Health Administration Law
HLTH-5140
SU 2021  Section 01  3 Credits  05/31/2021 to 07/30/2021  Modified 05/13/2021

Meeting Times

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. (via Zoom)

Contact Information

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Description

The course introduces the law and legal processes that affect health administration. The course presents an overview of legal principles concerned with torts, contracts, and liability in health administration, including the legal standing of individuals covered by various types of health administration. Legal elements of labor relations in the health care field and the legal obligations and malpractice law are discussed as they apply to health professionals.

Requisites
None

Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes

- Student will be able to describe the broad general legal environment in health administration.
- Students will be able to evaluate medical practice impacts on physicians and allied health professional in health service organizations.
- Students will be able to construct and interpret employment contracts and other related contracts, such as outsourced vendor contracts.
- Students will be able to identify the elements and legal requirements of labor negotiations and contracts.

Competencies

- Legal Principles - Discuss and critically analyze health-related legal principles
- Health Policy - Define the operational and economic impact of select health policies on the delivery of health care services

Required Textbook

Problems in Health Care Law (W/access code)
Author: Steiner
Deliverables

Persuasive Paper

Each student will be expected to complete and submit a persuasive paper of 8 to 10 pages (not counting cover page, bibliography, etc.) in length on a topic and issue of his or her choosing related to some aspect of health care law. Selection of the topic and issue is due Week #2 and a rough draft should be submitted by Week #5. Do not make this aspect of the paper more difficult than it has to be. You can easily find items of current interest in a brief internet search or pulling up one of the many media websites. I can also suggest other places to get some ideas.

A word of advice: Before submitting either the rough draft or the final version of your paper, you should be sure to check spelling and grammar. MS Word has an integrated tool that is quite useful for this purpose. You are also encouraged to have somebody else read both versions of your paper in advance of turning it in. Clear written communication is imperative in the business world - and health care is no exception. Therefore, I am just as interested in your writing style, organization, and persuasiveness as I am in the topic and issue you choose. Your objective should be to present and discuss the issue, describe viable (and possibly competing) options to resolve it, and then convince the reader why one of those options (or one you come up with completely on your own) is the optimum choice.

Weekly "Quizzes"

The first two times I taught this course, I gave a final exam. In response to many comments (and subtle threats of bodily harm) that I received, I decided the third time that we would go with chapter review questions. These were questions that were submitted roughly at the time that we covered the corresponding chapter in class. As much as I would like to be able to set a schedule in stone, another thing that I learned is that I am overly optimistic as to how much material we will be able to cover. Therefore, please remain flexible and I will too. A comment that I received the third time, and which I tried this past fall, was that the students wanted to go over the answers in class. Students said that going over the chapter questions was helpful.

Paper Presentation

Each student will have the opportunity to present the class and instructor with an overview and highlights of his or her persuasive paper. The presentation should be in PowerPoint format. A hard copy of the slide deck should be given to the instructor at least one day prior to the presentation. Presentations should be no longer than about 20 minutes in length (or we will never get through them all). Practice at least once ahead of time to gauge whether you will exceed the allotted time. The presentation and slides (formatting, language, etc.) should be of a professional nature. Plus, you should be prepared to answer questions from the instructor and other students. (Won't that be fun?)

Class Participation

The success and quality of this class will depend heavily upon class participation. Moreover, your instructor cannot stand up in front of the class and talk for four hours straight without losing his voice (seriously), not to mention his sanity. My intent is that the class sessions be more of an informal interactive discussion as we go through the materials. In contrast, law school classes often employ the notorious Socratic method, whereby the instructor engages in a didactic discourse, but also takes sadistic pleasure in calling on students at random to answer esoteric questions related to the subject matter (usually an appellate court opinion). However, for our class, I would rather students voluntarily share their knowledge and experiences. I have taught this course both on the main campus and as part of a cohort program through SSM. Every student who has been in my class has worked in health care in one aspect or another, which has contributed greatly to the discussions.

Evaluation

Criteria

Final grade will be based on:
Persuasive Paper (40%)
Chapter Quizzes (30%)
Paper Presentation (20%)
Class Attendance/Participation (10%)

Final grades will be in accordance with Webster University guidelines for graduate students.

### Schedule

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<th>When</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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| Week #1| Introduction to the American Legal System; Health Care Legal Organizations | Introductions, Overview
Chapter 1: All (including Appendix 1-1)
Chapter 2: pages 27-47, 49-55 |
| Week #2| Contracting Basics and Strategies; Individual Providers and Caregivers | Additional Materials on Contracts
Chapter 4: All (including Appendix 4-1)
Submit a hard copy to the instructor of the issue you intend to cover in your research paper. |
| Week #3| Medical Staff; Patients, Providers, and Duties of Care                 | Chapter 5: All
Chapter 6: All |
| Week #4| Decision-Making Concerning Individuals; Tort Liability                  | Chapter 7: All
Chapter 11: pages 351-363, 364-384 |
| Week #5| Civil and Criminal Penalties                                            | Chapter 12: All
Submit a rough draft of your persuasive paper to the instructor. |
| Week #6| Health Care Payment Systems; Antitrust                                  | Chapter 9: All
Chapter 14: All |
| Week #7| Regulation of Healthcare Facilities, Equipment, Devices and Drugs      | Chapter 3: All |
| Week #8| Persuasive Paper Presentations                                          | Given the number of students in the class, we will likely have two weeks of persuasive paper presentations. |
| Week #9| Persuasive Paper Presentations                                          | Submit a final version of your persuasive paper to the instructor along with a copy of your PowerPoint presentation. |

