



Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services
The Shimadzu School of Radiologic Sciences
Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences Program
Course Syllabus - Dr. Jeff Killion
Dr. Rodney Fisher

RADS 5023 Legal and Regulatory Considerations

Spring 2026

Faculty:

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Course Overview:

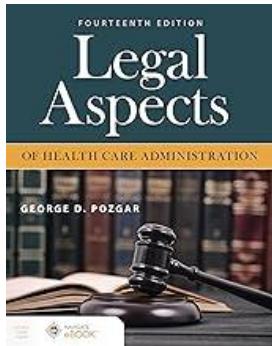
This three-hour graduate credit course presents an overview of the legal issues, concepts, laws, and regulations facing the healthcare industry and higher education. Students will explore these in the context of the daily professional practice of radiology administrators and educators.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, a student will be able to:

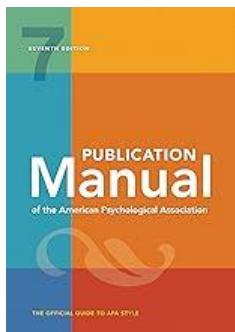
- Discuss legal issues, concepts, laws, and regulations such as malpractice, standards of care, scopes of practice, tort and contract liability, accreditation, academic freedom, and tenure.
- Perform basic legal research to find relevant laws and court decisions.
- Identify important areas of legal concern in clinical practice and education.
- Demonstrate the ability to read, understand, and synthesize existing research, laws, and legal precedents and apply them to current problems.

Textbooks:



Pozgar, G. D. (2012). *Legal aspects of health care administration*. (14th ed.). Boston: Jones & Bartlett Publishers. [ISBN 978-1-284-23152-6] - \$64.32 – 108.00 at the MSU Bookstore.

Students need to be familiar with chapters 2-5, 7, 11,12, and 19 prior to coming to the first weekend of class.



American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. 7th ed. Washington, DC: Author. [ISBN:978-1-4338-3216-1] - \$35.99 at the MSU Bookstore.

Teaching Strategies:

Lecture/discussion, seminar group activities, independent reading assignments, group discussion, written assignments, case studies, and student presentations. For the fall semester, we will be on campus for our face-to-face meetings, and we will hold a ***virtual mid-semester check-in*** (please see the course schedule for the date and time).

Attendance:

Without exception, students MUST attend and participate in **both** graduate seminar weekends to receive credit for this course. We understand students have multiple responsibilities and may need to receive or make a phone call to address an urgent matter during class time; please make the instructors aware this may happen, and please return to the classroom as soon as possible.

Evaluation:

Expert Witness case study – 40%
Electronic Discussion Board – 15%
“Take Issue” Presentation – 30%
Group Activities/Class Participation – 15%

Grade Scale:

A = 100 - 90
B = 89 - 80
C = 79 - 70
D = 69 - 60
F = 59 and below

Incompletes:

Incomplete grades are given only at the instructor's discretion and MUST be requested by the student. If the instructor grants the “Incomplete,” the student has until ninety (90) days after the beginning of the next regular (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." Please note that incompletes are given only in an emergency or when there are extenuating circumstances. Refer to the Graduate Bulletin for additional details about receiving an "Incomplete" grade in a course.

The last opportunity to drop this course with a grade of "W" is 4:00 pm April 30, 2025. Refer to the Graduate Bulletin for details about receiving an "Incomplete" grade in a course. In an emergency or extenuating circumstance, a student may request an "Incomplete" grade in a course before grades are submitted. If the instructor grants the "Incomplete," the student has until ninety (90) 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."

CLASS ACTIVITIES AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Any assignments submitted electronically as **a Word document** to the course dropbox should follow these guidelines:

Times New Roman 12-point font

1" margins on all sides

Standard MSU Title Page

Late submission of assignments and quizzes:

All assignments and quizzes have due dates listed in the syllabus. Due dates are in place to keep students on target for the semester and allow instructors to provide detailed, constructive feedback. Assignments/quizzes not turned in on time will result in a "0" being assessed for that assignment.

