



Course Syllabus Ethics of Respiratory Care

Robert D. & Carol Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services
RESP 4153 – X21

Spring Semester March 22, 2025– May 17, 2025

Contact Information

Instructor: Julie Kirkwood, MS, RRT-NPS

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- I make every attempt to respond to emails within 24-48 hours during the weekday evenings and weekends. Please send a gentle reminder if I do not reply to you within that 48-hour period.

Course Objectives

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

- Describe various ethical principles and concepts; autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, and justice.
- Recall and discuss the historical and current evolution of ethical thought, including milestones, such as the Hippocratic Oath and the American Association for Respiratory Care’s Code of Ethics.
- Devise ways in which ethical dilemmas can be resolved and methods of ethical decision-making expressed in the production of scholarly writing utilizing the APA format.
- Critique some commonly occurring ethical issues and resources—select resources, including human resources that can be used to make moral decisions.
- Use a systematic method for deciding the best solution to a particular situation.
- Validate the critical role of hospital ethics committees.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Required: Stanford, C. C., & Connor, V. J. (2020). Applied law and ethics for health professionals (2nd ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning. ISBN 978128415559

Required: Skloot, R. (2011). The immortal life of Henrietta Lacks. Broadway Paperbacks. ISBN 9781400052189

Student Handbook

Refer to: Student Handbook 2024-2025 for code of student conduct. Additional information can be found on [MSUTexas website](#).

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. Research papers and projects must be original work for each course assignment. The faculty will not accept a submission that has been or is being submitted for another course. No Exceptions!

Grading

Course Grade - A minimum grade of 75, or a C, is required in all respiratory courses. All assignments must be completed by 11:59 PM on the due date.

Table 1: Grade percentage allocated to each assignment.

Assignments	Percentage of Total Grade
Exams	45%
Book Review	35%
Participation & Discussion	20%
TOTAL	100%

Table 2: Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage Grade
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	75-79%
D	70-74%
F	Less than 69%

Email/Course Announcement Requirements

You are required to access and review your emails and D2L Course Announcements regularly. I will often email the entire class with updates regarding your discussions, projects, and assignments. It is your responsibility to check your email regularly to prevent the possibility of missing important information.

Course Tools

1. **Syllabus:** Contains the syllabus.
2. **Announcements:** All announcements will be posted under the NEWS section on the course homepage.
3. **Weekly Course Content Modules:** These are broken down into reading assignments, discussion boards, and exams/quizzes and placed them into individual weekly modules. PowerPoints that pertain to the assigned chapters for that week are also available.
4. **Learning Tools:** Helpful information to use during this course, including online research databases tips and APA Guidelines.

Participation and Discussion

Discussion content and questions will be posted on certain weeks throughout the semester. You can see the weeks that will include a discussion assignment on the course schedule within this syllabus. **During the weeks that have discussions, an initial post must be submitted by Wednesday at 11:59 PM CST. Two substantial responses must be made within the discussion board by Sunday at 11:59 PM CST.**

Each discussion has a max point value of six points. Two points will be given for your initial post, and two points will be given for each of your response posts. All discussion boards are expected to raise thoughtful questions, incorporate content from readings, build on the ideas of others, expand the class's perspective, and appropriately challenge perspectives and assumptions.

Students must support their posts in proper APA formatting, including in-text citations and complete reference entries. **Initial posts** should be at least 250 words in content. **Response posts** should be at least 100 words in content.

Exams

The student will read the chapter(s) and PowerPoint presentations associated with each exam. These exams may consist of multiple-choice, short answer, definitions, listing, true-false, or essay. Exams will have a time limit and may only be accessed once, which means that you cannot start the exam then return to it later. Please be sure that you set aside enough time to start and complete the exam in the allotted amount of time.

Book Review

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks is a cautionary tale that reflects the inherent contradiction between the stated purpose of medical research: To provide benefit to humankind and the reality of blatant profiteering in the name of the advancement of science. The tragedy of the Henrietta Lacks saga should remind us all, especially those in the medical profession, that we have a responsibility to protect those we serve.

