



Nursing and Health Professions Division
3322 College Drive, Vineland, NJ 08360
856-691-8600

HS 140 Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare

Syllabus

Lecture Hours/Credits: 3/3

Catalog Description

This course will provide an overview of the legal and ethical principles needed for health care workers to give competent and compassionate care to clients. Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Care will allow students to develop skills and information literacy through critical-thinking activities, teamwork, collaboration, and a hands-on approach to learning.

The goal for this course will be to provide students with the legal and ethical tools to utilize in building understanding and working toward the resolution of problems that is within acceptable legal and ethical boundaries.

Textbook and Course Materials

It is the responsibility of the student to confirm with the bookstore and/or their instructor the textbook, handbook, and any other materials required for their specific course and section.

Click here to see current textbook prices at cccnj.bncollege.com.

Evaluation Assessment

Online Proctoring

All courses offered at RCSJ, whether they are web-enhanced, hybrid, or fully online, may include assessments that make use of Online Proctoring. To find out more about Online Proctoring, and to learn about the minimum technical requirements, visit rcsj.edu/elearning/online-proctoring.

Grading Distribution

Grading to be determined by individual instructors.

Individual instructors may include the following assessment(s):

- Class participation/Attendance
- Quizzes and lecture exams
- Final Exam
- Lab reports (incl. field trips)
- Project

Grading

The grading scale for each course and section will be determined by the instructor and distributed the first day of class.

Rowan College of South Jersey Core Competencies

(Based on the NJCCC General Education Foundation - August 15, 2007; Revised 2011; Adopted 2014)

This comprehensive list reflects the core competencies that are essential for all RCSJ graduates; however, each program varies regarding competencies required for a specific degree. Critical thinking is embedded in all courses, while teamwork and personal skills are embedded in many courses.

1. **Written and Oral Communication:** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
2. **Quantitative Knowledge and Skills:** Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems
3. **Scientific Knowledge and Reasoning:** Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
4. **Technological Competency:** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals
5. **Society and Human Behavior:** Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.
6. **Humanistic Perspective:** Students will analyze works in the fields of art, history, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language
7. **Historical Perspective:** Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.
8. **Global and Cultural Awareness:** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.
9. **Ethical Reasoning and Action:** Students will understand ethical issues and situations.
10. **Information Literacy:** Students will address an information need by locating, evaluating, and effectively using information.

HS 140 Core Competencies

This course focuses on three of RCSJ's Core Competencies:

- [Add Core Competencies here](#)

Student Learning Outcomes: HS 140 Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare

Successful completion of HS 140 will help students:	RCSJ Core Competencies	Evaluation / Assessment (Additional means of evaluation may be included by individual instructors)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the foundations of law and ethics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explain why knowledge of law and ethics is important to health care practitioners. ○ Define the relevant terms pertaining to legal and ethical issues in health care. ○ Identify the branches of the judicial court system. ○ Differentiate between civil law and criminal law. ○ Explain the unintentional tort of negligence. ○ List the four essential elements of a contract. ○ Differentiate between expressed contracts and implied contracts. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class participation/Attendance • Quizzes and lecture exams • Final Exam • Lab reports (incl. field trips) • Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify legal issues for health care practitioners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify three areas of liability. ○ Explain the four criteria necessary to prove negligence. ○ Explain the duties and requirements of health care practitioners concerning confidentiality and privileged communication. ○ Debate the question of whether or not liability insurance is practical for various health care careers. ○ List possible defenses to a liability suit including the Good Samaritan Law. ○ Explain the importance of performing criminal background checks and the implications of negative results 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class participation/Attendance • Quizzes and lecture exams • Final Exam • Lab reports (incl. field trips) • Project

Successful completion of HS 140 will help students:	RCSJ Core Competencies	Evaluation / Assessment (Additional means of evaluation may be included by individual instructors)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify professional and social health care issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify three types of reportable injuries and abuse: Child abuse, Domestic abuse and Elder abuse ○ Recognize federal laws regarding discrimination in the workplace. ○ Identify the various organizations that protect the safety and welfare of the health care workers and consumers. ○ Investigate the legal requirements and ramifications of the federal and state labor laws. ○ Analyze social, ethical, and legal issues pertaining to: Bioethics, Stem cell research, ○ Cloning, Genetics, Genetic engineering, Infertility, Abortion, Rights of minors 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class participation/Attendance • Quizzes and lecture exams • Final Exam • Lab reports (incl. field trips) • Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify end of life issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explain the importance of formulating a plan for the end of life. ○ Compare and contrast a living will, health care proxy, and durable power of attorney, and Do Not Resuscitate (DNR). ○ Identify events concerning right to die issues. ○ Explain the legal and ethical issues of the organ donation process. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class participation/Attendance • Quizzes and lecture exams • Final Exam • Lab reports (incl. field trips) • Project

