MASTER SYLLABUS

COURSE NO., HOURS, AND TITLE:

RAD 551-3 Legal and Ethical Fundamentals of Health Care

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides students with an in-depth analysis of the legal and ethical environment of the health care industry. Comprehensive and focused on the health care environment, the course closely examines the judicial process specifically pertaining to torts, contracts, antitrust, corporate compliance, access to care, negligence, and professional liability. The nature of ethics in the multi-cultural health care environment is extensively examined with an analysis of the varying moral problems the health care industry is challenged with.

PREREQUISITE TO:

N/A

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The primary objective of RAD 551 is to instill in the student an understanding of the complicated legal and ethical climate in the health care industry. This is accomplished through integrated study of topics, case studies, and reflective analysis. At the conclusion of the course, the student will be capable of:

1. Identifying the common organizational and general laws which apply to the health care environment;
2. Identifying and articulating aspects and perspective of highly controversial subjects such as abortion, organ transplant, right to die, physician assisted suicide etc.;
3. Differentiating between torts, negligence, malpractice, abandonment, and a variety of other legally charged and ethical complex legal terms;
4. Articulating the role of ethics and compliance committees including their structure, goals, functions, and decision making activities;

TOPICAL OUTLINE:

Topics

I. Introduction to Ethics
   Ethical Theories
   Principle of Health Care Ethics
   Virtues and Moral Values

II. Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas
    Abortion

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AIDS
End of Life
Artificial Insemination and Sterilization
Organ Donation/Transplantation
Wrongful Birth, Wrongful Life, Wrongful Conception

III. Ethics and Compliance Committees 15%
Structure
Goals
Functions
Reasoning and Decision Making

IV. Legal Environment and Challenges 30%
Tort
Respondeat Superior
Negligence
Consent to Treat, Duty to Treat, Abandonment
Criminal Law
Stark, Anti-kickback, Antitrust
Civil Rights Act - 1964
Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act - 1986
Privacy Act - 1974
Health Information Portability and Accountability Act – 1996

V. Organizational Ethics and the Law 15%
Corporate Social Responsibility
Corporate Scrutiny and Negligence
Physician Supervision
Employee Rights and Responsibilities

TEXTBOOKS:

Required: