

OST 626

Healthcare Ethics: Case Studies

CLERKSHIP ELECTIVE ROTATION SYLLABUS (VIRTUAL ROTATION)

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At Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MSUCOM), we are constantly working to improve our curriculum and to meet accreditation guidelines. We need to meet the challenges of modern medicine that force us to innovate. While changes will generally be instituted at the beginning of the school year, changes may also be implemented semester to semester.

Please be mindful of the need to read your syllabi before beginning your rotation.

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ROTATION REQUIREMENTS

REQUIREMENT	SUBMISSION METHOD (for submission due dates, refer to table at the end of the syllabus)
Complete ethic cases from Graber and Wilbur's Family Medicine Examination and Board Review	D2L Dropbox entitled "Graber and Wilbur's Ethics Case Dropbox"
AMA Module Certificate of Completion	D2L Dropbox entitled "A Systems Perspective on Ethics and Law in Medicine"
Submit Reflection Essay	D2L Dropbox entitled "Reflection Essay Dropbox"
Student Evaluation of Clerkship Rotation	Students will submit their rotation evaluations electronically at the conclusion of every rotation by accessing the Medtrics system: https://msucom.medtricslab.com/users/login/ . By the last week of each rotation, students will receive an automated email link connecting them to their assigned evaluation. Students can also access pending evaluations on the 'Home' or 'Evaluations' tabs within their Medtrics accounts.

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

This rotation has been designed to cover primary topics in Healthcare Ethics. Each week will focus on one didactic topic of importance. This is a virtual rotation 2-week elective for 3 credits. All coursework will be completed in D2L (Desire2Learn). This course may be taken for a maximum of 2 weeks.

This course will fulfil elective requirements but does not count towards either medicine or surgery requirements.

ELECTIVE COURSE SCHEDULING

Preapproval

- This course does not require preapproval from the IOR. The student should follow the below directions for elective course confirmation and enrollment.

Required Prerequisites

- This course does not require any prerequisite courses.

Course Confirmation and Enrollment

- The student must be an active student at MSUCOM.
- Student must complete five core rotations prior to any elective rotation.
- It is the student's responsibility to provide the elective site/rotation acceptance material to the COM.Clerkship@msu.edu for MSU confirmation and scheduling.
 - MSUCOM clerkship confirmation is complete when the rotation is visible on the students Medtrics schedule.

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- It is the student's responsibility to ensure enrollment prior to beginning any course/rotation.
 - Enrollment will be processed by the MSUCOM Registrar's Office upon clerkship confirmation.
 - Enrollment can be verified by the student by reviewing the Student Information System
- MSUCOM confirmation must occur at least 30 days in advance of the rotation.
- Once confirmed, the rotation may only be cancelled 30 days or more in advance of the start date.

ROTATION FORMAT

This rotation has been designed to cover primary topics in advocacy and health policy. Each week will focus on one didactic topic of importance. This is a virtual rotation 2-week elective for 3 credits. All coursework will be completed in D2L (Desire2Learn). This course may be taken for a maximum of 2 weeks.

This course will fulfil elective requirements but does not count towards either medicine or surgery requirements.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOALS

1. The goal of this course is to increase students' understanding of medical ethics.

OBJECTIVES

1. Define the four principles of medical ethics.
2. Understand how to identify and evaluate the issues in an ethics case.
3. Know how to critically appraise and discuss ethics cases.

COMPETENCIES

Medical Knowledge

- Apply ethical and medical jurisprudence principles to patient care. (II.3.e)

Patient Care

- Demonstrate information literacy and the ability to find and apply evidence-based literature as part of the management plan. (III.4.a)
- Recognize and respond appropriately to the ethical dimensions of clinical decision making. (III.4.l)

Professionalism

- Promote public confidence in the osteopathic medical profession. (V.4.i)
- Apply the ethical principles of autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, fidelity, justice, and utility. (V.6.f)
- Incorporate appropriate ethical principles in business as well as in medical practices. (V.6.g)
- Demonstrate the ability to take responsibility for one's own actions, including errors. (V.6.j)

COLLEGE PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

In addition to the above course-specific goals and learning objectives, this clerkship rotation also facilitates student progress in attaining the College Program Objectives. Please refer to the complete list provided on the MSUCOM website (<https://com.msu.edu/>) and in the Student Handbook.

