

INDIANA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
DIVISION OF NURSING EDUCATION

COURSE: NURSING 365: Ethics
CREDITS: Two credit hours
PLACEMENT IN CURRICULUM: Junior Level
FACULTY: Pat Kissell, RN, PhD
Home number 651-0753
Office number 677-2280
Fax number 677-2284
e mail address pkissell@indwes.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Recognizing the fact that the nursing student's ethical development is an ongoing process, this course has been designed to assist the student to develop moral reasoning skills. Ethical theories and related topics will be presented as a foundation for ethical decision-making. The course content will be presented in seminar format. Discussion will focus on an in-depth consideration of the rights and need of unique wholistic man from a Christian perspective.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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

1. Demonstrate an understanding of ones own values and sources.
2. Identify and support a variety of alternatives for any ethical situation.
3. Exhibit effective interpersonal skills in interactions and transactions with peers and faculty.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of values, ethical issues and ethical decision making as it applies to unique wholistic human beings in written work and small group discussion.
5. Apply knowledge gained from the literature during ethical decision-making.

LEARNING STRATEGIES:

Seminar, large and small group discussion, lecture, computer searches, audio visuals and independent study.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Attendance at all classes. If you are ill and cannot attend a class Dr. Kissell is to be notified prior to the beginning of class. Dr. Kissell begins and ends class on time and expects you to be on time for class.
2. All assignments must be handed in on time. Dr. Kissell does not accept late papers or assignments so if you miss a class where an assignment is due make arrangements for a classmate to submit the paper. Papers are accepted at class time only.
3. Examinations must be taken on the day and time they are scheduled. If you are ill you must call Dr. Kissell prior to class time in order to be eligible to take a make up examination. Please call Dr. Kissell's office and if she is not in leave a message with one of the secretaries. Make up examinations are given only for illnesses so please do not ask to be excused for other reasons.
4. Submitted work is to follow the guidelines of the American Psychological Association, 4th edition.
5. At the end of each chapter of both of your required textbooks the authors have listed study questions. It is Dr. Kissell's expectation that you either individually or as a study group will prepare the answers to these questions.

EVALUATION:

Essay	5 points
Group Project	25 points
Ethical Analysis Paper	15 points
Vocabulary Expander	10 points
New York Times/Wall Street Journal/ Bibliography Cards	10 points
Mid term	15 points
Final Examination	20 points
Total	100 points

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Aiken, T. (1994). Legal, ethical, and political issues in nursing. Philadelphia: F.A. Davis

Shelly, J. and Miller, A. (1991) Values in conflict. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

GUIDELINES FOR ETHICAL ANALYSIS PAPER

Students are to choose an ethical dilemma of interest and develop the topic to include the following concepts:

1. Analysis of the dilemma as related to some aspect of professional nursing.
2. Analysis of the dilemma in relationship to major ethical theories and concepts presented in class and in the reading assignments.
3. Presentation of an ethical decision-making model to guide one's behavior in resolving the dilemma.

Papers are to be typed and referenced with at least six sources.

GUIDELINES FOR GROUP PROJECT

Students will be assigned a group and will choose a topic of interest to the group. Each group will decide on a project to be completed during the semester. Examples might be: to provide an inservice on an ethical issue to a group of students and /or professionals; perform a debate on a specific issue and invite other majors/professors to be involved; present findings from the July 1995 conference entitled "The Christian Stake in Dignity and Dying" held Trinity International University, Deerfield, IL. The project is intended to be an opportunity for nursing students to facilitate discussion on ethical issues outside the classroom.

GUIDELINES FOR BIBLIOGRAPHY ENTRIES

Students will each complete 3 bibliography entries to be turned in at classes 3,7, and 11. The cards are to be written in APA format and include:

- a. summary of the article
- b. the ethical issue
- c. how the issue applies to the student's experience

GUIDELINES FOR VOCABULARY EXPANDER

During the semester you will find a plethora of words whose meanings you do not know. This assignment VOCABULARY EXPANDER was designed to help you increase your vocabulary and to make it a life long learning goal.

1. As you read make note of words you do not know and check the meaning in dictionary.
2. Keep a running list of these words and their meaning.
3. Do not use only medical/nursing words. Include any word you do not know no matter source of the word.
4. To earn 10% for this assignment you must have a minimum of 50 words. Please number the words. There will be no partial credit given and if you cannot find the meaning of the word, you cannot count that word in the 50.
5. These words are due November 28th and will be returned to you by the end of the semester.
6. You do not need to type the words or definitions. You may turn these in on any type of paper. Decide the first week how you want to keep track of these words so you do not have to recopy for submission.

