

HL 543: Healthcare Law and Ethics

School of Business and Management

3 Credits

Effective Date Winter 2020

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

This course provides students with an overview of law, regulation, and court decisions that affect healthcare organizations, as well as ethical underpinnings and principles that healthcare organizations follow in the delivery of services. Students explore and discuss a variety of topics, including key federal and state laws; regulatory oversight and licensing of facilities and practitioners; credentialing requirements and processes; scope of practice for practitioners; admission and discharge processes; privacy and confidentiality of patient information; patient protection, including advanced directives; organizational liability; conflict of interest legislation; antitrust law; contract law governing relationships with employed physicians and other providers; risk management; and organizational governance issues.

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:

- Critique the ethical principles that healthcare organizations follow in the delivery of services.

- Predict future changes in healthcare legal and ethical governance.
- Analyze the relationship between law and ethics in healthcare.
- Evaluate the legal structures and governance of healthcare organizations.
- Investigate the legal issues in healthcare cost containment.

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

Community Health Needs Assessment Paper (30% of Final grade)

The ultimate goal of a community health needs assessment (CHNA) is to develop strategies to address the community's health needs and identify issues. A variety of tools and processes may be used to conduct a CHNA; the essential ingredients are community engagement and collaborative participation. Students will research the process of performing a CHNA and write an 8-10 page (not including cover sheet, abstract, or reference list) APA-formatted paper that includes a description of the process a tax-exempt hospital is required to perform in completing a CHNA. This description must include the steps the hospital should take to prepare for the assessment, the type of community input that is required, and what the hospital should include for the implementation strategy. Students will use the information found in research to analyze the CHNA process and whether or not it is successful in meeting the health needs of communities. A minimum of five (5) professional references must be included. References should be less than five years old in order to reflect current information.

Components	% of Grade
Style and Mechanics	15%
APA style (citations/reference list)	15%
Description of CHNA Process	30%
Meeting the Health Needs	30%
TOTAL	100%

Negligence Comparison Paper (25% of Final grade)

Individuals experience negative medical outcomes or injuries due to negligence, errors, and substandard care all around the world. Developed countries around the world have adopted one of two main malpractice systems. Tort litigation, adopted by the United States, determines compensation based on negligence. Other countries have what's known as a no-fault system. In this 8-10 page (not including cover sheet, abstract, or reference list) APA-formatted paper, students will compare and contrast the medical malpractice system in the United States to that of another developed country. This comparison should contain, but not be limited to, numbers of negligence cases per year, per capita, the costs the patient incurs in pursuing a malpractice case, and the approach those in the healthcare system take toward the patient once an injury has occurred. This paper must be grounded firmly in research and is not to contain student opinions. A minimum of five (5) professional references must be included. References should be less than five years old in order to reflect current information.

Components	% of Grade
Style and Mechanics	15%
APA style (citations/reference list)	15%
Compare and Contrast	70%
TOTAL	100%

Legal Issues in Cost Containment Paper (30% of Final grade)

Many methods of cost containment have been implemented in the United States in an attempt to control the rising cost of health care. Historically, controlling costs has been driven by third-party payers via denial or restriction of care or coverage. In this 8-10 page (not including cover sheet, abstract, or reference list) APA-formatted paper, students will analyze the legal and ethical issues in healthcare cost containment. This analysis should include, though not be limited to, managed care, selective contracting, utilization review, and financial incentives to provide less care. Students must include their conclusion, backed up with research, on how these cost containment programs have impacted the cost of care in the United States. Finally, students must predict future changes in cost containment strategies. A minimum of five (5) professional references must be included. References should be less than five years old in order to reflect current information.

Components	% of Grade
Style and Mechanics	15%
APA style (citations/reference list)	15%
Legal and Ethical Analysis	25%
Impact on Cost of Care	25%
Future Changes	20%
TOTAL	100%

Essays and Quizzes (15% 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 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 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 or 206.239.4752 or visit the [Disability Support Services](#) page in the 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.edu 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.