- Several ethical issues arise in this book: Identify at least two ethical issues that arise in the Henrietta Lacks case and discuss what could have been done differently?
- Within your paper, cite at least three current (published within the last five years) peer-reviewed research articles that focus on your selected ethical issues. Please do not hesitate to utilize additional sources.
- The report must be written according to 7th Edition APA guidelines, including in-text citations, page numbers, utilizing a font no greater than 12 with 1-inch margins and double-spaced. While this paper must follow APA guidelines, an abstract is not required for this assignment. An excellent APA resource can be found on the Purdue OWL website.
- The amount of student-written material (excluding the Title Page and References page) must total 3-5 pages. You will be graded on the overall coverage of the subject and the readability of your review. Points will be deducted for spelling and grammar. A grading rubric for the Book Review can be found in the D2L course Learning Tools
- This assignment must be submitted as a Word document (no PDFs). Students can sign up for free access to the Office 365 web edition at the Microsoft Office 365 Education site. Email the MSU Helpdesk or call 940- 397-4680 should you have any issues.
- The report should be submitted under the assignment dropbox and is due no later than **Sunday, May 4th**.

Late Work

D2L is designed so that students are locked out of the system after the deadline has passed. Please make note of all deadlines and adhere to them. Anything not completed and submitted on time will be graded as a zero. Please talk with your professor, prior to the due date, regarding circumstances that may prevent you from completing an assignment on time. All assignments must be completed by 11:59pm on the due date.

Important Dates

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" .April 30, 2025

Refer to: [Academic Calendar 2024 - 2025](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please refer to Distance Education Resources: [MSU Distance Education](#)

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. 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 reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings. Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline.

There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations, however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help refer to [MSU Distance Education](#)

Services for Students with Disabilities

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 accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodation should make an application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please refer to [Distance Education Online Accessibility](#)

Course Schedule:

Below is your course schedule. The same content will be in each D2L module as well. I suggest printing a copy of the course schedule to help you stay organized and submit your assignment by the deadlines. Please note that changes in the course syllabus, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the professor.

Module	Activities/Assignments/Quizzes	Due Date
Module 1 3/22 – 3/30	1. Introductions 2. Syllabus Confirmation 3. Discussion #1 AARC Code of Ethics	Introduction and Syllabus confirmation Due 3/26 Discussion #1: Initial Post due 3/26 Subsequent posts due 3/30
Module 2 3/31– 4/6	1. Read Egan’s Chapter 5 2. Read Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 in text 3. Review Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 PowerPoint 4. View Empathy: The Human Connection to Patient Care Video 5. Discussion #2: Ethical Dilemma 6. Discussion #3: The Patient	Initial discussion due 4/2 Subsequent posts due 4/6
Module 3 4/7– 4/13	1. Read Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 in text 2. Review Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 Power Point 3. Discussion #4: Autonomy 4. Discussion #5: HIPPA	Initial discussions due 4/9 Subsequent posts due 4/13
Module 4 4/14– 4/20	1. EXAM #1 Chapters 1 – 3 2. Read Chapter 5 in text 3. Review Chapter 5 Power Point 4. Discussion #6: Ethics and the workplace	Exam #1 due 4/20 Initial discussions due 4/16 Subsequent posts due 4/20
Module 5 4/21 – 4/27	1. Read Chapter 6 in text 2. Review Chapter 6 Power Point 3. Discussion #7: Ethical Considerations of the EMR 4. Exam #2 Chapters 4-6 5. Work on Book Review (due 5/4)	Initial discussions due 4/23 Subsequent posts due 4/27 Exam#2 due 4/27
Module 6 4/28– 5/4	1. Read Chapter 7 in Text 2. Review Chapter 7 Power Point 3. Discussion #8: Ethical Cases in Healthcare 4. Book Review Due	Initial discussions due 4/30 Subsequent posts due 5/4 Book Review due 5/4
Module 7 5/5 – 5/11	1. Review Chapter 8 and Chapter 9 in Text 2. Review Chapter 8 and Chapter 9 Power Point 3. Discussion #9: End of Life Care 4. Discussion #10: Organ Donation	Initial discussions due 5/7 Subsequent posts due 5/11
Module 8 5/12 – 5/15	1. EXAM #3 2. Course Evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What did you find most interesting about this course? b. Do you have any improvements or suggestions? 	Exam #3 due 5/15 Course evaluation due 5/15