

COURSE OUTLINE

HEED-125

Ethics in Professional Practice

3 Credit Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course will examine ethics in today's evolving healthcare environment. This course will look at the evolution of privacy and the ethical dilemmas that result from current laws, social and cultural implications. A practitioner's approach to ethics has a direct impact on the quality of patient care and the liability of the organization for which they work. Healthcare practitioners, i.e., substance abuse counselors, psychiatric aides, gerontologists, social services workers, are expected to be knowledgeable about today's healthcare laws and ethical codes. (3 hours weekly)

Overall Objectives

Upon successful completion of this class the student will develop the following competencies:

1. Define and explain the difference between the law, ethics and morals.
2. Describe practitioner liability in ethical situations and site examples of legal risks.
3. Describe components of electronic transaction and privacy standards.
4. Articulate the requirements of HIPAA and the Privacy Act.
5. Recognize and describe components of an "Ethical Dilemma".
6. Access resources that will assist the student in the ethical decision making process.

Major Topics

- I. Ethics
 - A. General Definition
 - B. Differentiation between law, morals and ethics
 - C. Ethical climate of healthcare delivery
- II. The Legal and Social Environment of Ethics
 - A. Practitioner Legal Liability
 - B. Legal and Practice Concerns in Organized Systems of Healthcare
 - C. Consequences of Unethical Behavior
 - D. How Basic Business Skills can help Resolve many of the Ethical Problems in Managed Care

- III. Patient Privacy
 - A. Electronic Transactions and Privacy
 - B. HIPAA and Privacy Regulations
 - C. Anticipating the Future; Rights vs. Efficiency

- IV. Survival Tools
 - A. Organizational “Code of Ethics”
 - i. Professional Association Samples
 - ii. Company Samples
 - B. Recognizing an “Ethical Dilemma”

- V. Ethical Case Studies (Based on student curriculum strategies)
 - A. Mental Health
 - B. Gerontology
 - C. Chemical Dependency
 - D. Human Research Scenarios

Course Requirements

Grading procedures include, but are not limited to attendance, participation, and case study presentation. Testing procedures include unit examinations and quizzes. A written paper is required.

Other Course Information

Faculty will provide additional information at the first class meeting.