

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: RADT 69

Title: RT MED LAW & PROF ETHICS

Full Title: Medical Law and Professional Ethics in Radiologic Technology

Last Reviewed: 11/27/2023

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	17.5	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
Students will learn a fundamental background in medical ethics and medico-legal professional standards. The historical and philosophical basis of medical ethics, as well as the elements of ethical behavior in clinical practice, will be discussed. Legal terminology and legal implications of professional liability in healthcare will also be presented. Topics include misconduct, malpractice, scope of practice, and professionalism. Students will examine a variety of medico-legal issues as well as ethical values and dilemmas found in clinical practice including equitable access to healthcare for diverse populations.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**  
Course Completion of RADT 60 OR NR 75.2A

**Recommended Preparation:**

**Limits on Enrollment:**  
Acceptance in one of the nine Health Sciences programs

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: Students will learn a fundamental background in medical ethics and medico-legal professional standards. The historical and philosophical basis of medical ethics, as well as the

elements of ethical behavior in clinical practice, will be discussed. Legal terminology and legal implications of professional liability in healthcare will also be presented. Topics include misconduct, malpractice, scope of practice, and professionalism. Students will examine a variety of medico-legal issues as well as ethical values and dilemmas found in clinical practice including equitable access to healthcare for diverse populations. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Course Completion of RADT 60 OR NR 75.2A

Recommended:

Limits on Enrollment: Acceptance in one of the nine Health Sciences programs

Transfer Credit: CSU;

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective: Fall 2024	Inactive:
<b>UC Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify aspects of State and Federal laws that apply to healthcare practice.
2. State characteristics of medical ethics relating to healthcare.
3. Apply ethical principles to ethical dilemmas.

### **Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Describe the principles, duties, and virtues of a healthcare professional.
2. Describe family dynamics in a cultural, social, ethnic and lifestyle context as it relates to our family of origin ethical development.
3. Exhibit professional skills and competence caring for a diverse population in a healthcare environment.
4. Define the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) code of professional ethics.
5. Identify ethical violations and describe sanctions.
6. Describe how allocation and poverty affect access to quality healthcare.
7. Define the Patient's Bill of Rights as determined by the American Hospital Association.
8. Describe legal doctrines and professional standards as regulated by state and federal agencies.
9. Describe ways to maintain patient confidentiality as defined by Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations and identify situations that violate HIPAA.
10. Define the difference between civil and criminal liability.

11. Describe the radiologic technologist's role regarding mandated reporting laws.
12. Define types of patient consent and describe the radiologic technologist's role to obtain informed consent.

## **Topics and Scope:**

### **I. History of Medical Ethics**

- A. Origins of the healing arts and medical ethics.
- B. Principles, duties, and virtues of a health professional
- C. Milestones in the history of medical ethics
- D. Origins of medical ethnocentrism

### **II. Ethics and Ethical Behavior in Healthcare**

- A. Moral reasoning
- B. Development of a personal value system
- C. Family dynamics in a cultural, social, ethnic and lifestyle context
- D. Interrelationship between personal, community and societal values
- E. Development of professional skills
- F. Competence
- G. Professional attributes
  1. Compassion
  2. Empathy
  3. Sympathy
  4. Honesty
  5. Integrity
  6. Accountability
- H. Continuing professional education
- I. Code of professional ethics
- J. Seven principles of biomedical ethics
  1. Beneficence
  2. Non-maleficence
  3. Respect for autonomy
  4. Veracity
  5. Role fidelity
  6. Confidentiality
  7. Justice
- K. Ethical violations and sanctions

### **III. Ethical Issues in Healthcare**

- A. Individual and societal rights
- B. Cultural considerations
- C. Economic considerations
- D. Technology and scarce resources
- E. Access to quality healthcare
- F. Poverty and its effect on healthcare
- G. Quality of Life
- H. Human experimentation and research
- I. Dilemmas of transplants
- J. Life Sustaining Treatment
- K. Death and Dying
- L. The Patient's Bill of Rights
- M. Forensic Radiology
- N. Radiology-specific ethical issues
- O. Operation and manipulation of electronic data

1. Image cropping
  2. Editing image data
  3. Alteration of exposure indicators
  - P. As low as reasonably achievable (ALARA)
- IV. Legal Doctrines and Professional Standards
- A. Doctrine of Personal Liability
  - B. Doctrine of Respondeat Superior
  - C. Doctrine of Borrowed Servant
  - D. Doctrine of Res Ipsa Loquitur
  - E. Patient Consent
    1. Types
    2. Definitions
  - F. HIPAA - Confidentiality of patient medical records
    1. Written
    2. Electronic communication
    3. Cell phones
    4. Social networking sites
    5. Photography
  - G. Civil versus Criminal Liability
  - H. Good Samaritan Law
  - I. Torts - intentional and unintentional
    1. Libel and slander
    2. Assault and battery
    3. False imprisonment
    4. Invasion of privacy
    5. Breach of confidentiality
  - J. Negligence and malpractice
    1. Definitions
    2. Elements
    3. Prevention
  - K. Durable Power of Attorney for healthcare
  - L. Responsibility to follow laws and regulations
    1. Narcotics (Controlled Substances Act)
    2. Treatment of minors
    3. Reporting communicable disease information
  - M. Mandated reporting
    1. Elder and dependent adult abuse and neglect
    2. Child abuse and neglect
    3. Spousal/domestic partner abuse and neglect
    4. Duties to Warn Third Parties
- V. Hospital Labor Relations
- A. Employer contracts
  - B. Organized labor unions
  - C. Fair Labor Standards Act
  - D. Equal Pay Act
  - E. Civil Rights Act of 1991
  - F. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
  - G. Equal Employment Opportunity Act
  - H. Pregnancy policy
  - I. State Fair Employment Practice Act
  - J. State Worker's Compensation Statute
  - K. "Whistleblowing"

## Assignment:

1. Reading (40 pages per week average)
2. Complete chapter study questions and critical thinking exercises (20-25 per chapter)
3. Complete case studies (1-2 per week)
4. Research, analyze, and compose an evidence-based narrative that addresses an ethical or medico- legal issue found in a patient care setting (2-3 pages)
5. Oral presentation on an ethical or medical-legal issue found in a patient care setting (5-10 minutes)
6. Quizzes (10-12)
7. Midterm exam
8. Final exam

## Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Chapter assignments; narrative paper

Writing  
20 - 25%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Case studies

Problem solving  
20 - 25%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quizzes; midterm exam; final exam

Exams  
30 - 40%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Oral presentation

Other Category  
10 - 20%

## Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Medical Law and Ethics. 6th ed. Fremgen, Bonnie. Pearson. 2020.  
Instructor prepared materials