

**Bergen Community College**

Division of Business and Social Sciences  
Department of Criminal Justice & Legal  
Studies

Course Syllabus

**HSC-102/LGL 104- Healthcare Ethics & Law**

Semester and year:

Section Number:

Meeting Times:

Locations:

Instructor:

Office Location:

Phone:

Departmental Secretary:

Office Hours:

Email Address:

**HSC-102/LGL 104- Healthcare Ethics & Law**

**Course Description:**

- Healthcare Ethics & Law is a survey course dedicated to the analysis and application of ethics, bioethics, and law in healthcare. Emphasis is placed on examining the legal and healthcare environments. Students will gain understanding through analysis of ethical rules, statutes, case law, hypotheticals, and case studies.
- Prerequisites: None
- Credits: 3 credits

**Student Learning Outcomes:** As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, students will be able to:

Student Learning Outcome:	Means of Assessment:
<p>1. Analyze and apply laws and ethical codes to the responsibilities and duties of the healthcare professionals.</p>	<p>Students submit weekly assignments and discussion posts, as well as projects at specific intervals during the course. These assessments will relate to needed skills for the analysis of the laws and ethical codes used in healthcare professions. Students will learn how to navigate and research the appropriate laws.</p> <p>Projects will be reviewed with students and concepts reinforced. Weekly assignments will be required specifically addressing this course objective.</p>
<p>2. Identify ethical and legal issues and how to respond appropriately in the workplace environment.</p>	<p>Students will submit projects during intervals during the course, which will require the identification and research of ethical issues. Assignments will include grant writing, case studies, as well as research of state and federal healthcare laws. Students will be required to demonstrate research, oral communication, and writing skills. Projects will be reviewed with students and concepts reinforced. Homework assignments will be required specifically addressing this course objective.</p>

3. Examine regulatory and licensing structure as it applies to legal and medical professionals.	Students will submit projects during intervals during the course, which will have required ethical considerations. The ethical considerations will relate to analysis of appropriate law including the state and federal court systems , administrative and professional agencies, as well as licensure and disciplinary bodies.
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### **Class Session # Material**

1. Introduction to Medical Law, Ethics and Bioethics – Overview of Law, Ethics, and Bioethics, Chapter 1, Fremgen.
2. The Legal System – Sources of Law, Classification of Law, the Court System, and Trial Process. Chapter 2, Fremgen.
3. Importance of the Legal System for the Physician and the Healthcare Professional – Medical Practice Acts, Licensure, Standards of Care, Confidentiality, Statute of Limitations, Good Samaritan Law, Respondeat Superior, and Risk Management. Chapter 3, Fremgen.
4. Today's Healthcare Environment – Types of Medical Practice, Medical Specialty Boards, and Allied Health Professionals. Chapter 4, Fremgen.
5. The Physician-Patient Relationship – Physician's Rights and Responsibilities, Patient's Rights, Patient's Responsibilities, and the Role of the Healthcare Consumer. Chapter 5, Fremgen.
6. Professional Liability and Medical Malpractice – Tort of Negligence, Fraud, Office of Inspector General, Defenses to Malpractice Suits, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Liability of Other Healthcare Professionals, Tort Reform and Malpractice Prevention. Chapter 6, Fremgen.
7. Public Duties of the Physician and the Healthcare Professional – Public Health Records and Vital Statistics, Controlled Substances Act and Regulations, Protection for the Employee and the Environment. Chapter 7, Fremgen.

