

1-2014

HTH 475E.02: Legal and Ethical Issues in the Health Exercise Professions

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Recommended Citation

Palmer, Charles G., "HTH 475E.02: Legal and Ethical Issues in the Health Exercise Professions" (2014). *Syllabi*. 2668.
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HTH 475E: Legal and Ethical Issues in the Exercise Professions
Spring Semester 2014, Section 2
Tuesday/Thursday 2:10-3:30pm

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Office Hours: Monday 9:00am-10:00am, Wednesday 1:00pm-2:00pm,
Thursday 9:00am-10:00am, or by appointment

Course Introduction:

HTH 475E Legal and Ethical Issues in the Exercise Professions is designed for future practitioners in the health and exercise professions. As a General Education course within the Ethics perspective, it focuses upon the major Western Traditions of ethical thought (Virtue ethics, Deontological ethics, Utilitarian ethics,) exposes students to these various traditions of thought, and helps them to analyze specific cases and issues using said traditions. Much of the focus of this class will pertain to ethics, and how they pertain to legal topics in the exercise and health professions.

Through multiple case studies, writing assignments, lecture, and applied laboratory experiences, students will gain exposure and practice in applying these basic concepts and forms of reasoning to situations specific to them as future exercise professionals. Students will also learn how to critically evaluate these concepts and forms of reasoning to see which one, if any, is most applicable to a problem at hand.

Primary Objectives:

- To become more adept at thinking about pertinent legal issues, and how they apply to various professions within the fields of Health and Human Performance
- To become more aware of the various ethical challenges that you might face or be presented with within the disciplines of HHP
- To become familiar with and learn how to apply the Western perspectives on ethical reasoning
- To help students learn how to function more efficiently in a world that is full of asymmetrical problems, thus calling for asymmetrical thinking

Readings and Texts:

- This course has a Moodle supplement. At times, various class-related information will be posted here. If you are unfamiliar with Moodle, you can visit the following website for more information: <http://umonline.umn.edu/Moodle%20Tip%20Sheets/tipsheetandvideoosstudents.aspx>. Please visit with the instructor if you have any issues with this.

- “Into Thin Air” by Jon Krakauer
- “The Climb” by Anatoli Boukreev
- “Foundations” aka “The Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals” by Immanuel Kant: sections one and two only
- “Utilitarianism” by John Stuart Mill
- “Nicomachean Ethics” by Aristotle. I recommend the translation by Terence Irwin (2nd edition): books 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, and 10
- A small, data notebook is also required

*Other materials may be incorporated, and these will come in a variety of forms (handouts, web resources, library reserve, etc.)

Assessments: The course consists of three tests: one early mid-term examination (60 points), one late mid-term exam (60 points, comprehensive), and one final examination (60 points, comprehensive). Test format will consist of true/false questions, multiple choice, short answer, and supported opinions. The content of each test will be finalized during the last class prior to each examination. Three quizzes (each worth 10 points) will also be incorporated during the semester. Also, there will be one writing assignment (worth 65 points). More information on the writing assignment is provided near the end of this syllabus. Students will also complete a team presentation, and this will be worth 25 points. Details on this presentation will be provided early in the semester. Finally, an assortment of different activities will be undertaken during the course of the semester, and combined these will account for 100 points. This is referred to as the “Lab” portion of the class. This list of activities will be elaborated upon further as the course progresses. Many of these 100 points will be related to your team activities (see below under **Team Activities**), but some may also be individually-based. There will be eleven labs over the course of the semester, but only ten will be counted (10 labs x 10 points = 100 points). Therefore, you can miss one lab and not be penalized. If a student attends all eleven labs, five additional bonus points will be added to your overall course point total. I will also be monitoring class participation throughout the semester, so throw your two pennies in when you feel it necessary. The instructor reserves the right to incorporate the Socratic teaching method, if necessary. **Anything we cover or talk about is potentially testable material!**

Team Activities: Team selections will take place early in the semester. Students will remain in teams for the duration of the semester. Many of the labs will be completed in this team environment, as well as the Group Presentation.

Grading:

93% - 100% = A (372-400 points)	73% - 76% = C (292-307 points)
90% - 92% = A- (360-371 points)	70% - 72% = C- (280-291 points)
87% - 89% = B+ (348-359 points)	67% - 69% = D+ (268-279 points)
83% - 86% = B (332-347 points)	63% - 66% = D (252-267 points)
80% - 82% = B- (320-331 points)	60% - 62% = D- (240-251 points)
77% - 79% = C+ (308-319 points)	Below 60% = F (239 points or lower)

Graduate Students: Students taking this course for graduate credit will need to fulfill an additional course requirement, as determined by the instructor. This will consist of a group project (to be presented to the class), as well as an individual After Actions Review (AAR) to be completed by each graduate student pertaining to their specific involvement in the group project. Graduate students need to contact me at the beginning of the semester.

Important Dates:

Monday, January 27	Spring Semester Classes Begin
Monday, February 17	Presidents Day – No Classes, Offices Closed
Monday-Friday, March 31-April 4	Spring Break
Friday, May 9	Last Day of Regular Classes
Monday-Friday, May 12-16	Final Exams

Attendance: Attendance on the dates of examinations, quizzes, and labs is required. Please notify me in *advance* if any class will be missed due to illness (if possible) or official university business. Since this class meets only twice per week, missing just one class can have significant impacts. **Students are responsible for obtaining all handouts, case studies, reading assignments, and materials covered while absent.** Attendance is *important!*

Student Conduct Code: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. Students can become more familiar with the Student Conduct Code, which is available online at <http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/documents/StudentConductCode1.pdf>

Just so that we are all on the same page, Section IV, A of the Student Conduct Code defines **Academic Misconduct** as: “Representing another person's words, ideas, data, or materials as one's own” (plagiarism) and “Submitting work previously presented in another course.”

Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA): The University of Montana upholds the ADA by providing reasonable accommodations to individuals with special challenges. If anyone requires reasonable accommodations to adequately perform the duties of this class, please see the instructor as soon as possible so that these issues can be addressed.

Professional Behavior: While I strive to make this class interesting and fun, I also am a strong proponent of behaving in a professional manner. The bulleted items better describe what this means:

- Cell phone usage: Since I feel this topic is extremely important, we will discuss it at length during the first class session.
- Once class has begun, the Kaimin or any other non-class reading materials need to be put away
- Come to class **on time** and **prepared** to learn.

- Notify the instructor in **advance** if you are going to come to class late, leave early, or not be in attendance
- If you are a UM athlete (in season), I need a copy of your travel letter
- Keep sidebar discussions quiet and to a minimum

Emergency Preparedness and Response

As members of a community of learning, we all have responsibilities for each other that extend beyond the teaching/learning experience. As human beings, we are responsible for the protection and well-being of the other members of our group, in this case the group being the Fall Semester class of HTH 475. Therefore, should an emergency of any type develop, the following points become quite important:

- In the event we need to evacuate the building, our primary route will be through the main classroom door, turn left, down the stairs, and exit the east doors of the building. Should that route be blocked, exit the classroom, go down the stairs, and exit the west doors of the building.
- If you hear an alarm or are told to evacuate, always assume the emergency is real. Be sure to take coats, backpacks, and valuables since the building may be closed for some time.
- If there is a need for an indoor rally point, that will be the Adams Center. We should reconvene as a group at the rally point to help determine if all members are accounted for.
- Do not use elevators as a means of evacuating, and do not use cell phones until safely away from the building.
- If you require assistance in evacuating or have any type of medical condition that will make evacuation challenging, please inform me privately and we can preplan an appropriate and safe response.

Paper Guidelines

- Students are asked to identify and analyze a legal and/or ethical issue within the Health and Exercise professions. It can be upon one of the topics discussed in class, or can be of the student's choosing. If opting for the latter, it is highly encouraged that students check with the instructor about the applicability and appropriateness of their intended topic.
- Once your topic has been identified, research it as needed. The main goal of this paper is for students to apply theory from at least one of the Western traditions of ethical thought to a current issue within the health and exercise professions. I want an **original** piece of work, not a paper you have recycled from a previous class. More details about this writing assignment will be covered during the Writing Workshop portion of the class.

Due Date: _____

Format for Paper:

- Must be typed (double-spaced) with word processing software on a computer.
- Must be greater than **1200** words, excluding title page and references (approximately 5 pages). I am much more interested in word count than number of pages! **Paper must have a word count printed on it!**
- **Must have a separate title page, which includes the paper's title, your name, and the due date centered on the page.**
- Must utilize at least three references, one of which must be a hardcopy source (in other words, not web-based). **References must be cited using American Psychological Association (APA) format.**
- Must turn in a hard copy!
- Please keep a copy for your own records!

