TIFFIN UNIVERSITY / ONLINE

HCA643 Healthcare Policy, Law, and Ethics
(3 credit hours)
Course Syllabus

Course Description

This capstone course will require students to examine general healthcare administration issues within a framework of legislative issues and their impact on healthcare systems in the United States. Special emphasis will focus on the changes in federal governmental regulations and their impact on quality and financial administrative issues. Through the case study approach involving politics, policy, regulatory environments, economics and ethics, students will critically analyze issues for both healthcare providers and organizations related to corporate governance, personal choice, and regulatory compliance. Topics will include applied ethics, conflicts of interest, allocation of scarce resources, FDA regulations, confidentiality, payment policies, patient rights, data security, professional liability, and global competition.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of about how laws and ethics work together to provide safe, quality care.
2. Examine the American legal system in regards to how laws are made and who makes them.
3. Inspect the legal structure and governance of healthcare organizations.
4. Analyze the government's regulation of public health and health services.
5. Develop the ability to understand patient privacy and anti-trust laws on healthcare delivery.
6. Interpret the law of tort liability concerning negligence and malpractice.
7. Assess the effects of transparency, full disclosure and their effects on patient/family relationships during the delivery of care and management of untoward events.

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

Included Resources:

All required resources are included as links within the course.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the Tiffin University Library.

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Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).

2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.

3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Wednesdays.**

4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Saturdays, and**

5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Sundays.**

Learning Activities

The HCA643 course incorporates forums, policy briefs, research papers, slide presentations, and workshop design to foster advanced application of healthcare ethics, law, and policy. These activities are aligned with course learning outcomes and emphasize critical thinking, ethical analysis, legal interpretation, and strategic leadership.

Key assignments include a policy brief on end-of-life care ethics, a compliance strategy slide deck addressing HIPAA violations, a workshop on malpractice risk management, a paper proposing health equity interventions, and a capstone presentation synthesizing all course themes. Together, these tasks challenge students to evaluate, apply, and create real-world solutions for complex healthcare administration issues.

Key Assessment (Taskstream Submission)

This TU course features a "Key Assessment" that provides you the opportunity to demonstrate your program's core competencies. It also shows how the course fits within the broader curriculum. For this course, you will be asked to reflect on the course and your experiences.

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Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Forum Activity 1.1 (0) Activity 1.2 (40)	**Forum** Activity 2.1 (40)	**Forum** Activity 3.1 (40)	**Forum** Activity 4.1 (40)	**Forum** Activity 5.1 (40)	**Forum** Activity 6.1 (40)	**Forum** Activity 7.1 (40)	**280**
Assignment Activity 1.3 (80)	**Assignment** Activity 2.2 (80)	**Assignment** Activity 3.2 (80)	**Assignment** Activity 4.2 (80)	**Assignment** Activity 5.2 (80)	**Assignment** Activity 6.2 (100)	**Assignment** Activity 7.3 (70)	**570**
						Assignment Activity 7.2 **Final** (150)	**150**
120	120	120	120	120	140	260	1000

Undergraduate Grading Scale

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%

C: 70-79%

D: 60-69%

F: <60%

Graduate Grading Scale

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%

C: 70-79%

F: <69%

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Start Here

☐ MON: Activity 1.1: Course Anticipation – Introductory Post

Week 1 – Ethical Governance in End-of-Life Care

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☐ WED: Activity 1.2: Navigating Ethical Dilemmas – Initial Post
☐ SAT: Activity 1.2: Navigating Ethical Dilemmas – Follow-Up Post
☐ SUN: Activity 1.3: Policy Brief – Ethical Governance in End-of-Life Care

Week 2 – Regulatory Compliance & Risk Management

☐ WED: Activity 2.1: Ensuring Patient Protection – Initial Post
☐ SAT: Activity 2.1: Ensuring Patient Protection – Follow-Up Post
☐ SUN: Activity 2.2: Compliance Strategy Slide Deck

Week 3 – Medical Liability and Ethical Risk Management

☐ WED: Activity 3.1: Balancing Legal Defense and Transparency – Initial Post
☐ SAT: Activity 3.1: Balancing Legal Defense and Transparency – Follow-Up Post
☐ SUN: Activity 3.2: Managing Ethical and Legal Risk

Week 4 – Addressing Social Determinants of Health

☐ WED: Activity 4.1: Strategies for Health Equity and Access – Initial Post
☐ SAT: Activity 4.1: Strategies for Health Equity and Access – Follow-Up Post
☐ SUN: Activity 4.2: Addressing Health Disparities Paper

Week 5 – Ethical Leadership and Organizational Change

☐ WED: Activity 5.1: Ethical Decision-Making in Healthcare Leadership – Initial Post
☐ SAT: Activity 5.1: Ethical Decision-Making in Healthcare Leadership – Follow-Up Post
☐ SUN: Activity 5.2: Ethical Leadership Strategy Slide Deck

Week 6 – Crisis Management & Policy Development

☐ WED: Activity 6.1: Ethical and Legal Responses to Healthcare Challenges – Initial Post
☐ SAT: Activity 6.1: Ethical and Legal Responses to Healthcare Challenges – Follow-Up Post
☐ SUN: Activity 6.2: Crisis Management in Healthcare

Week 7 – Capstone Project and Reflection

☐ WED: Activity 7.1: The Future of Healthcare Ethics and Policy – Initial Post
☐ SAT: Activity 7.2: Final Capstone Project
☐ SUN: Activity 7.3: Course Reflection (Taskstream)

Tips for Success

Online learning requires self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery. Your course is a place for you to grow as you benefit from the expertise, experience, and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge and understanding.

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To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

For More Information:

Be sure to review the Support, Policies, and Procedures addendum.

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