

# **HL 310: Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare Administration**

## **School of Business and Management**

5 Credits

Effective Date Fall 2019

Grading Type: Decimal

*Access to the Internet is required.*

*All written assignments must be in Microsoft-Word-compatible formats.*

*See the library's APA Style Guide tutorial for a list of resources that can help you use APA style.*

## Faculty Information

Professional experience information for instructors is found under *Syllabus, Schedule, and Course Team* in the online course menu.

## Contact Information

Contact information for instructors is found under *Syllabus, Schedule, and Course Team* in the online course menu.

## Course Description

In this course students become conversant with both the legal and ethical aspects of healthcare administration and management. Students will become versed in the legal system as it applies to tort law, contracts, civil procedures, obligations to provide healthcare, privileging, fraud, and medical decision-making. Emphasis is placed on how the law supports or hinders current efforts to improve healthcare delivery systems. Students will also understand the legal and ethical dilemmas that health care managers face in their professional roles.

## Course Resources

Required and recommended resources to complete coursework and assignments are found on the course [Reading List](#). Access is provided through the *Reading List* link in your online course as well as from the library homepage (“Find Your Reading List” button).

**Note:** Required resources that must be purchased by the student are tagged “Purchase from a vendor of your choosing.” Required resources with a direct link, “Available through CityU Library”, are available electronically at no cost to students.

Students in Canada may purchase course resources from the [Canada Bookstore](#), and students outside the U.S. and Canada should contact their advisor or textbook coordinator for additional information.

## Course Outcomes

This course will prepare students to:

- Review basic legal and ethical issues as they relate to healthcare concerns throughout the life of a patient.
- Analyze ethical dilemmas and their implications that arise from the provision of health services at individual, organizational, and societal levels.

- Identify the many government institutions that serve as stakeholders for healthcare organizations and the types of regulations they place on these organizations.
- Describe the legal and ethical aspects of HIPAA.
- Assess professional ethics codes promulgated by professional associations.

## **Grading Scale**

The grades earned for the course will be calculated using City University of Seattle's decimal grading system, found in the current [University Catalog](#).

Grading rubrics with details on how each assignment will be graded are located under *Assignments* and/or in *My Grades* in the online course menu. Students should review the rubric for each assignment prior to completing their work in order to understand how it will be assessed.

## **Course Assignments and Grading**

### **Assignments**

#### **Government Regulations Paper (25% of Final grade)**

Numerous governmental institutions and organizations establish regulations that healthcare organizations must follow. These regulations are designed to improve the quality of healthcare, improve access to healthcare, create a safe environment for patients and healthcare professionals, and decrease the opportunity for fraud and abuse in the system. Examples of regulatory agencies include: The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), The Joint Commission (TJC), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In this 5-7 page paper, students will describe the regulations these agencies place on healthcare organizations. Student's discussion should include, but not be limited to, all of the regulatory agencies listed in this assignment. As part of the discussion, students will identify the legal and/or ethical aspects that the regulations address. APA formatting and a minimum of five professional references are required. References should be less than five years old in order to reflect current information.

***Components***

***% of Grade***

Description of Regulations	35%
Legal and Ethical Aspects	35%
APA Style (citations, references, formatting)	15%
Style and Mechanics	15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Physician-Assisted Suicide Paper (25% of Final grade)**

Physician-assisted suicide (PAS) has been legalized in several states in the U.S. Supporters of PAS believe that individuals should have ultimate control over their end-of-life choices. Those who oppose PAS point to the ethical issues of physicians participating in hastening their patients' deaths. In this 5-7 page paper, students will discuss the arguments both for and against PAS. Students will then analyze the ethics of physician-assisted suicide. Analysis of ethics from the perspective of the physician, the healthcare organization, the patient, and society must be included. Students should include descriptions of the ethical codes regarding PAS held by professional associations, such as the American Medical Association and the American College of Physicians. Proper APA format and a minimum of five professional references are required. References should be less than five years old in order to reflect current information.

<b><i>Components</i></b>	<b><i>% of Grade</i></b>
Style and Mechanics	15%
Ethical Perspectives	40%
Arguments for and Against	20%
Professional Associations	10%
APA Style (citations, references, formatting)	15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Ethics of Managed Care Paper (25% of Final grade)**

The cost of healthcare in the United States is the highest in the world. In an attempt to reduce costs, managed care was implemented in the 1970s and 1980s. These reimbursement plans have morphed over the years and continue to change today. Even

with those changes, many people argue that managed care contains costs while decreasing the quality of care. Others accuse managed care plans of interfering with the physician's ability to provide the care the patient needs. In this 5-7 page paper, students will discuss the ethical issues associated with managed care. These issues should include, but not be limited to, monetary incentives for physicians, conflict of interest, the physician-patient relationship, and the quality of care. Students must include discussion of how managed care impacts medical decision making and the ethics of balancing a patient's need for care with the desire to contain costs. APA formatting and a minimum of five professional references are required. References should be less than five years old in order to reflect current information.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
APA Style (citations, references, formatting)	10%
Balance	25%
Style and Mechanics	10%
Analysis of Ethical Issues	30%
Impact on Medical Decision Making	25%
TOTAL	100%

### **Essays and Quizzes (25% of Final Grade)**

Each week students will write a short (3-5 paragraph) essay on the topic provided in the classroom. Students will have a one-question quiz each week. The quiz is not timed and students may use their text or other materials to research the answer.

