

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**NURS 4234 ISSUES IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE  
Long Summer 2017 Syllabus**

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**On-line web course**

## **NURS 4234 Issues in Professional Practice**

### **SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS**

Two didactic hours (2.0)

### **PREREQUISITES**

Successful completion of all third level courses for generic baccalaureate students

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This on-line course synthesizes the ethical/legal concepts related to the role of the registered nurse. Emphasis is on professional values and value-based behaviors as a member of the profession. All course content, exams and lectures (video or Tegrity) are in Canvas.

### **COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have demonstrated the ability to:

1. Assume responsibility for continuing professional development.
2. Analyze the level of self-knowledge needed to carry out the professional role and leadership skills necessary to the delivery of care in a complex society.
3. Utilize nursing knowledge and the decision making processes derived from evidenced based research findings to address contemporary issues and problems in health care.
4. Debate moral/ethical/legal/regulatory issues that impact nursing practice and the health care delivery system.
5. Describe the impact of health policy, finances, and regulatory agencies on the delivery of healthcare.
6. Appraise health care issues through utilization of the processes of critical thinking and interpersonal caring to diverse populations across the lifespan.
7. Synthesize professional standards that support moral/ethical/legal principles in response to global health care needs.
8. Integrate knowledge, skills and attitudes to address nursing practice issues that reflect ethical decision making.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Burkhardt, M. A., & Nathaniel, A. K. (2014). *Ethics & issues in contemporary nursing* (4th ed.). Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning.

### **Recommended:**

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. (ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5)

American Nurses Association. (2010). *Guide to the Code of Ethics for nurses: Interpretation and application*. D. M. Fowler, (Ed.). Silver Spring, MD: Author.

American Nurses Association. (2010). *Nursing: Scope and standards of practice* (2nd ed.). Silver Spring, MD: Author.

**Course Schedule:**

**NURS 4234 Issues in Professional practice  
LONG SUMMER 2017  
Course Schedule**

\* Exams open at 0800 on Wednesday and close Thursday at MN

Week	Date	Course Module	Chapters	Assignments/Due Dates
1	5/22	Module 1 Ethical Theory and Principles	2 & 3	** Complete required affirmation quiz in Canvas- see assignments
2	5/29	Module 2 Values and Moral Development	4 & 5	<b>Exam 1</b> Opens 5/31 Wednesday @ 0800 – closes 6/1 at MN. Content: Module 1
3	6/5	Module 3: Ethical Decision Making	6, 7	<b>Discussion Board Assignment due 6/5</b>
4	6/12	Module 4: Economic Issues & Global Consciousness	13,15	<b>Exam 2</b> Opens 6/14 Wednesday @ 0800 – closes 6/15 at MN. Content: Module 2 and 3
5	6/19	Module 5: Self Determination	11	<b>Ethics paper due 6/23 Friday at 5:00 PM</b>
6	6/26	Module 6: Empowerment for Nurses and Patients	19,20	
7	7/3	Module 7: Professional Relationship Issues & Scholarship Issues	9,12	<b>Exam 3</b> Opens 7/5 Wednesday @ 0800 – closes 7/6 at MN. Content Module 4, 5, 6
8	7/10	Module 8: Health Policy	14	
9	7/17	Module 9: Legal & Jurisprudence	8	<b>Legal assignment due 7/17 by 1700</b>
		No content this week – exam 4 due 7/27		<b>Exam 4</b> Opens 7/26 Wednesday @ 0800– closes 7/27 MN. Content Module 7, 8, 9,

**Student Accountability:**

1. Students are responsible for reading all course materials, viewing the weekly video lecture or Tegrity lectures, and completion of course assignments.
2. Students are responsible for reading all course Announcements posted to Blackboard
3. **Late assignments will only be accepted at the discretion of faculty:**  
**There will be a 5 point penalty for each day an assignment is submitted after the due time unless special permission is obtained from faculty. There will be a 10 point penalty each day for assignments submitted after the due date. Any quiz or exam taken late (after the due date) will have an automatic 10 point reduction in score.**

