

Colorado CTE Course – Scope and Sequence

Course Name	Ethical and Legal Issues in Health Professions / HPR 1008		Course = 0.50 Carnegie Unit Credit
Course Description	This one-semester course is an introduction to the concepts of medical law and ethics for health professions. Topics including criminal and civil acts, contracts, negligence, and ethical concepts as they relate to the medical profession, as well as management care, HIPAA, and other healthcare legislative rulings.		
Note:	This is a suggested scope and sequence for the course content. The content will work with any textbook or instructional resource. If locally adapted, make sure all competencies are covered. Please contact your local community college partner for credit options available.		
Schedule:	Schedule calculation based on 120 contact hours. 60% of instruction time should be geared toward meeting the course competencies in the scope and sequence. The remaining 40% of the instructional time allows for guest speakers, student presentations, field trips, remediation, or other content topics.		
All courses taught in an approved CTE program must include Essential Skills embedded into the course content. The Essential Skills Framework for this course can be found at https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/essentialskills Additional resource: National Health Science Standards			
Instructional Unit Topic	Suggested Length of Instruction	CTE or Academic Standard Alignment	Competency / Outcomes
Foundations of Medical Law and Ethics: Overview	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Explain the importance of medical law and ethics. 2. Describe the history of medical law and ethics. 3. Explain how law and ethics are interrelated yet distinct. 4. Describe why business is involved in healthcare.
Foundations of Medical Law and Ethics: Professional Ethics	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Identify and discuss fundamental ethical principles. 2. Define the relationship between ethics and professional organizations. 3. Describe factors influencing the development and interpretation of ethical rules. 4. Explain the difficulty of applying ethical rules in day-to-day practices. 5. Describe the role of medical ethics committees in the healthcare environment.

Foundations of Medical Law and Ethics: Source of Law and Regulations	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Describe the purpose of the US Constitution and how it relates to healthcare. 2. Describe the amendments to the US Constitution and how they relate to healthcare. 3. List the three branches of the federal government. 4. Describe at least three roles of each branch of the federal government. 5. Compare the roles of the federal, state, and local governments in healthcare.
The Healthcare Environment: Certification and Licensing of Healthcare Professionals	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Describe at least two legal and ethical issues related to two or more evolving healthcare professions. 2. Describe the benefits of earning a license or certificate. 3. Describe the process of obtaining and maintaining a license or certificate. 4. Describe how the rights of professionals and the safety of the public are protected through the licensing and certification of healthcare professionals. 5. Describe the role of professional organizations as they relate to credentialing.
The Healthcare Environment: Civil Liability of Healthcare Practitioners	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Describe the basic components of negligence. 2. Explain the difference between unintentional and intentional torts. 3. Explain civil battery and assault. 4. Describe the components of a contract. 5. Describe defenses to civil liability.
The Healthcare Environment: Criminal Liability of Healthcare Practitioners	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Describe the difference between civil liability and criminal punishment. 2. Explain how crime involves more than intentional wrongdoing. 3. Describe how changes in healthcare practice affect criminal law.

The Healthcare Environment: Federal Statutes and Regulations That Impact Healthcare	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Describe the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and explain the controversy over the Act. 2. Explain Medicare, Medicaid, and related laws. 3. Describe the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and explain who is covered by the Act. 4. Name the two types of access that healthcare facilities must provide according to the ADA and provide examples of each. 5. Explain how HIPAA and HITECH work to ensure privacy protection. 6. Explain the purpose of the Rehabilitation Act and the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act.
The Healthcare Environment: Managing Risk in Healthcare	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Describe how competence and informed consent are important to reducing risk. 2. Describe how insurance companies are involved in malpractice claims. 3. Describe actions you might take when you identify a risk.
The Healthcare Environment: The Patient-Professional Relationship	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Describe what informed consent means, when it is needed, and how it can be given. 2. Explain why confidentiality between a provider and a patient is important and when it can be broken. 3. Articulate the role of medical professionals in terms of patient advocacy. 4. Explain legal and ethical challenges that arise when a patient refuses medical treatment. 5. Provide the legal definition of abandonment and the legal reasons a patient-provider relationship can end.
Healthcare, Law, and Ethics across the Lifespan: Minors-Health Law and Ethics	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Describe the legal responsibilities of parents and guardians for the health of a minor under their care. 2. Explain the rights of minors in general and related to specific health decisions and treatments.

			- Describe the requirements for mandatory reporting of personal medical information about minors. - Discuss laws related to child abuse.
Healthcare, Law, and Ethics across the Lifespan: Adults- Health Law and Ethics	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	- Describe the laws related to medical care for adults. - Explain the requirements of healthcare providers for reporting domestic violence. - Identify some of the legal requirements of medical facilities. - Describe laws related to the mandating of tests for drugs and HIV. - Explain the legal responsibilities of medical providers regarding non-English speakers and situations in which culture affects healthcare decisions.
Healthcare, Law, and Ethics across the Lifespan: Older Adults- Health Law and Ethics	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	- Explain the laws related to giving others authority to arrange healthcare for a patient, including medical care for end-of-life and mental health care for the elderly. - Discuss the requirements of healthcare providers for reporting medical situations. - List some of the legal requirements of medical facilities related to reporting elder abuse.
Evolving Areas of Law and Ethics: Health Information Technology	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	- Describe the laws related to electronic health records, telehealth, and mobile applications. - Articulate the pros and cons of selling data and the related legal issues.

			3. Explain what a security breach is, how individuals and organizations can prevent breaches, and how to respond to them when they do occur.
Evolving Areas of Law and Ethics: Genetics and Drugs	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Describe the laws and ethics related to genetic technologies, research, and testing. 2. Explain the process and legal issues related to drug development, drug approval, and medical devices. 3. Articulate how innovations are protected through legal pathways.
Evolving Areas of Law and Ethics: Complexity of Facilities Administration	4%	NCHSE 5.1, 6.1, 8.1	1. Explain the legal responsibilities of states in carrying out federal laws. 2. Describe the legal and ethical responsibilities of a wide variety of healthcare facilities and the departments within them.

Academic Standards Alignment

Colorado CTE courses are required to integrate academic and essential skills into course content. The following academic standards have been identified as aligned to this course and should be integrated throughout instruction.

[CO CTE Academic Standards Resources](#) (Rubrics, integration strategies, etc)

[CDE Colorado Academic Standards Online](#) (Online standards lookup tool)

Reading, Writing, & Communicating

Standard 1: Oral Expression and Listening

- **Prepared Graduate 1:** Collaborate effectively as group members or leaders who listen actively and respectfully; pose thoughtful questions, acknowledge the ideas of others; and contribute ideas to further the group's attainment of an objective.
- **Prepared Graduate 2:** Deliver effective oral presentations for varied audiences and varied purposes.

Standard 2: Reading for All Purposes

- **Prepared Graduate 3:** Read a wide range of literary texts to build knowledge and to better understand the human experience.
- **Prepared Graduate 4:** Read a wide range of informational texts to build knowledge and to better understand the human experience.

Standard 3: Writing and Composition

- **Prepared Graduate 9:** Demonstrate mastery of their own writing process with clear, coherent, and error-free polished products.

Standard 4: Research Inquiry and Design

- **Prepared Graduate 10:** Gather information from a variety of sources; analyze and evaluate its quality and relevance; and use it ethically to answer complex questions.

Note: Mathematics and Science standards will be added in the future. Visit the [Colorado Academic Standards](#) page for the most current version.