Topical Outline

- Unit 1: Foundations of Law and Ethics:
 - Introduction to law and ethics
 - Law and ethics in health care
 - Law, the courts, and contracts

- Unit 2: Legal issues for Health Care Practitioners:
 - Professional liability and medical malpractice
 - Defenses to liability suits
 - Medical records and informed consent
 - Confidentiality (HIPPA)
 - Criminal background checks
- Unit 3: Professional and Social Health Care Issues:
 - Health care professional's public duties and responsibilities
 - Workplace legalities and labor laws
 - Bioethics: Social, ethical, and legal issues
- Unit 4: End of Life Issues:
 - Living Will
 - Durable Power of Attorney
 - Health Care Proxy
 - Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)
 - Organ Donor Directives
 - Euthanasia

Affirmative Action Statement

The Board of Trustees is committed to providing a work and academic environment that maintains and promotes affirmative action and equal opportunity for all employees and students without discrimination on the basis of certain enumerated and protected categories. These categories are race, creed (religion), color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, sex (including pregnancy and sexual harassment), marital status, domestic partnership or civil union status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for military service, or mental or physical disability, including AIDS and HIV related illnesses.

For questions concerning discrimination, contact Almarie J. Jones, Special Assistant to the President, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Compliance, 856-415-2154 or ajones@rcsj.edu or (Cumberland) Nathaniel Alridge, Jr., JD, Director, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Judicial Affairs, 856-691-8600, ext. 1414 or nalridge@rcsj.edu. For disability issues or any barriers in the learning or physical environment related to a document condition/disability please contact: Gloucester campus – Dennis M. Cook, Director, Department of Special Services, ADA/504 Officer at 856-415-2265 or dcook@rcsj.edu; or Cumberland Campus – Meredith Vicente, Senior Director, Physical & Learning Disabilities, Center for Academic & Student Success (CASS) at 856-691-6900 ext. 1282 or mvicent1@rcsj.edu

Department of Special Services

The Department of Special Services, located in the Enrollment and Student Services building, within the Testing Center, welcomes students of all abilities. The staff members in Special Services are committed to providing support services and ensuring equal access to eligible students with documented conditions/disabilities as outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act with Amendments Act (ADAAA). For more information, please visit our website-[Department of Special Services](#) or call 856-691-8600 x1445 or x1487.

Reporting Allegations of Sexual Assault Resource Referrals (8/2020)
Cumberland Campus

There are multiple safe places for students to report allegations of sexual assault, both on and off campus. Reports of sexual assault can be made to any of the following offices listed in the chart below.

All students are encouraged to report alleged crimes on campus. Employees must report crimes that pose an immediate threat to the campus to the Security Office, the local Police Department or the Sheriff's Office.

Service	Resource	Phone Number/Location/Website
Non-Confidential Reporting Law Enforcement	Vineland Police Dept.	856-691-4111
	Millville Police Department	856-825-7010
	Cumberland Co. Sheriff's Office	856-451-4449
	Cumberland County Emergency Services	9-1-1
	Cumberland Campus Security 856-200-4706 (Direct)	Andres Lopez, Director Safety and Security 856-691-8600, ext. 1777
Non-Confidential On-Campus Reporting Support Services	Almarie J. Jones Special Assistant to the President Diversity and Equity, Title IX and Compliance	856-415-2154 College Center, room116 ajones@rcsj.edu
	Nathaniel Alridge, Jr., JD, Director Diversity and Equity, Title IX and Judicial Affairs	856-200-4712 nalridge@rcsj.edu Academic Building, 2 nd floor
	Kellie W. Slade Executive Director Student Services, Student Life	856-200-4615 kslade@rcsj.edu Student Life Building (near gym)
Confidential On-Campus Counseling and Support Services	Heather Bense, LCSW, ACS Director	856-200-4759 hbense@rcsj.edu Academic Building downstairs
	John Wojtowicz, LSW, VACW Mental Health Counselor	856-200-4760 jwojtowicz@rcsj.edu
	Student Counseling and Wellness Center	Academic Building – 1st floor
Confidential Off-Campus Full-Service Support	Center for Family Services – Services Empowering Rights of Victims (SERV)	24/7 Hotlines Cumberland Co. – 1-800-225-0196 Camden & Glo. Co. 1-866-295-7378 centerffs.org/serv
Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner on Site	Inspira Medical Center Vineland	1505 W. Sherman Ave., Vineland, NJ 856-641-8000