The course is intended for individuals preparing for advanced nursing practice roles. Two goals will be pursued: (1) Analysis of selected ethical issues encountered in advanced practice roles; and (2) ways in which the health care environment can be shaped to facilitate ethical practice of nurses.

Ethical principles and theories will be discussed, and their application developed through the analysis of selected issues and themes at the individual, institutional and societal levels.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the course, the student will be able to:
1. Critically analyze selected ethical issues encountered in advanced nursing practice;

2. Develop and evaluate the role of leadership in shaping health care environments' conducive to ethical practice;

3. Analyze ethical issues occasioned by technological developments;

4. Review and evaluate own values and utilize class discussion and readings as opportunities for revising or expanding them in view of emerging developments;

5. Compare and contrast similarities, differences and interrelations of ethical concerns at the individual, institutional and societal levels.
Texts


Video and audiotapes are available in the School of Nursing lab relevant to the topics of the course. Students are urged to listen to these.

Course Requirements

1. Students are expected to prepare for class discussion and participate in a critical and scholarly exchange of ideas and content.

2. Select a critical ethical issue that impinges on at least two realms of ethics (individual; institutional, societal). Review relevant ethical principles. and present an analysis of the issues and ways in which conflicting claims can be reconciled. Describe how this experience contributed to the development or evolution of your thinking and values. The student utilizes the literature relevant to the topic of choice.

3. Select a case involving an ethical issue of interest to you. Identify the ethical issues in the case. Present your position and how you would approach the resolution of the main ethical issues, giving reasons for your position. Describe how the analysis of this case changed your personal thinking. The student utilizes the literature as relevant.

Note on Student Code of Academic Conduct: It is now the policy of the School of Nursing that for each assignment students sign the Honor Pledge. To implement this, type at the bottom of the cover sheet of each written assignment: "I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this examination or paper." and sign it. Papers will not be graded without this signed pledge.

Readings: A selected reading list is attached for student reference. For each class session readings will be suggested from the texts and the reading list. In addition, students are urged to bring to the attention of peers any new material they encounter in their explorations.

Students select a manual of style in writing their papers. The APA style is strongly recommended. Elements of scholarly writing need to be observed in all written work. Papers to be presented in typed, double-spaced form (no plastic covers please). Class attendance is necessary for learning and for evaluation.

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