OREGON HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF NURSING
Winter, 1995

Course Title: Nur 621 Ethics in Nursing Science and Practice
Credit Hours: 3

Description: This course focuses on ethics in health care as analyzed from the perspective of nursing. We will explore collaborative, multidisciplinary clinical ethics practice and research. Specifically, we will explore perspectives and processes of 1) the nurse-clinician on multidisciplinary clinical ethics consultation teams, and 2) the nurse-investigator on multidisciplinary ethics research teams.

 Objectives: 1. Analyze and apply the major ethics principles (e.g., autonomy, distributive justice) to clinical ethics consultation and ethics research.

 2. Analyze the perspective of the nurse-clinician on multidisciplinary clinical ethics consultation teams.

 3. Analyze the perspective of the nurse-investigator on multidisciplinary ethics research teams.

Prerequisites: Doctoral or postdoctoral standing; masters student with prior course work in ethics and with consent of instructor.

Faculty: Virginia Tilden, DNSc, RN, FAAN, Professor and Associate Dean for Research, Associate Director, OHSU Center for Ethics in Health Care

Class: Thursdays, 2 - 4 p.m.
School of Nursing, room 349

Requirements: 1. Read and critique assigned readings before class. Participate actively in discussion and scholarly debate. Present ideas for group critique and analysis.

 2. Attend Nursing Ethics Rounds at OHSU Hospital (twice a month, Thursdays, 1:30 to 2:30) and the OHSU Center for Ethics in Health Care Bioethics Study Group (once a month, Thursday, 12-1). Bring your observations of these meetings back for discussion in class.
3. In Unit II, do clinical case analysis in class using the Jonsen model. Each student will facilitate at least one case analysis. In Unit III, present research ideas in class.

4. Write a final paper on a topic related to one or more of the course objectives. The paper should be intended for submission to a scholarly journal or for use as a component of the student's dissertation. Papers should be the length appropriate for most journals (10 to 14 pages, plus references) and in APA format. Papers are due the last day of class.

Evaluation:
- Class participation and involvement = 50%
- Final paper = 50%

Required Texts


CLASS OUTLINE

Week 1 Orientation to course

Unit I: Basic Theories and Principles

Course Objective #1: Analyze and apply the major ethics principles (e.g., autonomy, distributive justice) to clinical ethics consultation and ethics research.

Week 2 Beauchamp & Childress, Chapters 1 - 4

Week 3 Beauchamp & Childress, Chapters 5 - 8
Unit II: Clinical Consultation

Course Objective #2: Analyze the perspective of the nurse-clinician on multidisciplinary clinical ethics consultation teams.

Week 4  Jonsen et al., Introduction - Chapter 1

Week 5  Jonsen et al., Chapters 2 - 3

Week 6  Jonsen et al., Chapters 4 - 5

Unit III: Collaborative Ethics Research

Course Objective #3: Analyze the perspective of the nurse-investigator on multidisciplinary ethics research teams.


Week 10 Wrap up; final papers due
Suggested Reading

Books and Chapters


Articles


(12), 949-953.


Journals

Nursing Ethics: An International Journal for Health Care Professionals.
(Publisher: European Center for Professional ethics, University of East London, UK)

Hastings Center Report


Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal (Johns Hopkins University Press).

The Journal of Clinical Ethics

Miscellaneous


American Nurses Association Ethics-Related Position Statements -- e.g.: Nursing and the Patient Self-Determination Act (1991)
Promotion of Comfort and Relief of Pain in Dying Patients (1991)
Nursing Care and Do-Not-Resuscitate Decisions (1992)
Forgoing Artificial Nutrition and Hydration (1992)
Guidelines on Reporting Incompetent, Unethical, or Illegal Practices
(1994)
Physician-Aid-in Dying (pending ANA Board approval)

Cultural diversity: Ethical issues at the end of life. Proceedings of a
workshop co-sponsored by the OHSU Patient Advocate Office and the OHSU Center

President’s Commission for the Study of Ethical Problems in Medicine and
Printing Office.
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*Hastings Center Report*


*Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal* (Johns Hopkins University Press).

*The Journal of Clinical Ethics*

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