

Pellissippi State Community College
Master Syllabus

LAW AND MEDICINE

LAW 2600

Class Hours: 3.0
Laboratory Hours: 0.0
Credit Hours: 3.0
Date Revised: 01-07-2010

Instructor:
Office No.:
Phone No.:
E-mail:

Catalog Course Description:

Study and discussion of a selected topic in law. Content will vary. May be repeated with program advisor's consent.

Entry-level Standards:

College-level competencies in logic, reading, and English are required.

Prerequisites: LAW 1000

Corequisite: None

Textbooks and Other Supplies:

1. Walston-Dunham, Beth; *Medical Malpractice Law and Litigation* (Thomson/Delmar Learning, 2006).
2. Computer data storage device, such as a travel drive.

I. WEEK, UNIT TOPIC BASIS:

WEEK	CHAPTER	TOPIC
1	C. 1 & 2	Introduction; Health Care Specialists and Medical Specialists (1 hour) Health Care Standards v. the Standard of Care (1 hour) Development of Medical Malpractice Law (1 hour)
2	C. 4	Medical Research for the lawsuit (2 hours) Risk Management in the Health Care Industry (1 hour)
3	C. 3	Medical Practice Acts in Tennessee (1 hour) Laws Affecting Health Care Facilities (1.5 hours) Medical Terminology (.5 hour)
4	C. 5 & 6	The Insurance Maze (1.5 hours) Health Care Provider Organizations (1 hour) Discovery/Disclosure of an Injury (.5 hour)
5	C.7	Orientation to the Medical Record (1.5 hours) Obtaining Copies of Medical Records (1 hour) Investigation of a potential claim by the Plaintiff (.5 hour)
6	C. 8	Investigation of a potential claim by the Defendant (.5 hour) Health Care Provider Computer Systems (1 hour) The Life Cycle of the Doctor's Order (1 hour) Use of Medical Records in Pre-trial Litigation (.5 hour)
7		Introduction to the Analysis of Medical Records (3 hours)
8		Analysis of Medical Records, continued (3 hours)
9		Chronological Analysis of Medical Records (3 hours)
10		Preparations for the Medically-oriented Deposition (3 hours)
11		The Medical Deposition: A Live Enactment (1.0 hour) Ethics in Law & Medicine: <i>And the Band Played On</i> (2.0 hours)

12	C. 9 & 10	The Pre-trial Stages of a Medical Malpractice Claim (1.5 hours)
		The Medical Malpractice Trial (1.5 hours)
13		Medical Project Presentations (3 hours)
14		Medical Trial Exhibits (3 hours)
15		Final Exam Project Presentations

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The student should:

- A. Demonstrate a complete and thorough understanding of legal ethics. I, III, V
- B. Understand the legal concept of the practice of medicine. I, II, III, IV
- C. Identify and differentiate the governmental bodies that regulate health care in Tennessee. II, V
- D. Understand the legal concept of the practice of nursing. I, II, III
- E. Understand the purpose of a medical records summary. II, III
- F. Demonstrate how to prepare a medical records summary. I, II, III, IV, V
- G. Demonstrate how to prepare a medical trial exhibit. I, II, III, IV, V
- H. Develop a medical vocabulary. I, II, III, IV
- I. Demonstrate how to acquire medical records. I, II, III
- J. Understand the relationship between law and medicine. I, II, III, IV
- K. Understand the life cycle of the doctor's order. II, III, IV
- L. Demonstrate the ability to find statutory law relating to medical practice acts. III, IV, V
- M. Distinguish between health care standards and the "reasonable person" standard of care. III
- N. Understand how to prepare for a medical lawsuit. II, III
- O. Continue developing a legal vocabulary. I, II, III, IV, V

III. INSTRUCTIONAL PROCESSES:

The student will:

1. Practice elements of the work ethic such as professionalism, preparedness, punctuality, honesty, cooperation, dependability, contribution, effectiveness, good manners, etc. *Social/Behavioral Sciences Outcome, Transitional Strategy*
2. Refine reading skills and expand legal vocabularies through completion of weekly guided reading exercises that allows more effective communication with lawyers and legal professionals. *Communication Outcome, Transitional Outcome*
3. Strengthen research skills by orienting to the medical library and to Internet sources of medical information. *Social/Behavioral Sciences Outcome, Technological Literacy Outcome, Transitional Strategy, Active Learning Strategy*
4. Examine ethical issues related to legal representation, unauthorized practice of law, confidentiality, duty of legal professional to provide legal services, etc. *Social/Behavioral Science Outcome, Transitional Strategy, Active Learning Strategy*
5. Listen to guest speakers from the legal community to learn the demands for legal assistants who possess basic knowledge of legal topics in the work world. *Transitional Strategy*.
6. Develop investigative skills using the Internet, library, and governmental agency resources to find relevant information. *Technological Literacy Outcome, Transitional Strategy, Active Learning Strategy*
7. Develop analytical skills using the medical record to find, prioritize, and organize relevant information. *Technological Literacy Outcome, Active Learning Strategy*

VI. POLICIES:

- A. **Attendance Policy:**
Pellissippi State Community College expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. [NOTE: No differentiation is noted for excused/unexcused absences. These will be treated as an absence.] (Pellissippi State Online Catalog)
- B. **Academic Dishonesty:**
Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed through the regular Pellissippi State procedures as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an F or a zero for the exercise or examination or to assign an F in the course. (Pellissippi State Online Catalog)
- C. **Computer Usage Guidelines:**
College-owned or –operated computing resources are provided for use by students of Pellissippi State. All students are responsible for the usage of Pellissippi State’s computing resources in an effective, efficient, ethical and lawful manner. (Pellissippi State Online Catalog)
- D. **Accommodation for Disabilities:**
Students who need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins134 or 126 or by phone: 694-6751 (Voice/TTY) or 539-7153. More information is available at www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/
- E. **Late Work:**
Late papers will not be accepted nor will make-up tests be given without specific approval of the instructor.