

DP 202: Ethics
University of the Pacific
School of Dentistry

Second Year DDS
Winter & Spring 2007
2.0 Units

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Tuesdays
Rooms 104 & 5th floor

Study of basic biomedical ethical theory and its application to dental practice.
Development of the ethically competent dentist.

Course Goals

This course is designed to:

1. Teach students how to apply basic biomedical ethics to real-life clinical dental practice, including ethical, legal, and regulatory concepts.
2. Teach students principles of ethical reasoning and how to apply them.
3. Define and discuss professional responsibility in oral health care.
4. Stimulate the moral imagination of students and establish ethical reflection and self-assessment as an interesting and worthwhile lifelong endeavor.

Readings (Bring both of these sets of reading with you to each class meeting).

Instructor's Readings (CD)

Cases (CD)

Course Structure

Four hours of lectures took place during the Autumn, 2006 quarter. These lectures provided an overview of the course structure and basic bioethical theory.

A series of 6 three-hour seminars are offered to groups of about 24 students at a time during the Winter and Spring quarters of 2007. Students attend a seminar once every three weeks.

Winter

Tuesday morning 9-12

Tuesday afternoon 2-5

	January 9	Group A	Group D
1	January 16	Group B	Group E
	January 23	Group C	Group F

	January 30	Group A	Group D
2	February 6	Group B	Group E
	February 13	Group C	Group F

	February 20	Group A	Group D
3	February 27	Group B	Group E
	March 6	Group C	Group F

----- **Mid-term Examination-(during finals week)-** -----

Spring

	March 27	Group A	Group D
4	April 3	Group B	Group E
	April 10	Group C	Group F

	April 17	Group A	Group D
5	April 24	Group B	Group E
	May 1	Group C	Group F

	May 8	Group A	Group D
6	May 15	Group B	Group E
	May 22	Group C	Group F

Instructors

Dr. Peltier will lead all of the seminars. One or more DDS faculty members will participate at each seminar.

The course director's office is Room 601. You can leave papers in the black holder on the door. His email address is bpeltier@pacific.edu. He is available for consultation by appointment. Feel free to call on the cell phone at (415) 215-6858. You can leave a message on this line.

Attendance

Participation is required at all six seminars. In the unlikely event that a student misses a seminar, that seminar can be made up with another group. This option is available **once** to each student. Missing a second seminar may result in a failing grade for the course. Any missed work will result in a remedial assignment in order to ensure that each student understands all of the material. You must attend the same lesson that you missed. Students in groups C and F must be careful, as there is no way to switch with a group that follows the date that they meet.

Assignments and Grades

This course is graded on a credit/fail basis. The following four requirements will determine your grade. You must successfully accomplish **all four** to receive the grade of "CR."

1. **Attendance at all six seminars or a make-up.** If you need to switch one seminar and take it with another group, take care to attend the **proper lesson**. You must attend each of the six different lessons to pass the course.
2. **Download formal codes of ethics.** Each student must find and download the Dental School's codes of ethics as well as the code from the ADA and the CDA. Bring your laptop or hard copies of the codes to **Session 2**.
3. **Mid-term exam.** This test will be given during finals week for the winter quarter (in March). This test must be passed in order to pass the course. It is an essay, fill-in, and multiple-choice test which covers basic bioethical theory (from the November – December lectures) and all other material covered during the first half of the class (January -March). Correctly answering seventy percent of the content is the passing criterion. A remedial session and second mid-term exam will be offered to any student who fails the mid-term exam. There is no final exam in this course.
4. **A written case study.** Students must submit a written summary of a case or situation from clinical dental practice that describes an ethical problem. This problem can come from their own work with patients or from the practice of a DDS or from another student. It could even be an example from the point of view of a patient. The format can be found in the course handouts, and the instructor has examples of well-written papers for you to inspect. We will go over the format in detail in class. This paper is to be no longer than eight pages in length. It must be typed. Be sure to change or disguise the names of anyone discussed in your paper.