4. All submitted written material (papers, assignments, examinations, etc.) are the property of the School of Nursing.
5. Students are required to use their UTT Patriot student email accounts for all correspondence with faculty.
6. Communication with faculty will be via email or scheduled appointment. Email communication should include NURS 4234 in the title of the email. Faculty will respond within 24 hours to all emails.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

### **CLASS PREPARATION & CANVAS INFORMATION**

All lecture outlines with supplementary materials are organized under each Module in Canvas. Video lectures and supplemental materials are organized under Supplemental/Video sections. Students are responsible for completion of assignments on the due dates noted on the course calendar.

### **Canvas Module Instructions:**

Content modules are on line (see course calendars). UT Tyler online courses use Java, JavaScript, browser plug-ins, helper application and cookies. It is essential that you have these elements installed and enabled in your web browser for optimal viewing of the content and functions of your online course content. Lecture videos are optimally viewed in high definition.

- **Adobe Reader** allows you to view, save, and print Portable Document Format (PDF) files. <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>
- **Java Runtime Environment (JRE)** allows you to use interactive tools on the web. <http://www.java.com/en/download/>
- **Adobe Flash Player** allows you to view content created with Flash such as interactive web applications and animations. <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
- **QuickTime** allows users to play back audio and video files. <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>

### **General Policies**

These policies apply to all students of the university. Students should access and review these policies at: <http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf>

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

### **Student Accessibility and Resources**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to [cstaples@uttyler.edu](mailto:cstaples@uttyler.edu)

The SAR office is located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call (903) 566-7079. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodation must provide documentation of his/her disability to the SAR counselor.”

**Students should inquire about accommodations before the first exam.**

### **UT Tyler Honor Code**

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

### ***Campus Carry***

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

### ***UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University***

All forms of tobacco **will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler.** This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.

Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free).

### ***Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies***

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) **on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated.** Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (June 5th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

### ***State-Mandated Course Drop Policy***

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

### ***Student Absence due to Religious Observance***

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

### ***Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities***

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

### ***Social Security and FERPA Statement***

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

**Emergency Exits and Evacuation**

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

**Student Standards of Academic Conduct**

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but 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" includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

*"Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.*

"Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by SafeAssign™, available on Blackboard.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), [writingcenter@uttyler.edu](mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu)
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), [tutoring@uttyler.edu](mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu)
- UT Counseling Center (903-566-7254)

**Student Affirmation, Social Media Policy—Documentation of Compliance**

All students are required to complete the Student Forms quiz at the beginning of the semester. Failure to submit signed forms will result in an "Incomplete" grade for the course.

**GRADE CALCULATION NURS 4234:**

Completion of NURS 4234 is based on satisfactory attainment of all course criteria. Any student failing

to meet the course objectives and expectations must repeat the course and will not meet graduation requirements.

1. **Course Grade Calculation:** Students will have course grades calculated based on the weighted calculation of exams and other required course assignments. The weighted calculation of all grades must be 75% or greater to pass the course.

Exams (4)	70 % (17.5% each)
Ethics Analysis Paper	20 %
Legal Assignment	8 %
Discussion Board Assignment	<u>2 %</u>
	100

2. Final course grades will be assigned according to the following scale: (an average of 74.5 - 74.9 **will not** be rounded to 75).

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale in accordance with UTT School of Nursing Policy:

A	90 -100
B	80-89
C	<b>75-79</b>
D	60-74
F	60 and below

(Approved Faculty Organization: Fall 1999, implemented Spring 2000)

3. Assignments - See Course Schedule for Discussion Board Assignment, Ethics Analysis Paper and Legal Assignment due dates/times. Specific information and requirements for assignments are located under the assignment in canvas. Assignments must be submitted on time to avoid late points. **Evidence of plagiarism will result in course failure at the discretion of the faculty. Further disciplinary actions may include removal from the UT School of Nursing in accordance with policy.** See Scholastic Conduct and Discipline Policy in the current School of Nursing (SON) [Guide for Baccalaureate Students, pp. 48-49.](#)

### **PAPER/ASSIGNMENT RE-GRADING POLICY**

Student assignments will not be re-graded.

