abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, which mandate reasonable accommodations be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability and may require some type of instructional and/or examination accommodations, please contact me early in the semester so that I can provide or facilitate provision of accommodations you may need. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with the Student Services Office (located on the UT Tyler Campus). You may call 903-566-7079 for more information.

The instructor retains the right to modify this syllabus.

Module Date	Learning Objectives	Topic	Topic / Assignments
1 8/22	 Explain how societal conflicts due have affected hospitals. Describe the effects of advances in medicine on the modern-day hospital and patient care. Describe how the knowledge gained from best practices can lead to both progress and patient harm over time. Explain the development and sources of law. Discuss how case law differs from statutory and administrative law. Gain an understanding of public health law. 	 Course Introduction History of Hospitals Governme nt, Law and Ethics (Overview) Integration of Public Health Discussion Post #1 	 WATCH Module 1 Overview READ Pozgar Chapters 1 and 2 STUDY Module 1 PowerPoint Slides SCAN Web Resource – Health and Human Services Public Health Law - CDC DO Synchronous session #1: 8/24 at 6pm CST Meet your classmates discussion board Team Assignments and expectations discussion board Semester Begins Monday, August 22 at 8am

Module			
Date	Learning Objectives	Topic	Topic / Assignments
2 8/29	 Identify the main elements of the criminal law concept. Describe the criminal procedure process from arrest through trial. Discuss the more common crimes that occur in the healthcare setting. Understand the main principles of Physician Self-Referral (Stark) law and Federal Antikickback Statue. 	Criminal Aspects of Health Care	WATCH • Module 2 Overview • Anti-Kickback and Stark • National Healthcare Fraud and Opioid Takedown READ • Pozgar Chapter 6 • Module Summary STUDY • Module 2 PowerPoint Slides SCAN • Web Resources – Healthcare kickbacks • Web Resources and Stark • Web Resources – Healthcare Crime Example DO • Video Reflection #1
3 9/5	 Describe the objectives of tort law. Distinguish between negligence and malpractice. Compare between commission and omission of an act. Explain the elements necessary to prove a negligence case. Describe the importance of foreseeability in a negligence case. Differentiate between intentional torts and negligence. Identify various intentional torts and their application in the healthcare setting. 	 Tort Law: Negligence and Intentional Torts. Tort Reform and Risk Reductio n. 	WATCH • Module 3 Overview READ • Pozgar Chapters 3, 4, 5 STUDY • Module 3 PowerPoint Slides SCAN • Web Resources – Latest Healthcare Lawsuits • Web Resources – Texas Tort Reform Article • Web Resources – Considerations for COVID-19

Module			
Date	Learning Objectives	Topic	Topic / Assignments
4 9/12	 Understand the doctrine of joint and several liability. Discuss the pretrial discovery process. Analyze the trial process. Examine the forms of evidence presented by the plaintiff. Describe defenses offered by the defendant. Discuss the purpose of the judge's charge to the jury. Describe the types of damages and how they are awarded. 	Civil Procedure and Trial Practice	DO • Written Assignment #1 • Academic Integrity sign-off University Closed for Labor Day Holiday 9/6 WATCH • Module 4 Overview READ • Pozgar Chapter 8 STUDY • Module 4 PowerPoint Slides • Texas Court Structure SCAN • Web Resources: • Texas Rules of Civil Procedure • The Federal Court System in the U.S.
5 9/19	 Analyze the elements and consequences of contracts in healthcare. Discuss corporate authority, organization, and committee structure. Describe corporate ethics, corporate compliance, and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Examine the concepts behind corporate negligence, respondent superior/vicarious liability, and independent contractor. Explain the purpose of corporate reorganization and the process of restructuring. Describe what the Safe Harbor Act is designed 	Contracts and Antitrust Corporate Structure and Legal Issues	• Video Reflection #2 WATCH • Module 5 Overview READ • Pozgar Chapters 7, 9 • Restrictive Covenants • Web Resources: • Healthcare Antitrust • Business Structures • Board Roles and Responsibilities • Module 5 Summary

		Course Caleridai	
Module Date	Learning Objectives	Topic	Topic / Assignments
6 9/26	 Distinguish between different ethical theories and discuss how ethical principles can be applied to resolve ethical dilemmas. Examine the relationship between spirituality, religion and personal healthcare choices. Describe the term situational ethics and how circumstances impact decision-making. Explain the role of a healthcare ethics committee, including how it can assist in addressing ethical dilemmas. Examine the impact of the Supreme Court ruling in Roe v. Wade. Discuss the series of court cases over abortion specific to counseling, spousal consent, parental consent, and funding. Explain the legal issues of sterilization, artificial insemination, and surrogacy. 	Healthcare Ethics Procreation and Ethical Dilemmas	STUDY • Module 5 PowerPoint Slides • Texas Court System SCAN • Corporate Ethics and Corporate Compliance DO • Synchronous session #2 at 9/21 6pm CST • Written Assignment #2 WATCH • Introduction to Bioethics: Bioethics at the Bedside READ • Module 6 Overview • Pozgar Chapters 15, 16 • Texas Advance Directives Act • Medical Ethics • Roe v. Wade Geographical Effect • Ethical Dilemmas for Physicians DO • Video Reflection #3
7 10/3	 Examine the principles of consent. Discuss the human struggle to survive and the right to autonomous decision making. Describe how patient autonomy has been impacted by case law and legislative enactments. Discuss the following concepts: euthanasia, advance directives and do-not-resuscitate orders. Explain end-of-life issues as they relate to 	 Patient Consent, Rights, and Responsibilitie s End-of-Life Issues 	 WATCH Jack Kervorkian and the Right to Die Terri Shiavo: A look back 10 Years After Her Death (2 videos) READ Pozgar Chapters 14, 17