Paper Grading:

- **20 Points:** logical thread of thought in body of paper, smooth transitions from paragraph to paragraph, support of points made by presenting related research or personal experiences, and consistency of writing as it relates to writing style (e. g. use of "I" or third person).
- **15 Points:** opening paragraph(s)- clarity of thought, providing enough information to inform the reader of the topic to be discussed, setting tone of support or criticism, getting the reader's attention, and generally, introducing the reader to what the paper is about.
- **15 Points:** closing paragraph(s)- leave the reader with a sense of closure. Leave the reader with an understanding of your point(s), and leave them with some points to ponder.
- **15 Points:** appropriateness of chosen topic, grammar, syntax, spelling, proofreading, and following directions. It will not take many simple, preventable errors to lose several/all 15 points.
- **-10 Points:** Any late paper will automatically have 10 points deducted. Papers must be received by Close of Business (COB) on the date due. COB is the start of class. For each ensuing M-W-F a paper deadline is missed, an additional five points will be deducted. No unexcused reasons allowed.

DATE	TOPIC	READING/ASSIGNMENT
January 28 th , 2014	Introduction to course	-Familiarize yourself with the syllabus -begin reading "Into Thin Air"
January 30 th	Lab #1	In Class
February 4 th	Legal/Ethical generals	Moodle: "Overview: The Ethics of Right versus Wrong" Moodle: "Ethical Fitness"
February 6 th	-Writing workshop -Lab #2	Moodle: "Shadow Scholar"

February 11 th	The legal system -Lab #3	Moodle: “Overview of the Law and the Legal System”
February 13 th	Negligence	Moodle: “Negligence Law”
February 18 th	Liability - Lab #4	
February 20 th	Moral/Ethical development Quiz #1	“Foundations” by Kant: 1 st two sections “Utilitarianism” by Mill “Nicomachean Ethics” by Aristotle: books 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 10
February 25 th	Lab #5	Study guide for EMT handed out
February 27 th	Group Presentations: Alpha	
March 4 th	-Early Midterm Test	
March 6 th	Immunity -Waivers and releases -Inherent risk-related defenses -Emergency care and first aid	Moodle: “The ABC’s of Liability Waivers” Moodle: “Assessing your insurance needs” Review EMT
March 11 th	-Lab #6	Moodle: “How to Write a Movie Review”
March 13 th	“Bigger, Stronger, Faster”	
March 18 th	Performance-enhancing substances and techniques	Moodle: “How to Write a Movie Review” Moodle: “Climbing’s Little Helper”
March 20 th	Risk Identification Risk Management	Finish “Into Thin Air” Moodle: “Due Diligence” Moodle: “Risk Management Process”
March 25 th	Lab #7	
March 27 th	Lab #8	Begin reading “The Climb” Study guide out for LMT
April 1 st	No Class	Spring Break
April 3 rd	No Class	Spring Break

April 8 th	Lying and cheating Lab #9	Moodle: “The right to do wrong: Lying to parents” Moodle: “College Students and Lying”
April 10 th	Late Midterm Test	
April 15 th	Group Presentations: Bravo	Review LMT
April 17 th	Gender Equity	Moodle: “Title IX provided women with opportunity on and off playing field”
April 22 nd	Lab #10	
April 24 th	Quiz #2	
April 29 th	Group Presentations: Charlie	
May 1 st	“The Climb” v. “ITA”	Finish “The Climb” Final Exam study guides handed out
May 6 th	Quiz #3	
May 8 th	Lab #11	
May 13 th	Final Exam	1:10-3:10

***Outline is subject to change**

Checklist: HTH 475E

Assignment	Points	Date assigned	Date due	Points earned
Research paper	65			
Group presentation	25			
Lab #1	10			
Lab #2	10			
Lab #3	10			
Lab #4	10			
Lab #5	10			
Lab #6	10			
Lab #7	10			
Lab #8	10			
Lab #9	10			
Lab #10	10			
Lab #11	10			
11 Lab bonus	(5)			
Early Midterm test	60			
Late Midterm test	60			
Final test	60			
Quiz #1	10			
Quiz #2	10			
Quiz #3	10			
Total Points	400			

*Remember, only 10 labs will be counted towards overall grade