## **Course Policies**

### **Professional Writing**

Assignments require error-free writing that uses standard English conventions and logical flow of organization to address topics clearly, completely, and concisely. CityU requires the use of APA style.

# University Policies

Students are responsible for understanding and adhering to all of City University of Seattle's academic policies. The most current versions of these policies can be found in the [University Catalog](#) that is linked from the CityU Web site.

## **Antidiscrimination**

City University of Seattle and its staff and faculty are committed to supporting our students. We value equity, diversity, and inclusion as a way of life as well as the educational opportunities it provides. City U will not tolerate any form of discrimination based on race, color, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identification, socioeconomic status, or religious values. If you have experienced any discrimination based on any of the above, we encourage you to report this to the University. Please report this to your instructor. If you do not feel safe reporting this to your instructor, please report to the Provost or to the Vice President of Student Affairs.

## **Non-Discrimination & Prohibition of Sexual Harassment**

City University of Seattle adheres to all federal, state, and local civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination in employment and education. The University is committed to ensuring that the education environment is bounded by standards of mutual respect and safety and is free from discriminatory practices.

In the U.S., the University is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to ensure that all of its education programs and activities do not discriminate on the basis of sex/gender. Sex include sex, sex stereotypes, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, and pregnancy or parenting status. Sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and stalking are forms of sex discrimination, which are prohibited under Title IX and by City University of Seattle policy. City University of Seattle also prohibits retaliation against any person opposing discrimination or participating in any discrimination investigation or complaint process internal or external to the institution. Questions regarding Title IX, including its application and/or concerns about noncompliance, should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator. For a complete copy of the policy or for more information, visit the [Title IX](#) portal page or contact the Title IX Coordinator.

In Canada, in compliance with the British Columbia Human Rights Code, the Alberta Human Rights Act, WorksafeBC, and the Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta, the University believes that its environment should at all times be supportive and respectful of the dignity and self-esteem of individuals. Discrimination, harassment and bullying conduct, whether through person-to-person behaviour or via electronic communications such as email or social media is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. As an educational institution, it is our responsibility to cultivate an environment of excellence, equity, mutual respect and to recognize the value and potential of every individual. The University will take all necessary steps to meet or exceed the requirements of the law to prevent discrimination, harassment and bullying. The Respectful Workplace Policy for the prevention of discrimination, harassment and bullying policy and procedure can be found at the [CityU website](#) under the Policies section or at [CityU in Canada](#) website.

## **Religious Accommodations**

City University of Seattle has a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The University's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available in the University Catalog and on the [my.cityu.edu](http://my.cityu.edu) student portal. Accommodations must be requested by the 20% mark of this course (e.g. day 14 of a ten-week course, day 7 of a 5-week course) using the Religious Accommodations Request Form found on the student dashboard in the [my.cityu.edu](http://my.cityu.edu) student portal.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity in students requires the pursuit of scholarly activity that is free from fraud, deception and unauthorized collaboration with other individuals. Students are responsible for understanding CityU's policy on academic integrity and adhering to its standards in meeting all course requirements. A complete copy of this policy can be found in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Academic Integrity Policy*.

## **Attendance**

Students taking courses in any format at the University are expected to be diligent in their studies and to attend class regularly.

Regular class attendance is important in achieving learning outcomes in the course and may be a valid consideration in determining the final grade. For classes where a physical presence is required, a student has attended if they are present at any time during the class session. For online classes, a student has attended if they have posted or submitted an assignment. A complete copy of this policy can be in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Attendance*.

## **Final Assignment Due Date**

Final assignments for each class at CityU must be due on or before the final date of the course as indicated in the university's course information system. Due dates that extend beyond the final date of the course may negatively impact tuition funding for students.

# **Support Services**

## **Disability Services Accommodations Statement**

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Please contact Disability Support Services at [disability@cityu.edu](mailto:disability@cityu.edu) or 206.239.4752 or visit the [Disability Support Services](#) page in the [my.cityu.edu](http://my.cityu.edu) portal.

Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors.

## **Library Services**

CityU librarians are available to help students find the resources and information they need to succeed in this course. Contact a CityU librarian through the [Ask a Librarian](#) service, or access [library resources and services online](#), 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## **Smarthinking Tutoring**

CityU students have access to free online tutoring offered through Smarthinking, including writing support, from certified tutors 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Contact CityU's Student Support Center at [mycityusupport@cityu.ed](mailto:mycityusupport@cityu.ed) to request a user name and password.

## **Course Schedule**

The Course Schedule is located in the online course shell in the Syllabus, Schedule, and Course Team module.