



***Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services
Department of Radiologic Sciences
Bachelor of Science, Radiologic Technology Program
Course Syllabus - Dr. Rodney Fisher***

RADS 4613 Ethical and Legal Issues in Medical Imaging

Spring 2026

Monday/Wednesday 8:00 AM – 9:20 AM Dillard 101

January 20 – May 12, 2025

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**Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM, Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM, and
Thursdays 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM. Also, times outside of office hours may be available by
appointment.**

WHY ARE YOU TAKING THIS COURSE?

This course contains material that the ARRT Registry will test on you after you graduate. This is why this is a progression course. But more importantly, this course discusses the ethical dilemmas you may encounter in health care and the laws you need to understand to do your job.

Among the topics we will discuss this semester:

- What are morals, ethics, and laws?
- What does the scope of practice mean, and how does that relate to you as a radiologic technologist?
- What are the privacy laws you will follow during your clinicals and as a radiologic technologist?
- What is and how do you get informed consent from your patients before taking an X-ray?

- How does the health care system work, and what is your place in it as a radiologic technologist?

THE TEXTBOOK / COURSE MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED

1. An up-to-date computer running either Windows or MAC operating systems. Note: Chromebooks do not work with MSU's online proctoring systems.
2. An electronic device, such as a smartphone or tablet, in class for attendance and participation in Kahoot quizzes.

This course does not have a textbook that you must purchase. All course materials, including the textbook, are online or presented in class.

HOW TO CONTACT ME

I prefer email rather than telephone for most questions and concerns. This gives me a written record of what we talked about, so I do not forget anything important. Also, I am away from my desk quite often and may be hard to reach by telephone. Walk-ins are welcome during office hours, but appointments always take priority. All office visits outside my office hours require a prior appointment. Please check in with the secretary upon entering the office suite.

HOW I GRADE THIS COURSE

I use the following grading scale:

A = 100 – 90

B = 89.99 – 80

C = 79.99 – 75

D = 74.99 – 60

F = 59.99 and below

While I do not round individual assignments, I will round your semester grade up to the next grade if you are within 0.5 points of the next grade. This is a progression course. **You must pass the course with a 75% or higher to progress to the next semester.** A “D,” “F,” or a withdrawal by you or me will stop your progression in the program at the end of this semester. You will need to reapply to the program and successfully repeat this course next year to continue your progression. Late assignments are not accepted without my prior approval.

Your semester grade will be made up of the following types of assignments:

Quizzes (17)	10 %
Class Discussions	15 %
Group Project	15 %
Module Tests (4)	30 %
Final Examination	30 %

WHAT IS THE CLASS SCHEDULE / DUE DATES?

Notes: Schedule subject to change if needed. Chapter Quizzes are due at 8:00 am on the day of the chapter.

Class Date	Unit or Activity
January 21	Chapter 1: Foundations of Law and Ethics in Radiologic Technology
26	Chapter 2: Bioethics and Law in Human Research
28	Ethical Dilemma Set 1
February 2	Chapter 3: Health Law and Regulation in Radiologic Technology
4	Ethical Dilemma Set 2
9	Chapter 4: Professionalism, Ethics, and Law in Radiologic Technology
11	Module Test 1 (Chapters 1 - 4)
16	Chapter 5: Navigating Legal Risk: Negligence and Malpractice in Medical Imaging
18	Chapter 6: Intentional Torts, Quasi-Intentional Torts, and Strict Liability in Medical Imaging
23	Ethical Dilemma Set 3
25	Chapter 7: The Radiologic Technologist and the Civil Justice System
March 2	Chapter 8: Navigating Conflict Beyond the Courtroom: Alternatives to Litigation in Medical Imaging
4	Ethical Dilemma Set 4
9 - 13	Spring Break
16	Module Test 2 (Chapters 5 - 8)
18	Chapter 9: The Evolution of Medical Privacy and Patient Self-Determination
23	Chapter 10: Understanding HIPAA in the Medical Imaging Environment
25	Chapter 11: Patient Rights and Informed Consent in Radiologic Technology
30	Chapter 12: Coping with Patient End-of-Life Issues
April 1	Module 3 Test (Units 9 – 12)
April 6	Chapter 13: Hospital Organization - Provider Business Models and Trauma Classification Systems
8	Chapter 14: Healthcare Delivery Models
13	Chapter 15: Healthcare Insurance Models
15	Chapter 16: Healthcare Liability Insurance
20	Ethical Dilemma Set 5
22	Module 4 Review
27	Module 4 Test (Units 13 – 16)
29	Final Exam Review 4:00 PM Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a “W” Instead of an “F”
May 4	Presentations Groups 1 – 6
6	Presentations Groups 7 - 12
13	Final Examinations 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

WHAT ARE THE ASSIGNMENTS?

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given over ARRT ethics, ASRT practice standards, and Texas Medical Board Violation Guidelines. Quizzes will typically be around 10 multiple-choice questions. Your total grade for all 15 quizzes will account for 10% of your course grade.