### **GRADE REPLACEMENT POLICY**

If you are repeating this course for a grade replacement, you must file an intent to receive grade forgiveness with the Office of the Registrar by the **Census Date** (see [Academic Calendar](#) for date) of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Failure to file intent to use grade forgiveness will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate overall grade point average. Undergraduates will receive grade forgiveness (grade replacement) for only three course repeats; graduates, for two course repeats during his/her career at UT Tyler.

### **EXAMINATION AND EXAMINATION REVIEW POLICY**

1. Exams are taken on line in CANVAS. Students must have access to CANVAS or take the exam in a computer lab at UT Tyler.
6. **Make-up exams** will be allowed at the discretion of the faculty member and **may be in a different format than the original exam.** Failure to notify the course faculty of the need to take the exam on an alternate date will result in a grade of 0 for that particular exam.
7. **Exam reviews** will be conducted at the discretion of the faculty and may be scheduled with the



faculty within **10 school days** after the exam. Arrangements to review the exam should be scheduled with faculty via email.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

1. Students are expected to assume full responsibility for the content and integrity of all academic work submitted as assignments and examinations.
2. Students are advised to review the Scholastic Conduct and Discipline Policy in the current SON [Guide for Baccalaureate Students](#) and [UT Tyler Student Conduct and Discipline Policy](#). These policies are fully endorsed and enforced by all faculty members within the College of Nursing.
3. Plagiarism, cheating and collusion are unacceptable and if found violating any of these standards the student will be disciplined accordingly (see *Guide for Baccalaureate Students* for definitions).
4. The School of Nursing has the right to dismiss students from the program for any infraction of a legal, moral, social, or safety nature, pursuant to the procedures detailed in the *Regent's Rules*.

### **MODULES and STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

#### **Module 1**

#### **ETHICAL THEORY AND PRINCIPLES**

##### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Review course objectives and requirements as outlined in course syllabus.
2. Discuss the ethical principles as they pertain to health care issues.
3. Analyze selected ethical theories as a basis for ethical decision-making.
4. Examine situations in which there is a conflict between two or more ethical principles.
5. Examine the provisions in the ANA *Code of Ethics for Nurses (2001)* as they apply to nursing practice.

##### **ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Textbook: Burkhardt & Nathaniel (2014): Chapters 2 & 3
2. American Nurses Association. (2015). *ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements*. <http://nursingworld.org/DocumentVault/Ethics-1/Code-of-Ethics-for-Nurses.html>
3. American Nurses Association. (2015). *Nursing: Scope and standards of practice* (3rd ed.). Silver Spring, MD: Author
4. Supplementary materials/video in canvas

#### **Module 2**

#### **VALUES AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT**

##### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Discuss why values clarification is important both personally and professionally.
2. Differentiate between personal and professional values.
3. Explain the valuing process.
4. Describe methods to work through values conflicts in practice settings.
5. Define essential professional values and behaviors.
6. Analyze the impact of culture on values development.
7. Critique models of moral development.
8. Examine how morality relates to the practice of nursing.

##### **ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Textbook: Burkhardt & Nathaniel (2014): Chapters 4 & 5
2. American Association of College (AACN) of Nursing Professional Values
3. Supplementary materials/video in canvas

#### **Module 3**



### **ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Compare and examine critical thinking and the process of ethical decision-making.
2. Recognize how personal emotions impact ethical decision-making.
3. Apply the ethical decision making process to selected ethical issues.
4. Differentiate among the various types of moral problems.
5. Submit a written assignment that presents resolution of ethical dilemma.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Textbook: Burkhardt & Nathaniel (2014): Chapter 6 and 7
2. Supplementary materials/video in canvas

### **Module 4 ECONOMIC ISSUES**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Examine trends in health care delivery and financing that have emerged in recent history.
2. Discuss current problems in health care economics.
3. Articulate how decisions are based upon ethics and distributive justice.
4. Compare theories of justice and how resources and services are distributed.