Module			
Date	Learning Objectives	Topic	Topic / Assignments
	autopsy, organ donations, research, experimentation and clinical trials. 6. Evaluate how human genetics and stem cell research can have an impact on end-of-life issues.		 Code of Medical Ethics Opinion 5.7 and 1.1.7 STUDY Module 7 PowerPoint Slides SCAN Corporate Ethics and Corporate Compliance Final Project Overview DO Synchronous Session #3: 10/5 at 6pm CST
8 10/10	 Demonstrate competency to consume and summarize legal aspects to current healthcare issues individually and within a group setting. Demonstrate competency to work together as a team to summarize learned content and communicate verbally / report out to a group setting using virtual technology. Understand requirements and expectations for the final course project. 	Current Healthcare Topics	WATCH • Zoom Call Recording STUDY • Module 8 PowerPoint Slides • Texas Court System DO • Mid-Term Exam • Final Presentation Sign-up sheet
9 10/17	 Describe the medical staff organization and committee structure. Describe the credentialing and privileging process. Identify common physician medical errors. Identify common categories of nursing staff and the respective scope of practice. Discuss legal risks for nurses. Describe a variety of legal issues that occur in patient care settings. Explain the process of obtaining nurse licensure. 	 Medical Staff Organization Nursing and the Law 	 READ Pozgar Chapters 10, 11 Provider Credentialing and Privileging Common Mistakes Made by Nurses STUDY Module 9 PowerPoint Slides SCAN Medical Code Ethics Nursing, Licensing and Scope of Practice

Module Date	Learning Objectives	Topic	Topic / Assignments
10 10/24	 Describe some of the many legal issues that can occur in key patient care settings by different members of the multidisciplinary team. Discuss the purpose of the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act. Describe the purpose of certification and licensure, and the reasons for revocation of licenses. Explain the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to patient care. 	Hospital Departments and Allied Professionals	DO • Written Assignment #3 WATCH • The Stop Light Program READ • Pozgar Chapter 12 • Provider Credentialing and Privileging • Common Mistakes Made by Nurses STUDY • Module 10 PowerPoint Slides SCAN • EMTALA DO • Video Reflection #4

		Course Caleridai	
Module Date	Learning Objectives	Topic	Topic / Assignments
11 10/31	 Describe the contents of medical records. Explain the ownership of and who can access a patient's medical record. Describe the purpose of the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and how they affect hospital and physician practices. Describe various forms of child abuse, how to recognize it, and reporting requirements. Describe various forms of elder abuse, how to recognize it, and reporting requirements. Explain why it is important to report communicable diseases, adverse drug reactions, and infectious diseases. Understand the importance of incident reporting, sentinel events, and the purpose of root cause analyses. 	 Information Management and Patient Records Legal Reporting Requirements 	 WATCH Health Information Management READ Pozgar Chapters 13, 18 Medical Records STUDY HIPAA/HITECH Privacy and Security (copy) SCAN DRGs Sentinel Events DO Synchronous Session #4: 11/2 at 6pm CST
12 11/7	 Describe the various federal labor acts as they relate to healthcare workers and patients. Discuss the right & responsibilities of unions & management. Discuss the types of discrimination that occur in the workplace and the Acts that are meant to protect against discrimination. Describe what sexual harassment is and what forms it can take. Describe the Employment-at-Will Doctrine. Discuss the distinct elements related to Discharge. Describe Effective Hiring Practices. Discuss Employee Rights and Responsibilities. 	Labor Relations Employment at Will, Rights and Responsibil ities	 WATCH Module 12 Overview Zoom Call recording – Dana Mott-Bronson (Guest Lecture) READ Pozgar Chapters 19, 20 STUDY Module 12 PowerPoint Slides SCAN Blue Cross Blue Shield National Labor Office Website DO Video Reflection #5

Module					
Date	Learning Objectives	Topic	Topic / Assignments		
13 11/14	 Examine the purpose of insurance policies. Explain the elements and conditions of an insurance policy. Describe the investigation and settlement of claims. Describe the common models of managed care organizations. Describe the purpose and process of utilization review. Describe the purpose & various titles of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA). Describe the various court rulings involving PPACA. 	 Professio nal Liability Insurance Managed Care and National Health Insurance 	 WATCH Module 13 Overview READ Pozgar Chapters 21, 22 STUDY Module 13 PowerPoint Slides SCAN Provider Liability Coverage – Texas Medical Liability Trust The Future of Managed Care ACA Status – Articles 1,2,3 DO Written Assignment #4 		
	HAPPY TH	ANKSGIVING / Proje	ect Preparation		
The University will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday from: 11/21 – 11/25					
14 11/28	Final Presentation Meeting 1 Zoom Call Final Project Presentations Peer Evaluations Wednesday, November 30, 6pm – 9pm				
15 12/6	Final Presentation Meeting 2 Zoom Call Final Project Presentations Peer Evaluations Wednesday, December 7, 6pm – 9pm Final Project Submission - DUE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 BY 5PM Semester Ends Friday 12/9 @ 5pm CST				

End of Syllabus