Class Discussions of Ethical Dilemmas

These discussions are an exchange of ideas and opinions and are critical to developing an understanding of ethics, morality, and the law. The class will be divided randomly into groups. Each group will choose a member to be their recorder/speaker. This position will rotate among the group members, with each topic having a different recorder/speaker. The groups will be given class time to discuss their topics. The recorder/speaker should make notes of what was said and then write a 1-page summary of the discussion. Written reports are submitted into the correct D2L dropbox and are due one week after the discussion. For the group members to receive full credit for class discussions, each member must hold the job of recorder/speaker at least once in the semester and the group, make a complete oral report when called upon, and turn in every written summary. Class discussions account for 15% of the total semester grade.

Ethical Dilemma Group Project

The Group Project will be using the same groups as above. Each group will choose on a first-come, first-serve basis one case study found on D2L. Once a case has been chosen, the group cannot change their minds. One member of the group will act as a moderator and will introduce the case. Two members will argue for one side of the case. Two other members will argue the other side of the case. The moderator will invite class discussion and debate. Then, the class will vote on which side should prevail. If there are six members in your group, then one person will introduce the case, and the other person will moderate the class discussion. Your group will be graded on how well you presented the case and moderated a class discussion. The total presentation time should be 10 minutes. One grade will be given to all

members of a group. Which side wins with the class vote will have no effect on the group grade. Presentations should be original, convincing, and engaging, and they should use a combination of audio and visual aids as much as possible.

Module Tests and Final Examination

All Tests are closed-book and notes. There will be four module tests of various lengths. No test will have over 100 multiple-choice questions. The final examination will be taken at the prescribed date, time, and location established by the university. The final will be 200 multiple-choice questions and will be comprehensive. All tests will be taken in class using Scantron sheets. You are responsible for any errors or incomplete erasers on your Scantrons.

Ethical and Legal Issues in Medical Imaging Course Policy Details

Professional Conduct

All students are expected to comport themselves professionally at all times while in class or working on course projects with other students on or off campus. If students have questions about what the proper professional conduct should be, please reference the University Student Handbook located on the [Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) webpage and the Shimadzu School of Radiologic Sciences Academic and Clinical Handbook for the student's current cohort located on the [BSRT Program](#) webpage. Violations of either set of standards or policies may result in grade reduction and referral for disciplinary action.

Classroom Conduct

Students should come to class prepared for the topic being discussed that day. Students should also take care of any personal matters, including using the restroom, prior to the start of class so it is not necessary for them to leave during class. While there may be times when leaving the classroom is unavoidable, it should be an exception rather than a common occurrence.

Phone use during class is not permitted unless cleared with the professor prior to the start of class and only for the most exigent of circumstances. If such exigent circumstances are approved that day, then the student should attempt to sit as close to the back door as possible so leaving the classroom to take a call is not a disruption. Leaving the classroom to refill a water bottle or for other inconsequential purposes is not allowed, and the professor may refuse re-entry to the classroom, and the student will be recorded as absent for the day.

Tardiness

Students are expected to be in the classroom prior to the start of class. Students entering the classroom or lab after class has begun disrupts the learning environment for the other students. Any student entering the classroom or lab after the start of class will be considered tardy. Three instances of being tardy will count as one absence (see Attendance policy below). Any student trying to enter the classroom or lab ten minutes after the start of class will not be admitted and will be considered absent that day. If the student is more than ten minutes late to class on a day when a module test is being given, the student will be allowed to test, but no additional time will be given. Students who are tardy on the final examination date must complete the exam in the remaining time and will not receive any additional time.

Attendance

Attendance is required for all class sessions. A student may have up to three absences. If a student exceeds three absences, the professor may initiate an administrative withdrawal of the student from the course. This will result in the student being dismissed from the BSRT program at the end of the semester. If a student believes there are mitigating circumstances for any absence, the student must provide the professor with documentation prior to the absence or, if not possible, on the first day of returning to class. The professor has sole discretion to determine if any mitigation should occur.

Requesting a Withdrawal

The last opportunity to drop this course with a grade of “W” is 4:00 pm on April 9, 2026. The student must initiate all withdrawals. After this date, dropping the course results in a grade of “F.” Withdrawal from this course will result in the student being dismissed from the BSRT program.

In an emergency or extenuating circumstance, a student may request an incomplete grade before grades are submitted. If the professor grants the incomplete, the student has until thirty (30) days after the beginning of the next long semester to complete the course requirements. If the student does not complete the course requirements within the deadline, the incomplete grade will automatically convert into a grade of “F.”

Technical Difficulties

Occasionally, you may experience problems with accessing D2L, accessing class files located within D2L, connecting with your internet service, or other computer-related problems. Make the professor aware of a technical problem as soon as possible. If a problem occurs because of a system error, such as D2L failure, then a due date extension will typically be granted.