Table of Contents

	Page
Administrative course materials	2
Course requirements, dates, deadlines, grading criteria	5
Ethics groups	8
Format for final ethics paper	9, 32, 33-35
Form used to switch workshops	10
Theory and Basic Principles	12
Starting points	13
Question: Is this ethical?	14
Models for Ethical Deliberation	16
Normative principles	17
Categories of ethical problems	18
Standard of Care	19-23
The ethical responsibility of professional autonomy	24
The Central Values Method	28
Formats for Case Analysis and Ethics Decisions	30
Case analysis checklist	31
Format for case analysis	32
Ethics paper outline	33
The moral life isn't so easy (Student papers in the past)	36
Ethics and the Law	39
Peer review	43
Codes of Ethics	48
Hippocratic Oath	50
UOP Code	On line
CDA Code	On line
ADA Code	On line
CDA Patient's Bill of Rights	51
UOP's Patients' Bill of Rights and Responsibilities	52
UOP's Patient Relations Philosophy Statement	53
Business Ethics vs. Health Care Ethics	56
Business ethics and health care ethics	57
Commerce vs. Care chart	58
Should dentistry be practiced in the for-profit sector?	60
What's behind for-profit health care?	63
Extreme Makeovers	64
What patients need vs. what they want	66
Waiving the Co-payment	68, 69
The credibility of dentists	74
I Have had Enough	77
Care & Commerce: Doctors Don't Sell Stuff	80
Ethics and psychology: Is there some duty to treat?	81
Ethics and emergencies	82
Dental care for poor children	83
Racial and economic disparities	84
Clinical decisions and money	85
The Unexamined Discount is Not Worth Giving	86

Busy, rich, and unhappy	88
Advertising	89
Advertising, Commercialism, and Professionalism	90
Should students advertise?	93
Advertisements for Yourself?	95
Informed Consent	97
Doctors who pull the plug without permission	98
Autonomy-Paternalism spectrum	99
Informed consent	101-104
Ethics and psychology: Informed consent	105
Guidelines for informed consent	107
Example patient handout	110
Confidentiality and the Exceptions	112
Study finds disregard for patient confidentiality	114
Restoring doctor-patient confidentiality	117
Holy secrets	118
Highly confidential information	120
Confidentiality between dentists and adolescent patients	121
Confidentiality increases adolescents' willingness to talk	123
Doctor-patient confidentiality and the adolescent patient	124
Transferring records and warning the new dentist	125
Reporting Abuse	128
Exceptions to privilege	129
Shocking abuse report	130
Child abuse cases are often missed	131
Mandated reporters	132
Teething pains: Why don't dentists report suspected abuse?	133
Mandated Reporting of Child Abuse: Answers for Dentists	134
General categories of child abuse	138
Dental neglect	140
Child abuse reporting law	141
Child abuse report form	144
Elder abuse	146
Somebody Else's Problem	159
Elder Abuse Reporting Form	163
Domestic Abuse	167
Domestic Violence Injury Report Form	174
The Work of Other Dentists	175
Stick to the facts	176
The work of other dentists	177
Checklist	178
Sample scripts	179
Ethics and psychology: The work of others	180
Responding to Faulty Treatment	182
80% of doctors witness mistakes	184
Patient's death puzzles parents	186
HIV diagnosis reversed	189
Helping an impaired colleague	190
On Confrontation	192

Don't open the wrong tooth	195
Apologizing	197
Cheating in School (the behavior of other students)	211
Dual Relationship 213	
Self evaluation	214
Faculty responses	217
Definition	218
Ethics and psychology: Dual relationship	219
Faculty-student consensual relationship policy	221
Decision model for dual relationship issues	223
Example Certification of Presence of Third Party in Operatory	224
Dualing it out in a small town	225
Dual treatment for family members	226
Looking the gift horse in the mouth	229
Gifts from patients to doctors	231
Ethical Issues in the Acceptance of Gifts	232
Policy on gifts and gratuities	236
Sexual Harassment 237	
Self evaluation checklist	238
It's a fine line between flirting and harassment	240
Sexual harassment overview	242
Sexual harassment laws defined	243
UOP policy statement	248
Additional Materials250	
Ethics on Mars and Venus	251
National Boards, Reconnaissance, & Fairness	252
Where are all the Gay and Lesbian Students?	254
Paradigms and Change	256
Peltier's Principles	258
Power Point slides from Dental Practice Act (law) lecture	260