That said, instructors understand that students enrolled in the MSRS program tracks may be responsible for managing many employees/students and family matters. If you need any assistance regarding a deadline, you must contact the instructor(s) at least 2 days before the due date to discuss the issue. "After the fact" will not be accepted, resulting in a "0" grade.

We also realize emergencies (death, severe illness, etc.) occur; students must contact the instructor as soon as possible to resolve any due date conflicts. Extensions will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Expert Witness Case Study:

For this assignment, students will review a case as an expert witness. A case will be introduced, and each student will review legal documents, answer questions, and formulate a report. This assignment will be in two parts (20% each). This assignment will be released on the course homepage (D2L). Each part is under "Tests" under the "Assessment" tab.

Due dates are listed in the chart at the end of the syllabus.

Electronic Discussion:

Due: Throughout the semester, on specific dates.

Each student must describe an ethical situation or legal issue you know about or are currently experiencing in your workplace; you will use your situation throughout the semester in the discussions, so find something you would like to "stick" with for the semester. You will have 4 original posts (the initial ethical or legal issue plus an original post for each of the three numbered modules) and 6 total responses to peers (you will respond to 2 peers for each numbered module discussion). ***Please note it is possible to change topics if students are unable to link the textbook content to their chosen topic. Please contact the instructors for approval of the new topic.***

(To make this discussion format work smoothly, students should become familiar with techniques to follow existing electronic discussion threads and to open new discussion threads using the D2L Discussion Tool.)

Oral Presentation:

Each student will develop and lead a presentation on his/her “Take Issue” topic. Each presentation (the student lecturing to the class) will be at least fifteen (15) minutes and not more than twenty (20) minutes in length. An additional 5 minutes after the conclusion of the presentation will be allotted for questions/answers. Presentations will occur during the second class weekend.

Oral Presentation topics must be related to legal issues affecting Education, Administration, or Clinical Practice (preferably in the student’s current Radiologic Sciences workplace and preferably linked to one of the textbook chapters). The instructor must approve topics (first come – first serve). See the chart at the end of the syllabus for due dates.

The presentation will include the following areas:

- **Topic and Background:** in this section, introduce the topic and provide textbook reference (if applicable) as well as all background information necessary to understand the situation at hand.
- **Legal and Regulatory Implications:** in this section, provide the legal/regulatory information regarding the topic, such as laws related to the topic, punishment or fines for noncompliance, regulatory agencies involved (punishment or fines for noncompliance), etc.
- **Personnel (not personal) Impact:** in this section, describe the effects of compliance or noncompliance on professionals, patients, students, the public, etc., who this issue may impact.
- **Financial Impact:** in this section, discuss the monetary costs of compliance or noncompliance as well as annual costs to the healthcare system, legal system, or educational system as applicable.
- **Solutions:** in this section, discuss the possible solutions to the issue and how each may be implemented. Include costs/benefit analysis of solutions and any legal or regulatory changes that may be needed.

Students should avoid reading their presentations to the class. Presentations should be informative AND interactive. Students may use PowerPoint, but they are not required to. Students must incorporate a group activity to reinforce their topic. Examples include role-playing, before-class assignments, audiovisual technology, handouts, games, competitions, and discussions. If necessary, students may provide classmates with preparatory reading materials before class. Students MUST upload their presentations to the discussion board as attachments before their class presentations.

Group Activities & Class Participation:

Each student is expected to prepare and participate in class discussions and activities on each topic. The instructors will evaluate the quality, relevancy, and consistency of each student's participation according to the following factors:

- Verbal and nonverbal participation;
- Awareness of group dynamics and supportive behavior towards others, encouraging discussion and clarifying issues;
- Evidence of familiarity with the issues involved in each topic scheduled for discussion;
- Contribution of relevant observations from personal, professional, and/or academic experiences

Important Dates

Dates are subject to change. All times are on campus (Central) time.