8. Workplace Law and Ethics – Professionalism in the Workplace, Discrimination in the Workplace, Privacy, Cultural and Religious Considerations, Effective Hiring Practices, federal and state laws. Chapter 8, Fremgen.
9. The Medical Record – Purpose, Contents, Ownership, Confidentiality, Retention and Storage of the Medical Record. Reporting and Disclosure Requirement Use of the Medical Record in Court. Chapter 9, Fremgen.
10. Patient Confidentiality and HIPAA – Examination of Confidentiality and HIPAA Law, Ethical Concerns with Technology. Chapter 10, Fremgen.
11. Bioethical Issues in Medicine – history, Standards and Behavior, Code of Ethics, Bioethical Issues, Human Genome Project, Genetic Engineering, Healthcare Reform. Chapter 11, Fremgen.
12. Ethical Issues Relating to Life – Fetal Development, Assisted or Artificial Conception, Contraception, Sterilization, Abortion, Genetic Counseling and Testing, Wrongful Life Suits. Chapter 12, Fremgen.
13. Death and Dying – The Dying Process, Legal Definition of Death, Quality of Life Issues, Use of Medication, Hospice Care, Palliative Care, Viatical Settlements, Advanced Directives, Choices in Life and Death. Chapter 13, Fremgen.
14. Trends in Healthcare-Advances, Problems, and Forecasts for the Future. Chapter 14, Fremgen.

### **Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials:**

TEXTBOOK: Medical Law and Ethics, Fremgen, Pearson Ed., current edition.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS: Will be posted on Canvas.

### **Grading Policy:**

#### **Evaluation and Assessment:**

<b>Projects (2)</b>	<b>20% (10% each)</b>
<b>Topic Assignments</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Discussion Posts</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Attendance/Class Participation</b>	<b>20%</b>

All projects and assignments must be completed for full course credit. Late projects shall be penalized. For any project or assignment not posted on Canvas by the final submission due date, a failure grade will be given for that assignment.

## Attendance Policy:

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend every scheduled class and to arrive punctually. Attendance will be taken at each class session. It is expected that class will be conducted in such a manner that students will benefit from both the lectures and class discussions. Class participation is based on attending class, contributing to discussions, and completing the assignments in a timely manner.

**Cell/Smart Phones:** The use of cell/smart phones and other electronic devices is not permitted in class and all students must silence their cell phones prior to class session. Audio and video recording and photography is prohibited in class unless a letter of accommodations is presented.

**AI Policy:** The use of AI generated responses as direct submissions for assignments or projects is a violation of the college's plagiarism policy and will receive a failing grade. The use of AI as a research or tutoring tool is permitted. [Home - Generative AI - LibGuides at Bergen Community College](#)

## Other College, Divisional, and/or Departmental Policy Statements:

[Academic Matters - Bergen Community College - Acalog ACMS™](#)

Statement on the appropriate use of AI (see the following link for guidance):

[AI-Guidance-Resource-Page.pdf \(bergen.edu\)](#)

ADA statement:

[Disability Services \(Office of Specialized Services\) | Bergen Community College](#)

Sexual Harassment statement:

[HR-003-001.2018-Policy-Prohibiting-Sexual-Harassment.pdf \(bergen.edu\)](#) Statement on acceptable use of BCC technology:

[Acceptable-Use-Policy.pdf \(bergen.edu\)](#)

Recommended Syllabus Statements from the Office of Specialized Services:

[Syllabus Statements | Bergen Community College](#)

Statement on the purpose and value of faculty office hours.

## **Student and Faculty Support Services:**

### **Accessibility Statement**

Bergen Community College is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability (or think you may have a disability) and, as a result, need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this class, complete course requirements, or benefit from the College's programs or services, contact the Office of Special Services (OSS) as soon as possible at 201-612-5270 or [www.bergen.edu/oss](http://www.bergen.edu/oss). To receive any academic accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with OSS. The OSS works with students confidentially and does not disclose any disability-related information without their permission. The OSS serves as a clearinghouse on disability issues and works in partnership with faculty and all other student service offices.

### **Student Support Services**

Bergen Community College provides exemplary support to its students and offers a broad variety of opportunities and services. A comprehensive array of student support services including advising, tutoring, academic coaching, and more are available online at <https://bergen.edu/currentstudents/>.

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## **Sidney Silverman Library Online Resources:**

[Guides BY SUBJECT - LibGuides at Bergen Community College](#)

General Search and Databases: [Library | Bergen Community](#)

## College

**Note to Students:** This Course Outline and Calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class.