REFERENCES

REQUIRED STUDY RESOURCES

Desire 2 Learn (D2L): Please find online content for this course in D2L (<https://d2l.msu.edu/>). Once logged in with your MSU Net ID, your course will appear on the D2L landing page. If you do not see your course on the landing page, search for the course with the following criteria, and pin it to your homepage: **OST 626 Healthcare Studies: Case Studies**.

If you encounter any issues accessing this D2L course, please email the CA (on the title page of this syllabus). It is your responsibility to make sure you have access to the course D2L page on the first day of the course.

Student D2L email addresses must be forwarded to your MSU email account.

Jonsen AR, Siegler M, Winslade WJ. eds. *Clinical Ethics: A Practical Approach to Ethical Decisions in Clinical Medicine*, 9e. McGraw Hill; Accessed 2022. <https://accessmedicine-mhmedical-com.proxy1.cl.msu.edu/Book.aspx?bookid=3130>

SUGGESTED STUDY RESOURCES

Recommended Texts

Fink, S. (2013). **Five days at Memorial**: life and death in a storm-ravaged hospital. First edition. New York: Crown Publishers. <https://research-ebSCO-com.proxy1.cl.msu.edu/c/w2e2mj/search/details/36qar2r7xb?db=edsbro>

Washington, H. A. (2006). *Medical apartheid: The dark history of medical experimentation on Black Americans from colonial times to the present*. Doubleday Books. <https://research-ebSCO-com.proxy1.cl.msu.edu/c/f3p2dw/search/details/fdnjfv4bv?db=nlebk>

Recommended Websites

<https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/home>

READINGS/OBJECTIVES/ASSIGNMENTS

There are four modules that are to be completed in D2L covering the following topics:

- Principles of bioethics
- Four Case Studies:
 - Terry Schiavo
 - Hurricane Katrina
 - Tuskegee Airman
 - Baby Doe

REFLECTION ESSAY

The body of the essay should be a minimum of 1,500 words and formatted as follows: double spaced, Calibri, 11pt, 1" margins. Your assignment should also include a title page with the following information: name, year (OMS-III or IV), rotation dates, rotation section and word count (body of essay only). The grading rubric can be located on D2L for your review.

The topic of the essay may either be an ethical dilemma that you encountered during your clinical rotations or may be based on ethical dilemmas arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Do not include any case discussions, use your experiences only to help you select a topic. If you are not sure if your topic is appropriate, please contact Dr. Azevedo for approval. **Do not include any case specific information in the essay. Do not include any content that would be covered under HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability).**

Please contact the Instructor, Instructor of Record or Course Assistant (information on the title page of this syllabus) with any questions or concerns.

ONLINE MODULES OR CONFERENCES

A Systems Perspective on Ethics and Law in Medicine; AMA Ed Hub

<https://edhub.ama-assn.org/health-systems-science/interactive/18887229>

Graber and Wilbur's Ethical Case Studies

<https://accessmedicine-mhmedical-com.proxy2.cl.msu.edu/cases.aspx?qboscontainerid=231&groupid=967>

Ethics Section

- Ethics Case 26.01
- Ethics Case 26.02
- Ethics Case 26.03
- Ethics Case 26.04
- Ethics Case 26.05

ROTATION EVALUATIONS

Student Evaluation of Clerkship Rotation

Students will submit their rotation evaluations electronically at the conclusion of every rotation by accessing the Medtrics system: <https://msucom.medtricslab.com/users/login/>. By the last week of each rotation, students will receive an automated email link connecting them to their assigned evaluation for the respective rotation. Students can also access their pending evaluations on the 'Home' or 'Evaluations' tabs within their Medtrics accounts.

Unsatisfactory Clinical Performance

The Instructor of Record will review/investigate a student's performance on a rotation when a concern is raised by the supervisor(s), and/or when the Attending Evaluation of Clerkship Student contains any below expectation marks within the professionalism area, any unsatisfactory written comments, or a total of two or more below average marks on the evaluation. After investigations, the Instructor of Record will determine a final grade for the student.

