

Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

PHL 244 Ethical and Legal Issues in Health Care Effective Term: Winter 2026

Course Cover

College: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Division: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Department: Humanities, Languages and the Arts

Discipline: Philosophy (new)

Course Number: 244

Org Number: 11400

Full Course Title: Ethical and Legal Issues in Health Care

Transcript Title: Ethic & Leg Issues Health Care

Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No

Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page

Reason for Submission: Three Year Review / Assessment Report

Change Information:

Course description

Outcomes/Assessment

Rationale: 3 year syllabus review

Proposed Start Semester: Fall 2024

Course Description: In this course, students will be introduced to issues arising from the application of philosophical ethics or moral theory to the health care context. Different models of ethical decision-making will be used to examine current issues in health care. The course also provides an overview of legal theory and responsibility as it applies to the health care context with an emphasis placed on professional negligence. Topics to be discussed may include patients' rights, informed consent, confidentiality, medical research or experimentation, genetics, treatment of impaired newborns, end of life care, HIV/AIDS and moral/legal responsibilities toward colleagues.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Clinical: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Total Contact Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Repeatable for Credit: NO

Grading Methods: Letter Grades

Audit

Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

Requisites

General Education

MACRAO

MACRAO Humanities

General Education Area 6 - Arts and Humanities

Assoc in Applied Sci - Area 6

Assoc in Science - Area 6

Assoc in Arts - Area 6

Michigan Transfer Agreement - MTA

MTA Humanities

Request Course Transfer

Proposed For:

Eastern Michigan University

Michigan State University

Oakland University

University of Detroit - Mercy

University of Michigan

Wayne State University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and define central ethical and legal concepts.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Outcome-related short answer questions

Assessment Date: Fall 2026

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: Representative sample of 50% of sections offered, chosen at random

Number students to be assessed: All students in selected sections

How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric with a range of 0-4

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score a 3 or better.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

2. Apply ethical and legal concepts to issues in the health care context.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Outcome-related essay questions

Assessment Date: Fall 2026

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: Representative sample of 50% of sections offered, chosen at random

Number students to be assessed: All students in selected sections

How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric with a range of 0-4

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score a 3 or better.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

Course Objectives

1. Recognize the normative nature of healthcare ethics and law for health care professionals.
2. Define and explain central concepts in moral and legal theory as well as philosophical ethics.
3. Recognize moral dilemmas and legally problematic situations in the healthcare context.
4. Discuss ethical issues in health care such as: autonomy, paternalism, allocation of scarce medical resources, medical research, end-of-life care, abortion, truth-telling and confidentiality among others.
5. Discuss legal issues in healthcare such as: informed consent, standard of care, medical negligence, medical malpractice, competency and capacity for decision making, patient privacy, and rights to healthcare among others.
6. Examine contemporary healthcare issues using both legal and ethical theories and concepts.

New Resources for Course

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks

Vaughan, Lewis. *Bioethics: Principles, Issues and Cases*, 4th ed. Oxford, 2019, ISBN: 978-01909032.

Manuals

Periodicals

Software

Equipment/Facilities

Level III classroom

<u>Reviewer</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Date</u>
Faculty Preparer: <i>Meghan Bungo</i>	<i>Faculty Preparer</i>	<i>May 20, 2024</i>
Department Chair/Area Director: <i>Elisabeth Thoburn</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>May 29, 2024</i>
Dean: <i>Anne Nichols</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>May 31, 2024</i>
Curriculum Committee Chair: <i>Randy Van Wagnen</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jul 23, 2025</i>
Assessment Committee Chair: <i>Jessica Hale</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jul 30, 2025</i>
Vice President for Instruction: <i>Brandon Tucker</i>	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Jul 31, 2025</i>

Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

PHL 244 Ethical and Legal Issues in Health Care Effective Term: Fall 2021

Course Cover

Division: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Department: Humanities, Languages & the Arts

Discipline: Philosophy (new)

Course Number: 244

Org Number: 11400

Full Course Title: Ethical and Legal Issues in Health Care

Transcript Title: Ethic & Leg Issues Health Care

Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No

Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page

Reason for Submission: Three Year Review / Assessment Report

Change Information:

Consultation with all departments affected by this course is required.

Rationale: Syllabus review after fall 2020 assessment.

Proposed Start Semester: Winter 2021

Course Description: In this course, students are introduced to issues arising from the application of philosophical ethics or moral theory to the health care context. Different models of ethical decision-making will be used to examine current issues in health care. The course also provides an overview of legal theory and responsibility as it applies to the health care context with an emphasis placed on professional negligence. Topics to be discussed may include patients' rights, informed consent, confidentiality, medical research or experimentation, genetics, treatment of impaired newborns, end of life care, HIV/AIDS and moral/legal responsibilities toward colleagues.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

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Repeatable for Credit: NO

Grading Methods: Letter Grades

Audit

Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

Requisites

General Education

MACRAO

MACRAO Humanities

General Education Area 6 - Arts and Humanities

Assoc in Applied Sci - Area 6

Assoc in Science - Area 6

Assoc in Arts - Area 6

Michigan Transfer Agreement - MTA

MTA Humanities

Request Course Transfer

Proposed For:

Eastern Michigan University

Michigan State University

Oakland University

University of Detroit - Mercy

University of Michigan

Wayne State University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and define central ethical and legal concepts.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Department-designed instrument including multiple-choice, short answer and essay questions.

Assessment Date: Fall 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: Representative sample of 50% of sections offered, chosen at random

Number students to be assessed: All students in selected sections

How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric with a range of 0-4

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score a 3 or better.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

2. Apply ethical and legal concepts to issues in the health care context.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Department-designed instrument including multiple-choice, short answer and essay questions.

Assessment Date: Fall 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: Representative sample of 50% of sections offered, chosen at random

Number students to be assessed: All students in selected sections

How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric with a range of 0-4

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score a 3 or better.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

Course Objectives

1. Identify and define central concepts in moral theory or philosophical ethics.
2. Identify and define central concepts in legal theory.
3. Discuss health care issues such as patients' rights, informed consent, confidentiality, medical research or experimentation, genetics, treatment of impaired newborns, end-of-life care, HIV/AIDS and moral/legal responsibilities toward colleagues.
4. Apply ethical concepts to issues in the health care context.
5. Apply legal concepts to issues in the health care context.
6. Discuss legal issues such as professional responsibility and liability, competency and capacity, as well as patient consent and privacy.

New Resources for Course

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks

Ronald Munson. *Intervention and Reflection: Basic Issues in Medical Ethics*, 8th ed. Cengage, 2007, ISBN: 13:978049509.

Manuals

Periodicals

Software

Equipment/Facilities

Level III classroom

<u>Reviewer</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Date</u>
Faculty Preparer: <i>Charles Johnson</i>	<i>Faculty Preparer</i>	<i>Jan 06, 2021</i>
Department Chair/Area Director: <i>Jill Jepsen</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jan 20, 2021</i>
Dean: <i>Scott Britten</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jan 28, 2021</i>
Curriculum Committee Chair: <i>Lisa Veasey</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Mar 19, 2021</i>
Assessment Committee Chair: <i>Shawn Deron</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Mar 24, 2021</i>
Vice President for Instruction: <i>Kimberly Hurns</i>	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Mar 25, 2021</i>