However, remember that it is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. *Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered a reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*

Dropbox assignments that can be attached in an email should be emailed to the professor as soon as a problem is encountered. Failure to do so may result in points being lost, regardless of connection issues.

For help options:

- For D2L issues, go online go to the Distance Education Helpdesk
- By phone, call the Distance Education office at 940-397-4868 between 8 am and 5 pm.
- Use the D2L help link in D2L.
- Contact your professor.

- For other computer access issues, visit the MSU Information Technology Website online.

Special Needs

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable adjustments in its policies, practices, services, and facilities to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational programs and activities.

The Office of Disability Services (ODS) provides information and assistance, arranges accommodations, and serves as a liaison for students, professors, and staff. The ODS has assistive devices such as books on tape, recorders, and adaptive software, which can be loaned to qualified individuals. A student/employee who seeks accommodations based on disability must register with the Office of Disability Services in the Counseling Center, Clark Student Center, Room 108. Documentation of disability from a competent professional is required.

Individuals with grievances related to discrimination or lack of accommodation based on a disability are encouraged to resolve the problem directly with the area involved. If the matter remains unresolved, the Office of Disability Services for resolution will provide advice and/or assistance. The grievance procedure may be found in the Student Handbook and Activities Calendar.

The Director of the Counseling Center serves as the ADA Coordinator and may be contacted at (940)397-4618, TDD (940)397-4515, or 3410 Taft Blvd., Clark Student Center Room 108.

Administrative Process

Unresolved issues related to this course should be first addressed between the student and the course professor. If there is no resolution, students must follow this sequence:

1. Department Chair – Dr. Lynette Watts (940-397-4845)
2. College Dean - Dr. Jeff Killion (940-397-4594)
3. Dean of Students – Matthew Park (940-397-7500)

Honor System

RADS 4613 adheres to the MSU Code of Conduct.

In particular, academic dishonesty, however minor, breaches academic integrity. A student's participation in this course comes with the expectation that his or her work will be completed in full observance of the MSU Code of Student Conduct. A student should consult the current Student Handbook for answers to any questions about the code.

All components of RADS 4613 are designed to represent each student's individual efforts or, as appropriate, each student group's efforts and are NOT to be shared, copied, or plagiarized from other sources. When students submit their work for grading, they attest that they have abided by this rule.

An online plagiarism/artificial writing detection service may be used in this course. Student assignments may be uploaded to the service for identification of similarities to other student papers and published works, or the use of artificial writing generators in place of the student's own work.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to

- Use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations;
- Dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the professor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or completing other assignments, or
- The acquisition of tests or other academic materials belonging to the university faculty or staff without permission.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to

- The use of, by paraphrase or direct quotation, without correct citation in the text and in the reference list,
- The published or unpublished works of another person.
- Students may NOT submit papers and assignments that they have previously submitted for this or other courses.

- The use of materials generated by agencies engaged in "selling" term papers is also plagiarism.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Usage Policy

In this course, the use of Generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, etc.) is permitted with specific limitations to ensure academic integrity and the development of critical research skills.

- **Research & Sourcing:** You may use AI tools for preliminary research and topic exploration. However, to ensure the validity and scholarly weight of your work, at least 50% of the sources cited in any assignment must be retrieved directly from the MSU Moffett Library online databases.
- **Writing & Content:** The use of AI in the writing process is strictly limited to spelling and grammar correction. AI tools are not permitted to generate text, arguments, analysis, or the bulk content of any assignment, including research papers, posters, and discussion board posts.
- **Verification:** To maintain the integrity of your research, you must be prepared to provide PDF copies of all sources used upon request.
- **Consequences:** Failure to adhere to these guidelines will be treated as a violation of academic integrity. A violation will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Egregious cases of academic dishonesty involving AI may result in a failing grade (F) for the course, and may result in dismissal from the program and university, and an ethics violation referral to the ARRT.

Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, AI, etc.) will not be tolerated in this class. Whenever a student is unsure of whether a particular situation will be interpreted as academic dishonesty, the student should ask the professor for clarification. If students are guilty of academic dishonesty, a grade of zero (0) will be given for the quiz, assignment, etc., and the student will not be allowed to resubmit the assignment. Based on the severity of the cheating, plagiarism, or use of AI, the professor reserves the right to fail the student in the course and refer the

student to the department chair for further disciplinary action, which could include permanent dismissal from the program. Cases may also be referred to the Dean of Students for possible dismissal from the university and the ARRT as a possible ethics violation.

Students are encouraged to review the tutorials and suggested websites for more information about plagiarism. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please consult:

- The University Academic Dishonesty Policy
- The website Plagiarism.Org, or
- The professor

Please Note

By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" to all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include, but shall not be limited to, the right to reproduce the student's work/ project in order to verify originality and authenticity and for educational purposes. Specifically, faculty may submit student papers and assignments to an external agency to verify originality and authenticity and to detect plagiarism or the use of artificial writing generators.

Campus Carry / Active Shooter

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by the MSU Police Department

regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [Safety / Emergency Procedures](#)