Professionalism concerns, as well as accolades, will also be referred to the MSUCOM Spartan Committee Clearinghouse for resolution, per MSUCOM's Common Ground Framework for Professional Conduct.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The following assignments are eligible for corrective action. Students who were not successful on these assignments during the course will receive an NGR grade and permitted to go through a 'corrective action' process. Corrective Action and will be due no later than 14 days after the last day of the rotation at 11:59pm:

- A Systems Perspective on Ethics and Law in Medicine course
- Graber and Wilbur's Family Medicine Examination and Board Review, Ethics Cases
- Reflection Essay

The missing requirement will be required, in addition to:

- The student will be required to meet with the IOR.
- The student will then be required to complete a 3-page essay on professionalism.

The student is responsible for contacting the Course Assistant (on the title page of this syllabus) if they believe missing assignments were reported in error, or if they are unclear about the corrective action process.

While it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the Attending Evaluation of Clerkship Student is completed, this requirement may extend beyond the corrective action deadline.

If a student **successfully completes** the corrective action process, as determined by the IOR, the student will receive credit for the deficient academic grading requirement(s) and be eligible for a change in rotation grade (from NGR to Pass, pending the Attending Evaluation of Clerkship Student)

As determined by the IOR, the student will receive an N grade for the course if all assignments and the corrective action process are **not completed** successfully within 14 days after the last day of rotation at 11:59pm (except for the Attending Evaluation). Additionally, a letter of unprofessional behavior for late submission of assignments will be sent to the MSUCOM Spartan Community Clearinghouse.

BASE HOSPITAL REQUIREMENTS

Students are responsible for completing all additional requirements set by the hospital/clinical site at which they are completing a rotation. Students are not responsible for reporting to MSUCOM the results of any requirements that exist outside of those listed above.

COURSE GRADES

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All rotation requirements must be completed to determine a grade for the course. Students are required to ensure their rotation requirements are completed and submitted correctly.

P/Pass – means that credit is granted, and that the student achieved a level of performance judged to be satisfactory by the department according to the student's didactic and clinical performance.

NGR/No Grade Reported – means that a final grade ('Pass' or 'No Grade') cannot be determined due to one or more missing course requirements. The NGR grade will be changed to a final grade once all the completed course requirements have been submitted to and processed by MSUCOM (either to the department or Clerkship Team). An 'NGR' grade will NOT remain on a student's transcript.

N/No Grade – means that no credit is granted, and that the student did not achieve a level of performance judged to be satisfactory by the department according to the student's didactic and clinical performance.

N Grade Policy

Students who fail this rotation will have to repeat the entire rotation and fulfill all (clinical and academic) requirements.

MSU COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE STANDARD POLICIES

The following are standard MSUCOM policies across all Clerkship rotations.

CLERKSHIP ATTENDANCE POLICY

MSUCOM requires student participation in clerkship rotations and clinical activities with consistent attendance to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for successful program completion. This policy will define the policy and procedures regarding absences for clerkship activities. [Policy - Clerkship Absence 2025.pdf](#)

POLICY FOR MEDICAL STUDENT SUPERVISION

The MSUCOM curriculum includes required clinical experiences in a variety of clinical learning environments. The Medical Student Supervision Policy outlines all supervision agreements and expectations. [Clerkship Medical Student Supervision Policy.pdf](#)

MSUCOM STUDENT HANDBOOK

The Student Handbook is published electronically by MSUCOM for students in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine program. This handbook does not supersede other Michigan State University or College of Osteopathic Medicine policies, regulations, agreements, or guidelines. <https://osteopathicmedicine.msu.edu/current-students/student-handbook>.

COMMON GROUND FRAMEWORK FOR PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The Common Ground Framework provides the MSUCOM community with a reminder of the unity of mind, body, and spirit that underlines the field of osteopathic medicine. The framework is a set of guiding, foundational principles that underpin professional conduct

and integrity and applies to all professionals at work within the shared college community, independent of their specific roles or responsibilities.