Date	Activities/Assignments
January 20	Classes Open!
January 24 - 25	First class participation weekend
January 25	Expert witness batch one released
February 3	Discussion board – Ethical/Legal Dilemma Topic (topic will be used for the entire semester in discussion boards 1 - 3)
February 10	Oral Presentation Topics Due – post in the discussion board
February 13	Mid-semester check-in via Zoom – 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. CST
February 17	Module 1 - Discussion Board - Original Post
February 24	Module 1 - Discussion Board – Peer Response
March 3	Module 2 - Discussion Board - Original Post Expert Witness Part One Due Expert Witness Batch Two Released
March 10	Module 2 - Discussion Board - Peer Response
March 17	Module 3 - Discussion Board – Original Post
March 24	Module 3 - Discussion Board - Peer Response
April 9	Last day to withdraw with a “W” – 4:00 p.m. CST
April 14	Expert Witness Part Two Due
April 21	Upload Oral Presentation to Discussion Board
April 25 - 26	Second Class Participation & Oral Presentations

RADS 5023 Legal Topic Outline

Law sources in the United States

- Common law
- Constitutional/statutory law
- Administrative law
- Criminal law
- Civil law
- Case law
- Tort law

Government Organization

- Legislative branch
- Executive branch
- Judicial branch
- Administrative departments and agencies
- State court system
- Federal court system
- Ethics and the law

Tort Law

- Negligent and intentional torts
- Negligence
- Malpractice
- Intentional Torts
- Products Liability
- Legal concerns in clinical practice and education

Laws and Regulations in Health care

- Standards of care
- Scopes of practice
- Contracts/contract liability

Tort Reform

- Mediation/Arbitration
- Structured awards
- Pretrial screening panel
- Collateral source rule
- Contingency fee limitations
- Frivolous claims
- Joint/Several liability
- No-fault claims
- Reducing risks

Honor System:

RADS 5023 adheres to the MSU Code of Conduct.

In particular, however small, academic dishonesty creates a breach of 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 5023 are designed to represent the efforts of each student individually or each student group as appropriate and are NOT to be shared, copied, or plagiarized from other sources. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they 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 to identify similarities to other student papers and published works or to use artificial writing generators instead of the student's 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.

The use of Artificial Writing Generators includes but is not limited to

- Using any artificial intelligent agent (e.g., Chat GPT) to generate written work that the student uses within their course paper, poster, presentation, or any other project, with or without proper citation, or;
- Using any artificial writing generator as a primary source, or;
- Using any artificial writing generators in place of traditional research methods to obtain sources and any interpretations about the content of those sources.

This class will not tolerate academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, artificial writing generators, etc.). 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 given an opportunity to resubmit the assignment. Based on the severity of the cheating, plagiarism, or use of artificial writing generators, 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.

Pronouns:

Names and pronouns are deeply personal. Assumptions about them can cause harm. In this class, we will respectfully use whatever names and pronouns peers, authors, and community members ask us to use. If we make a mistake, we will respectfully correct ourselves. To learn more about personal pronouns and why they are important, please visit MSU Texas' [Guide to Pronouns](#) and [pronouns.org](#)

Campus Carry:

Senate Bill 11 Senate Bill 11, passed by the 84th Texas Legislature, allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the [University's campus carry webpage](#). If you have questions or concerns, please get in touch with MSU Interim Chief of Police [Steven Callarman](#) by email at steven.callarman@msutexas.edu.

Active Shooter:

The safety and security of our campus are 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](#). Students are encouraged to watch the "Run. Hide. Fight" video, which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

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, instructors, 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 on the basis of 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 on the basis of a disability are encouraged to resolve the problem directly with the area involved. If the matter

remains unresolved, advice and/or assistance will be provided by the Office of Disability Services for resolution. 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:

The student and the course instructor should first address unresolved issues related to this course. If there is no resolution, students must follow this sequence:

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