Fall Term 2013
Mondays, 12:30-2:30pm, SEB 1056
Wednesdays, 12:30-1:30pm, UCC 66

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DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to engage in discussions of some of the more challenging issues that confront professionals, particularly health professionals. Classes will focus on discussion of pertinent topics, and use conceptual and case-based approaches. Topics may include truthfulness, fidelity, moral integrity, confidentiality, the relevance of moral codes, and refusals to provide services.

REQUIRED TEXTS


Some online readings that will be made available on the course website.

Note: All readings listed in the course schedule are required, and students are expected to have acquired and read them before the class for which they will be discussed.

OBJECTIVES

1) To familiarize students with some of the central and most controversial issues in professional ethics.
2) To foster their ability to think critically and autonomously about these issues
3) To encourage appreciation for the complexity of these issues
4) To develop strengths in offering well-reasoned, persuasive arguments on controversial topics

EVALUATION

10% - Student Participation
20% - Short Essay (approx. 2-3 pages) **Due: Oct. 7th**
30% - Student Presentation (approx. 20-25 min.)
40% - Final Essay (approx. 8-10 pages) **Due: Dec. 4th**
A) Student Participation

The participation grade is based on the extent to which a student attends class and contributes to class discussion. Particular emphasis will be placed on attendance and participation during student presentations.

B) Short Essay

The short essay should be 2-3 pages in length, where a page should consist of approximately 300 words. A paper copy of the essay must be submitted in class on the due date, and an electronic copy should also be submitted on the course website where it will be screened by turnitin.com. Essays will not be returned or receive credit until they have been screened by turnitin.com. Late essays will receive a penalty of 2% per day including weekends and holidays. Further information regarding submission guidelines, possible topics, and grading criteria will be made available both in class and on the course website at least two weeks before the due date.

C) Student Presentation

The presentations are to be 20-25 minute conference-style presentations, and students will be required to take questions for a few minutes after the presentation. Presentations will be individual (i.e. not group) and presentation slots will be chosen by lottery. Further information regarding presentation guidelines, possible topics, and grading criteria will be made available both in class and on the course website at least two weeks before the due date.

D) Final Essay

The final essay should be 8-10 pages in length, where a page should consist of approximately 300 words. Each student must write the essay individually, and while you are permitted to write your final essay on the same topic as your presentation you are not required to do so. A paper copy of the essay must be submitted in class on the due date, and an electronic copy should also be submitted on the course website where it will be screened by turnitin.com. Essays will not be returned or receive credit until they have been screened by turnitin.com. Late essays will receive a penalty of 2% per day including weekends and holidays. Further information regarding submission guidelines, possible topics, and grading criteria will be made available both in class and on the course website at least two weeks before the due date.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Student Code of Conduct

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at The University of Western Ontario, provide examples of
behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For more information, visit http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf.

**English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades**


**Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences**

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website:


Documentation is required for non-medical absences where the course work missed is more than 10% of the overall grade. Students may contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office for what documentation is needed.

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Documentation for any request for accommodation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Academic Counselling Office of the student’s Faculty of registration. For BHSc students, you may go to the School of Health Studies Office in HSB room 222.

**Scholastic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.
Additionally,

1. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com).

2. Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

**Support Services**

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Student Development Centre -- [http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssp/](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssp/)