<https://osteopathicmedicine.msu.edu/about-us/common-ground-professionalism-initiative>

MEDICAL STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The rights and responsibilities of students enrolled in MSUCOM are defined by the medical colleges of Michigan State University, including the College of Osteopathic Medicine, the College of Human Medicine, and the College of Veterinary Medicine. Students enrolled in the professional curricula of these colleges are identified as “medical students.” These colleges collectively define “Medical Student Rights and Responsibilities” (MSRR). This document addresses academic rights and responsibilities, governance, procedures for complaints, due process, and other topics. The current version is available on the MSU Spartan Life website at the address below: <http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/medical-student-rights-and-responsibilities-mssr>

MSU EMAIL

MSU email is the official communication from faculty and staff to students and students are responsible for checking it daily and maintaining their MSU email accounts so that messages can be received. Students are responsible for responding to email in a timely manner or as otherwise outlined in course communication.

Forwarding MSU email to another email account or failure to check email are not valid excuses for missing a deadline or other requirements of the DO program.

Please Note: Student D2L email addresses must be forwarded to your MSU email account.

Further, students must use secure email when working in a hospital, clinic, or other health care setting if discussion of patient information is involved. MSUNet (msu.edu) email is secure; many web-based email systems including Hotmail, Gmail, and Yahoo are not. <https://osteopathicmedicine.msu.edu/current-students/student-handbook>.

DUTY HOURS AND FATIGUE MITIGATION

The accreditation standards for graduate medical education programs include restrictions on the duty hours of residents. Additionally, institutions are expected to promote a clinical learning environment in which duty hours are monitored and strategies exist to mitigate the effects of fatigue. [Clerkship Duty Hours and Fatigue Mitigation Policy.pdf](#)

STUDENT EXPOSURE PROCEDURE

A protocol has been developed by the University Physician to report incidents of exposure, e.g., needle sticks, mucous membrane exposure, tuberculosis exposure, etc., and it may be found here:

<https://osteopathicmedicine.msu.edu/current-students/clerkship-medical-education/injury-and-property-damage-reports>

Contact Associate Dean for Clerkship Education, Dr. Susan Enright (enright4@msu.edu), if exposure incident occurs.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION LETTERS

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD) at 517-884-RCPD, or on the web at www.rcpd.msu.edu. Once a student's eligibility for (clinical and/or testing) accommodation(s) are determined, the student may be issued an Accommodation Letter. Students must present their letter to the Clerkship Team (COM.Clerkship@msu.edu) at the start of the semester in which they intend to use their accommodations (for tests, projects, labs, etc.). Accommodation requests received after the semester onset will be honored whenever possible.

If modifications, updates, or extensions to an existing letter are made after the semester begins, it is the responsibility of the student to submit the newest version to the Clerkship Team if he/she intends to utilize the accommodation going forward.

SUMMARY OF GRADING REQUIREMENTS

*For any below information requiring an item be uploaded to D2L, students must ensure it is put into the correct folder within the correct section for their course.

Requirement	Submission Method	Pass	No Grade Reported	No Pass
Complete AMA Module	Submit the Certificate of completion to the D2L "A Systems Perspective on Ethics and Law in Medicine"	Must be completed and uploaded by 11:59 pm, the last day of the rotation, to the appropriate dropbox.	Will be the conditional grade until all requirements of this rotation are met.	Failure to complete and submit within 14 days from the end of the rotation AND/OR Failure to complete the Corrective Action Assigned
Complete ethics cases from Graber & Wilbur's Family Medicine Examination and Board Review	Submit the report showing completion of Cases to the D2L "Graber and Wilbur's Ethic Case Dropbox."	Must be completed and uploaded by 11:59 pm, the last day of the rotation, to the appropriate dropbox.	Will be the conditional grade until all requirements of this rotation are met.	Failure to complete and submit within 14 days from the end of the rotation AND/OR Failure to complete the Corrective Action Assigned
Reflection Essay	Submit the Certificate of completion to the D2L "Medscape Course Certificate Dropbox."	Must be completed and uploaded by 11:59 pm, the last day of the rotation, to the appropriate dropbox.	Will be the conditional grade until all requirements of this rotation are met.	Failure to complete and submit within 14 days from the end of the rotation AND/OR Failure to complete the Corrective Action Assigned
Student Evaluation of Clerkship Rotation	Can be accessed and submitted electronically by students within the dashboard of their Medtrics profiles	Completed 100% by 11:59 pm the last day of the rotation	Will be the conditional grade until all requirements of this rotation are met.	Failure to complete and submit within 14 days from the last day of the rotation