

MED 336 2024 Bioethics III

Kansas City University
College of Osteopathic Medicine
Fall Semester 2024



COURSE DIRECTOR

James D. Hearn, J.D., LL.M., M.A., M.A.T., D. Bioethics, MPH, D. Min.

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Physical Office No. 2619 – Joplin Campus

Virtual Office Hours: Available by arrangement Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT during the entirety of the course – please email to arrange meeting – emails are always welcome. (Note: time accommodation may be made based upon a student’s schedule.)

CREDIT HOURS: 0.5

REPEATABLE FOR CREDIT: NO

PREREQUISITES: MED123-BETH I and MED223-BETH II

LOCATION/DELIVERY: This course will be conducted utilizing CANVAS and Discussions Forums created thereon. The discussion posts, papers, and comments on the paper of another student will be due when and as set forth on the course schedule. The course will run between July 29, 2024 and December 18, 2024.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course applies the bioethical frameworks to issues that students encounter while on rotations and see things firsthand. Students apply bioethical education to cases of their own, reflect on their personal experiences, and practice how to address issues from the stance of a provider.

COURSE GOALS

	Core Competency	EPA	Programmatic Goals
Describe and discuss aspects of “professionalism” in health care practice and in health education	I, III, V, IX	3, 6, 9, 10	1.8
Understand aspects of clinical ethics, including ethics in mental health care, death and dying, and disability	III, IV, XIII	4, 5	1.8
Demonstrate comprehension of public policy and health care, including patient advocacy, health care reform, and privacy	II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, IX, XI	4, 13	1.8, 1.9
Analyze case studies, highlighting the professional, legal, and ethical issues that arise in each case.	II, IV, V, VII, VIII	3, 11	1.8, 1.9

	Core Competency	EPA	Programmatic Goals
Become more familiar with the various aspects of the field of bioethics	II, III, IV	6, 9	1.8

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Resources

Access to high-speed internet connection, Canvas, Mediasite, Zoom, KCU email, and other virtual technology as deemed necessary for scheduling, communication, and curricular delivery.

It is the student's responsibility to check both email and Canvas daily as these are KCU's official means of communication.

Required Texts

None. Each module will provide access to the required readings via links.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Please refer to the posted Student Calendar to view the course schedule. Communication of important course information may occur through KCU email and/or Canvas.

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are subject to change and/or clarification with notification. Check CANVAS and course and/or individual communications for announcements of updates.

Assignment Due Date Table

Modules will open at 12:01 am CT on the designated Monday and will close at 11:59 pm CT on the designated Sunday.

Assignment Title	Date
Module 1 Discussion Posts: Professionalism at the Clinic	Opens Monday July 29 Closes Sunday, August 4
Module 2 Discussion Posts: Ethical Care for Elderly Patients	Opens Monday, August 5 Closes Sunday, August 18
Module 3 Discussion Posts: Duty to Treat & EMTALA	Opens Monday, August 19 Closes Sunday, September 1
Module 4 Discussion Posts: Duty to Warn 3 rd Parties	Opens Monday, September 2 Closes Sunday, September 15

Module 5 Discussion Posts: Medicine and Disability	Opens Monday, September 16 Closes Sunday, September 29
Module 6 Discussion Posts: Ethics in Mental Health Care	Opens Monday, September 30 Closes Sunday, October 13
Module 7 Discussion Posts: Clinical Research & Ethics	Opens Monday, October 14 Closes Sunday, October 27
Module 8 Discussion Posts: Medical Errors	Opens Monday, October 28 Closes Sunday, November 10
Module 9 Discussion Posts: Professional Boundaries & Conflict of Interest	Opens Monday, November 11 Closes Sunday, November 17
Module 10 Discussion Posts: Self-Care and Resilience	Opens Monday, November 18 Closes Sunday, November 24
Formal Essay (a topic of your choice in clinical ethics)	Opens Monday, July 26 Due Sunday, December 8 by 11:59 pm CT
Rubric-Based Reviews (review of one fellow student physician's essay as assigned)	Opens Monday, December 9 At 12:01 am Due Monday, December 16 by 11:59 pm CT

STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION (IMPORTANT INFORMATION)

**This course will consist of ten learning modules (available on Canvas), with one or two weeks to complete each module. Each learning module will require two posts on the discussion board to count towards a participation grade—your original post based on the module question or clinical scenario, and the second a response post commenting on a classmate's discussion. There will be a required final essay, and each student will review one fellow student physician's assigned essay utilizing a provided rubric, which will be posted on Canvas. It is the student's responsibility to track discussion board participation and post according to the provided deadlines. **

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL MODULES WILL BE OPEN (same for the evaluation of a fellow student physician's final essay) AND WORKING AHEAD OF THE DESIGNATED COMPLETION TIMES FOR EACH MODULE IS ACCEPTABLE AND EVEN ENCOURAGED! BUT IF YOU POST EARLY BE SURE TO GO BACK AND DO YOUR RESPONSIVE POST.

INSTRUMENT(S) OF STUDENT EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

- *Students will be evaluated through a combination of one or more of the following assessment modalities.*
 - Participation in on-line discussion boards, including original posts and responses to fellow student physicians' discussions.

