



NURS-221 – Professional Practice 3 Nursing Ethics

Health and Human Services

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2022

Course Outline Review Date: 2027-09-01

Program Area: Health

Description:

Building on previous Relational Practice and Professional Practice courses, this course focuses on the growing body of knowledge related to nursing ethics. Beginning with an understanding of bio-medical ethics that have dominated nursing ethics in the past and moving to an understanding of developing ethical theory related to nursing and nursing issues, participants have opportunities to explore nursing ethics in the context of their nursing practice.

Program Information:

This course is required for the second year (semester four) of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program. The materials in this course represent a component of a four year integrated BSN program.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face)

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	

Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

Course Requisites:

- Prerequisites: Enrollment in the Bachelor of Science Nursing Program

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

No textbook. See COTROnline for reading schedule

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- understand oneself as a moral agent (in the role of a nurse) enacting ethical decisions in relation with others in a variety of health care settings;
- explore one's ethical and moral foundations gaining valuable insight into one's ethical center as an individual and as a professional;
- examine several traditional ethical theories and conduct critical examinations of each theory's fundamental beliefs and assumptions;
- examine the relationship between traditional ethical theories and the Canadian Nurses Association Code of Ethics, gaining valuable insight into the origin and importance of relevant values and normative directions (for individuals and professionals);
- utilize an ethical decision-making model, in order to provide a guideline for facing and solving ethical situations faced in nursing;
- examine a variety of case-studies that illustrate various ethical dilemmas encountered in nursing practice;
- explore the concept of relational ethics, including many challenges it presents, such as ethnic, cultural, gender, ethical and spiritual difference;
- study contemporary applied ethical issues such as (but not limited to) informed consent, medical futility, and resource distribution; appreciate the significance of central ethical concepts in Nursing, such as Moral Agency, Moral Leadership, Moral Community, Moral Distress and Moral Uncertainty;
- examine the moral climate of nursing in respect to Legality, Economic and Social Issues, Institutional Values, Multiculturalism and Spirituality;
- integrate critical reflection, values, personal experience, logic, and theoretical knowledge into a workable code of ethics for nursing practice;
- articulate verbally and in writing arguments on a variety of ethical issues in nursing; and
- examine differing ways of ethical inquiry and analysis of situations that other members of the interprofessional team may have.

Course Topics:

- Foundations in ethical reasoning; Ethical Theory & Ethical Principles
- Ethical decision-making
- Relational Ethics and Principlism as central to nursing ethics
- The Canadian Nursing Code of Ethics as an orientation and guide for Canadian nurses
- Issues related to patient and professional self-determinism
- Issues related to end-of-life care
- Economic issues
- Legal issues
- Ethical issues related to professional nursing practice

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
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Term Paper	50%
Reflection	10%
Debate Assignment	20%
Quiz	10%
Participation	10%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=95	94-90	89-85	84-80	79-75	74-70	69-65	64-60			<60

Pass requirements: None

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Note: Late assignments or missed exams will not be accepted without prior notification to the instructor

Additional related information/policies:

Please see the instructor syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, resubmission of assignments, and use of electronic aids.

ATTENDANCE AND ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS:

See COTR Nursing Program Admission and Progression Policies

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT INFORMATION/POLICIES:

1. All learning experiences are mandatory. Students who are unable to attend a scheduled learning event must notify the instructor at the earliest possible opportunity.
2. Absence from learning experiences, for any reason, may preclude the student being able to meet the requirements for that course. Students who have missed 10% or more of their clinical practice experiences will be evaluated for their eligibility to remain in the program. **(Clinical courses only)**
3. All assignments must be submitted by the contract date. Assignments in clinical courses will be graded as either satisfactory or unsatisfactory based on assignment evaluative criteria. Extensions will be considered on an individual basis when legitimate circumstances support the student's request, provided the extension is negotiated 48 hours in advance of the due date.

Clinical courses are graded COM/NCG. Clinical courses grades are not included in a student's GPA.

To achieve a COM, students must:

- Complete all evaluative components of this course
- Achieve a level of "satisfactory" on the Nursing Practice self-assessment.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a "0" on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
 - Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
 - Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
 - Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
 - Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty
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Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.