

**Philosophy and Health Care
Philosophy 3860
Grande Prairie Regional College
Spring Intersession, 2007**

Course Instructor:

Monique Sedgwick, RN, PhD(c)

Office: H228

Phone: 780-539-2896 or 780-814-4915

Email: sedgwick@gprc.ab.ca

Office Hours: by appointment (telephone, through *Illuminate*, or in person)

Blackboard Support

Annabelle Ouellet: aouellet@gprc.ab.ca

Darcie Coulter: dcoulter@gprc.ab.ca

Joanne Stiles: jstiles@gprc.ab.ca

College Calendar Course Description (3 credits, 3-0-0, UT 45 hours)

A philosophical examination of concepts and issues central to the knowledge and practice of health care. Topics may include: provision and allocation of health care resources, rights and responsibilities of patients and health care personnel, passive and active euthanasia, abortion, research and experimentation, disclosure of diagnosis and risks, death and suffering.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, participants should:

- Be familiar with the general scope and substance of the field of ethics.
- Be familiar with a range of concepts that are commonly discussed in health care ethics including but not limited to: ethical principles, rules, and guidelines; ethical issues, dilemmas, and violations; moral distress and moral residue; and vulnerability, decisional capacity, truth-telling, conflict of interest, trust, disclosure, and consent.
- Be familiar with various theoretical approaches in ethics.
- Have gained insight into the methodology of ethical deliberation.
- Be able to systematically analyze practical issues in the clinical setting, explicitly from an ethics perspective.
- Be familiar with some of the current areas of tension in ethics.
- Explore the linkages between individual, organizational, system and societal integrity in relation to the delivery of safe, ethical, competent and sustainable health care.

Course Delivery Mechanisms

- Video presentations
- Ongoing *Blackboard* discussion
- Reading Materials

- Online discussion using *Elluminate*

Resources and Required Textbooks

A variety of contemporary textbooks, websites, online journals and other readings are used.

Course reading package for *Philosophy 3860: Philosophy and Health Care*, Intercession, 2007 (available in GPRC bookstore).

Storch, J., Rodney, P. & Starzomski, R. (2004). *Toward a moral horizon: Nursing ethics for leadership and practice*. Toronto: Pearson Education Canada.
Tschudin, V. (2003). *Approaches to ethics: Nursing beyond boundaries*. Toronto, ON: Butterworth Heinemann.

It is **recommended** that participants use the following books as references:

Baylis, F., Downie, J., Hoffmaster, B., & Sherwin, S. (Eds.). (2004). *Health care ethics in Canada (2nd ed.)*. Toronto, ON: Harcourt Brace.
Beauchamp, T. & Childress, J. (2001). *Principles of biomedical ethics (5th ed.)*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
Bergum, V. & Dossetor, J. (2005). *Relational ethics: The full meaning of respect*. Hagerstown, MD. University Publishing Group.
Singer, P. (Ed.). (1993). *A companion to ethics*. Oxford, UK: Blackwell.
Steinbock, B., Arras, J, London, A.J. (Eds.). (2003). *Ethical issues in modern medicine (6th ed.)*. New York NY: McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

Health Ethics Websites

<http://www.ualberta.ca/BIOETHICS/>
<http://bioethics.medicine.dal.ca/>
<http://www.ethicscommittee.ca/>
<http://www.ethicsweb.ca/resources/>
<http://www.ethics.ubc.ca/resources/biomed/>
<http://www.law.mcgill.ca/research/centres.htm#cmel>
<http://www.nursingethics.ca/>
<http://www.phen.ab.ca/>
<http://www.utoronto.ca/jcb/home/main.htm>
<http://www.bioethics.ca/>
<http://www.sibi.org/ingles/sib/index.htm>
<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/24574.html>
<http://www.asbh.org/>
<http://www.georgetown.edu/research/nrcbl/>
<http://www.unesco.org/ethics/>
<http://www.unesco.org/general/eng/legal/index.html>

<http://www.wma.net/e/ethicsunit/resources.htm> [The World Medical Association's Medical Ethics Manual is available at this site].
<http://www.globalethics.bham.ac.uk/>
<http://ethics.acusd.edu/video/Interviews>
 Report of the Manitoba Inquest into the Pediatric Cardiac Surgery Deaths at
<http://www.pediatriccardiacinquest.mb.ca/>
 Government of Canada CIHR/NSERC/SSHRC Interagency Advisory Panel on Research at Ethics
<http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca>

Health Ethics Journals

Bioethics: Journal of the International Association of Bioethics (available on line)
 BMC Medical Ethics
 Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics (available online)
 Developing World Bioethics
 Ethics
 Ethics and the Environment
 Eubios, Journal of Asian and International Bioethics (available online)
 Hastings Centre Report
 Health and Human Rights (available online)
 Health Law Journal
 Healthcare Ethics Forum
 Human Rights Quarterly (available online)
 Journal of Buddhist Ethics; Journal of Clinical Ethics; Journal of Medical Ethics
 Journal of Clinical Ethics
 Journal of Global Ethics (available online)
 Journal of Medical Ethics
 Journal of Medicine and Philosophy
 Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal (sample copy available on line)
 Nursing Ethics
 Philosophy, Ethics, and Humanities in Medicine
 Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics

Course Evaluation Strategies

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Ongoing Online discussion on <i>Blackboard</i>
and weekly group discussion through <i>Elluminate</i> | 30% |
| 2. Essay (due May 18, 2007 by 6:00 p.m. MST) | 30% |
| 3. Research Paper (due June 8, 2007 by 6:00 p.m. MST) | 40% |

Please see course documents for detailed discussion regarding the expectations for each evaluation strategy.

Please see course documents for detailed schedule of topics and readings.

Grading

In accordance with the Grande Prairie Regional College grading policy, the alpha grading system will be used. Students will receive a letter grade for each evaluation strategy which will then be converted to a numerical number. The number will be multiplied by the item weighting for the course. The items are then added and converted to the appropriate letter grade. Please see *Grading Policy* at www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies.html for further details.

Student misconduct, plagiarism and cheating

Students are expected to be familiar with and uphold the Grande Prairie Regional College's academic standards of integrity and honesty. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with these policies and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offense. To assist students in becoming familiar with these policies please see www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies.html.

Note: the last day to withdraw from this course with permission is May 14, 2007

Class Schedule

Discussion of Blackboard

Each week begins with readings and reflection from Monday morning to Sunday evening (6:00 p.m. MST). At this time discussion of the previous week's theme will end. Student postings are to be posted on *Blackboard discussion within the group forum space assigned to the student (Group A, B, C, or D)* starting *April 30, 2007*.

Discussion on Elluminate

Introduction class:

April 27, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. MST

This time is set aside to ensure all students are able to access *Blackboard* and *Elluminate*. At this time Joanne Stiles will provide an orientation to the *Blackboard* and *Elluminate* and will be available to assist any student experiencing difficulties with the programs.

As well, I will be reviewing how I envision the course will proceed and my expectations of student participation. Course partners will be assigned during this class.

Students should expect to spend approximately eight to twelve hours per week online (includes posting, responding to colleagues, and synchronous discussion via *Elluminate*).

Weekly Synchronous discussion via Elluminate

***Group A: Monday (starting May 7)
at 2:00-3:30 p.m. MST***

***Group B: Monday (starting May 7)
at 4:00-5:30 p.m. MST***

***Group C: Tuesday (starting May 8)
at 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. MST***

***Group D: Tuesday (starting May 8)
at 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. MST***

At the end of every week's discussion (Monday through Sunday), I will post a summary of the week's discussion.