- Formal written essay
- Reviewing one other fellow student physician's essay

FORMAL ESSAY IN BIOETHICS FORMAT:

- 1.5- OR DOUBLE-SPACED LINES
- LENGTH BETWEEN 750 TO 1000 WORDS
- PROFESSIONAL GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION (CHECK AND REVIEW)
- AT LEAST 3 REFERENCES, MORE PREFERRED

RESPONSE TO A STUDENT PHYSICIAN'S FINAL ESSAY:

- A FELLOW STUDENT'S ESSAY WILL BE ASSIGNED TO YOU RANDOMLY BY CANVAS AFTER THE FINAL ESSAYS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED ON DECEMBER 8
- YOU WILL HAVE 8 DAYS (DECEMBER 9-16) TO SUBMIT THE REVIEW AFTER YOUR ASSIGNMENT BY CANVAS
- ALL REVIEWS WILL BE SUBSTANTIVE, AND COURTEOUS, PROFESSIONAL, AND CONSTRUCTIVE WITH BEING PURELY LAUDATORY
- WE ALL LEARN FROM OUR COLLEAGUES—THAT IS PART OF THE PROFESSION

COURSE POINT ALLOTMENT

Activity	Point Value	Semester Total
Discussion Board Participation	2	20
Final Essay	25	25
Reviewing Classmate's Essay	15	15
Total points		60

GRADING

Final grades will be determined by the total number of points earned on the following scale:

Grade	Definition
P	Meets All Competency Requirements
F/P	Repeat/Successful Remediation
F	Does Not Meet All Competency Requirements
	Students must earn at least 70% of points for the course.

POLICIES

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Please refer to KCU Catalog and Handbook for KCU-COM academic and course policies.

USE OF GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TOOLS

In addition to the foregoing statement regarding Academic Honesty please be aware that this course requires, or may require, from students the submission of written work (i.e., discussion posts, short answer exams, essays, research papers, journals, diaries, etc.) Such required assignments must be authored solely and directly by students unless specific permission is given to utilize generative AI. Such permission will not be effective unless posted to the course site on CANVAS. Any deviation from the foregoing shall constitute plagiarism and/or the misrepresentation of the source of academic work, and constitute a direct, punishable violation of the Kansas City University Catalog and Student Handbook Code of Professional Conduct which provides, in part, that the following behavior will not be tolerated and where found punished, “All forms of dishonesty: cheating, plagiarism, knowingly furnishing false information to the University, forgery, alteration or unapproved use of records.” **THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO RUN EACH WRITING SUBMITTED IN THE COURSE THROUGH AI AND PLAGIARISM CHECKING SOFTWARE.** This policy does not prohibit the use of common tools that utilize AI such as spelling and grammar checkers or reference managers. However, it should be noted that such programs may run on an AI platform which may be detected by the AI scan. Therefore, the use of AI for any purpose must be noted and the platform cited.

If the unauthorized use of generative AI and/or plagiarism is detected the student will automatically fail the course and the matter will be submitted to the Administration for such further action as they may deem appropriate. All students shall be responsible for knowing and abiding by the provisions set forth in the University Catalog and Student Handbook. If there is any disagreement between this provision and the Kansas City University Catalog and Student Handbook, the terms of the latter shall control.

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION

Please refer to KCU Catalog and Handbook for KCU-COM academic and course policies.

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR and CONDUCT FOR THE ONLINE CLASS

As new members of the medical profession, student physicians are expected to participate in professional discussions and provide constructive and complimentary/complementary comments about fellow student physicians’ discussion points. Unprofessional comments will not be viewed favorably and will be addressed by the Instructor with the student physician.

If a student is determined to have demonstrated unprofessional behavior or posted uncomplimentary comments, they may be subject to disciplinary action per Kansas City University policy.

PROFESSIONALISM

We are all part of the profession of medicine, and we will demonstrate the highest level of professionalism and ethical behavior in all our efforts as student physicians, physicians, and ancillary professionals.

Any violation of the Code of Professional Conduct will result in the student being referred to the Vice-Provost for Enrollment and Student Services. Please see the Student Discipline Procedures section of the KCU Catalog and Handbook for additional information on that process.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

KCU COM students must be able to meet all technical standards as described in the current KCU student handbook with or without reasonable accommodation.

KCU provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Information concerning eligibility for accommodations, required documentation, the application process and other specifics surrounding the disability accommodations process is provided in the current KCU student handbook.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This syllabus and course outline is the road map for this course. Hopefully, you will find that it answers most of your questions regarding what is expected of you, and what you have the right to expect of me, during our semester together. Therefore, I expect you to read it thoroughly (and repeatedly, if necessary). This is especially true when it comes to those items on which you will be graded. We may deviate from the syllabus when and as necessary during the semester. If this is the case, specific announcements will be made via Canvas and/or students notification. Unless such an announcement is made you can expect that we will cover the topics in the order provided and that the other work of this course will be due, when and as described in this document.

This syllabus is subject to amendment from time-to-time and the document, as amended, replaces any prior iteration, and will become the controlling syllabus for this course.

FACULTY CONTACT INFORMATION

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