### **GLOBAL CONSCIOUSNESS IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Understand health concerns from a global perspective.
2. Describe the role and ethical responsibility of nursing in addressing local, national, and global environmental issues.
3. Identify specific actions nurses can take to address the concern regarding issues such as disasters, displaced persons, war and violence, toxic chemicals, and other pollutants.
4. Discuss historical events and patterns of health care delivery that have helped to shape Western systems of health care delivery in the United States.
5. Describe trends and challenges of accessibility and financing facing health care delivery systems around the globe.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Textbook: Burkhardt & Nathaniel (2014): Chapter 13 and 15
2. Supplemental materials/video in canvas

### **Module 5: SELF-DETERMINATION**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Analyze autonomy and paternalism as they relate to patient self-determination.
2. Describe factors that may threaten autonomy in health care settings and situations in which autonomy may be limited.
3. Outline the issues and dilemmas regarding life, death, and allocation of resources.
4. Appraise the nursing role and responsibilities related to informed consent, which reflects both sensitivity and caring characteristics.
5. Interpret the legal and ethical implications of the patient's right to make decisions related to healthcare.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Textbook: Burkhardt & Nathaniel (2014): Chapter 11
2. Supplemental materials/video in canvas

### **Module 6 EMPOWERMENT FOR PATIENTS AND NURSES**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Describe the concepts of power and empowerment.

2. Distinguish between personal and professional empowerment.
3. Discuss the nurse's role as advocate to empower the patient.
4. Discuss factors that promote and inhibit patient empowerment.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Textbook: Burkhardt & Nathaniel (2014): Chapters 19 & 20
2. Supplemental materials/video in canvas

**Module 7****PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIP ISSUES****OBJECTIVES:**

1. Review the traits of a professional and the professional development process.
2. Explain the relationship between accountability and professional status as well as the mandate for life-long learning and expertise.
3. Integrate nursing roles in structured and unstructured settings and identify potential professional conflicts.
4. Propose solutions to practice setting conflicts that are ethically and legally sensitive.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Textbook: Burkhardt & Nathaniel (2014): Chapters 9, & 12
2. Supplemental materials/video in canvas

**Module 8****HEALTH POLICY ISSUES****OBJECTIVES:**

1. Analyze the nurse's role in the political arena.
2. Evaluate political issues encountered in nursing practice.
3. Discuss the role of ethics in policy making.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Textbook: Burkhardt & Nathaniel (2014): Chapter 14
2. Supplemental material/video in canvas

**Module 9****NURSING JURISPRUDENCE & LEGAL ISSUES****OBJECTIVES - Legal:**

1. Differentiate among the major categories of law.
2. Outline the essential elements that must be substantiated to prove malpractice.
3. Differentiate between intentional and unintentional torts in relation to nursing practice.
4. Give examples of how professional nurses can be charged with crimes of criminal and civil law.
5. Explain how statutory law governs and indirectly influences nursing practice.
6. Summarize methods nurses can use to decrease liability.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Textbook: Burkhardt & Nathaniel (2014): Chapter 8
2. Bb supplementary readings
3. Legal Assignment – see Bb for details

**OBJECTIVES - Jurisprudence:**

1. State the Mission of the Texas Board of Nursing.
2. Analyze the functions of the Board of Nursing.
3. Interpret statutes and rules that protect the title "nurse".
4. Analyze how the Texas Nurse Practice Act governs nursing practice.
5. Analyze sections of the Nurse Practice Act and discuss its purpose and functions.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

1. Review BON web site: <http://www.bon.texas.gov/>

2. Review notes and content posted in Canvas on Jurisprudence
3. Supplemental materials/video in canvas