CLASS CALENDAR

CLASS 1: SEPTEMBER 5

TOPIC: SYSTEMS OF ETHICAL DECISION MAKING

1. Introduction to course
2. Values Clarification Activity
3. Discussion of History of Ethics
4. Discussion/lecture on Deontology and Utilitarianism

CLASS 2: SEPTEMBER 12

TOPIC: PERSONAL VALUES

ASSIGNMENT **READ:**

Aiken pp. 1-35
Shelly and Miller, Chapter 1

On the InfoTrac database at the University library you are to do the following:

Access the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal and locate 3 major ethical issues that have been written about in the last 6 months. These do not have to be related to nursing or bioethics. List these issues on a 3x5 card and hand in at class time.

If you have any difficulty with this assignment please ask one of the librarians to assist you.

Class Activity: We will view A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS in class. The video will take the entire class time. Take notes on the film as you will write a short essay which answers the following;

1. In your opinion, did Sir Thomas Moore go too far? Why?
2. From which ethical theory was the king operating? Explain.
3. What ethical theory was Sir Thomas Moore's family operating from? Support your answer with examples.
4. How important is it to risk one's life in order to stand for what one believes? Explain your answer.
5. Give an example of something you believe in so strongly that you would indeed risk your life rather than compromise.

CLASS 3: SEPTEMBER 19

BIB CARD DUE

TOPIC: ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN NURSING PRACTICE
AND STANDARDS OF CARE

Assignment Read:

Aiken, Chapters 3 and 4.
Shelly and Miller, Chapter 2

Class Activities: Discussion of your essay on A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS
Discussion of study questions Aiken, pages 53-54 and 70-71

CLASS 4: SEPTEMBER 26

TOPIC: MALPRACTICE

Assignment Read:

Aiken, Chapter 5
Shelly and Miller, Chapter 3
Locate an article which describes a case of malpractice with a registered nurse involved

Class Activity: Be prepared to discuss the article on malpractice: What did the nurse do in order to be charged with malpractice? What could she have done to prevent this?
Dr. Kissell will share her personal experience with a law suit

CLASS 5: OCTOBER 3

TOPIC: INFORMED CONSENT

Assignment Read:

Aiken, Chapter 6
Shelly and Miller, Chapter 4

Class Activity: Be prepared to discuss Study Questions,
p. 113, Aiken
Case study will be presented

CLASS 6: OCTOBER 10

TOPIC: NEGLIGENCE AND LIABILITY

Assignment Read:

Aiken, Chapter 7
Shelly and Miller, Chapter 5

Class Activity: You have been in nursing long enough to
have probably observed negligence. Bring an
example of negligence you have observed or
second best, one you have heard nurses
discuss.

CLASS 7: OCTOBER 17

BIB CARD DUE

TOPIC: INTENTIONAL TORTS

Assignment Read:

Aiken, Chapter 8
Shelly and Miller, Chapter 6

Class Activity: Give examples of the following torts:

1. Defamation
2. Invasion of privacy
3. Assault
4. Battery
5. False imprisonment
6. Trespass to land
7. Intentional infliction of emotional distress

CLASS 8: OCTOBER 24

Mid Term Examination

CLASS 9: OCTOBER 31

TOPIC: PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

Assignment Read:

Aiken, Chapter 9
Shelly and Miller, Chapter 10

Class Activity:

Faculty and students are covered by professional liability insurance at IWU. What does this cost the University to cover nursing? Also are there other majors covered? How much is our coverage?
Where will you get professional liability insurance when you graduate?
Why do nurse practitioners have such high premiums as well as nurse midwives? What types of physicians pay the highest rates?

Jim Caves, Stanley Insurance Agency will be our guest. After reading carefully the chapter in Aiken, prepare questions you would like to ask our Mr. Caves.

CLASS 10: NOVEMBER 7

TOPIC: EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

Assignment Read:

Aiken, Chapter 11
Shelly and Miller, Chapter 9

Class Activity:

Issues in hiring, evaluation and termination
Study questions, page 109, Aiken

CLASS 11: NOVEMBER 14

BIB CARD DUE

TOPIC: SCRIPTURAL BASIS FOR ETHICAL DECISIONS

Assignment Read:

Shelly, Appendix A, pages 155-169

Class Activity: Shelly lists 69 Christian values with accompanying Scripture. Each student is to select one of these values and be prepared to present a brief practical description of this value and the Scriptural basis.

CLASS 12: NOVEMBER 21

There will be no Ethics class this week as all nursing students are required to attend the Spiritual Care Conference held Tuesday, November 21 at Carter Chapel. Dr. Ruth Tucker, well known author and lecturer will present on New Age.

CLASS 13: NOVEMBER 28

VOCABULARY EXPANDER DUE

Class Activity: Project Presentations

CLASS 14: DECEMBER 5

Class Activity: Project Presentations

FINAL EXAMINATION:

The final examination will be based on the following two articles.

Aroskar, M. (1980). Anatomy of an ethical decision: Theory. American Journal of Nursing, 80(4), 658-660 and Anatomy of an ethical decision: Practice, 661-663.