### Course Policies

#### Institutional Policies

#### Academic Policies

Academic policies provide students with important rights and responsibilities. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with all academic policies that apply to them. Academic policies for undergraduate students can be found in the Undergraduate Studies Catalog; graduate students should review the Graduate Studies Catalog.

**Undergraduate Studies Catalog**

The Undergraduate Studies Catalog contains academic policies that apply to all undergraduate students. The academic policies...
and information section of the catalog contains important information related to attendance, conduct, academic honesty, grades, and more. If you are an undergraduate student, please review the catalog each academic year. The current Undergraduate Studies Catalog is at:

http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/undergraduate-catalog/

Graduate Studies Catalog

The Graduate Studies Catalog contains academic policies that apply to all graduate students. The academic policies section of the catalog contains important information related to conduct, academic honesty, grades, and more. If you are a graduate student, please review the catalog each academic year. The current Graduate Studies Catalog is at:

http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/graduate-catalog/

Grading

The Grades section of the academic catalog outlines the various grading systems courses may use, including the information about the final grade reported for this class.

Undergraduate

http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/undergraduate-catalog/academic-policies.html#grading

Graduate

http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/graduate-catalog/academic-policies.html#grades

Incomplete

There are important policies that govern grades of Incomplete (I), including the circumstances under which Incomplete grades are granted, deadlines for completion, and consequences should the remaining course work not be completed. It is the responsibility of a student who requests an Incomplete to ensure that he/she understands and follows the policies.

Grade Appeals

Instructors are responsible for assigning grades, and student should discuss grade issues with the instructor. Policies and procedures for appealing grades are available in the appropriate catalog.

Academic Honesty Policy

Webster University is committed to academic excellence. As part of our Statement of Ethics, we strive to preserve academic honor and integrity by repudiating all forms of academic and intellectual dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism and all other forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and is subject to a disciplinary response. Students are encouraged to talk to instructors about any questions they may have regarding how to properly credit others’ work, including paraphrasing, quoting, and citation formatting. The university reserves the right to utilize electronic databases, such as Turnitin.com, to assist faculty and students with their academic work.

The University’s Academic Honesty Policy is published in academic catalogs:

Undergraduate

http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/undergraduate-catalog/academic-policies.html

Graduate

http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/graduate-catalog/academic-policies.html

As a part of the University commitment to academic excellence, the Academic Resource Center provides student resources to become better acquainted with academic honesty and the tools to prevent plagiarism in its many forms:
Statement of Ethics

Webster University strives to be a center of academic excellence. The University makes every effort to ensure the following:

- The opportunity for students to learn and inquire freely
- The protection of intellectual freedom and the rights of professors to teach
- The advancement of knowledge through scholarly pursuits and relevant dialogue

To review Webster University's statement of ethics, see the Undergraduate Studies Catalog and the Graduate and Studies Catalog:

**Undergraduate**
http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/undergraduate-catalog/overview.html#ethics

**Graduate**
http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/graduate-catalog/ethics.html

Contact Hours for this Course

It is essential that all classes meet for the full instructional time as scheduled. A class cannot be shortened in length. If a class session is cancelled for any reason, the content must be covered at another time.

Important Academic Resources

**Academic Accommodations**

Webster University makes every effort to accommodate individuals with academic/learning, health, physical and psychological disabilities. To obtain accommodations, students must identify themselves and provide documentation from a qualified professional or agency to the appropriate campus designee or the Academic ADA Coordinator at the main campus. The Academic ADA Coordinator may be reached at 314-246-7700 or disability@webster.edu.

If you have already identified as a student with a documented disability and are entitled to classroom or testing accommodations, please inform the instructor of the accommodations you will require for this class at the beginning of the course.

**Academic Resource Center**

Additional support and resources may be accessed through the Academic Resource Center (ARC). Support and resources include academic counseling, accommodations, assistive technology, peer tutoring, plagiarism prevention, testing center services, and writing coaching. Visit www.webster.edu/arc or Loretto Hall 40 on the main campus for more information.

**Student Success Portal**

Webster University’s Student Success Portal, powered by Starfish, is a communications tool to connect students with faculty members and campus support services. It allows faculty and staff members to communicate with you regarding academic achievements as well as areas where support may be helpful. You may use the portal to contact faculty and staff members for assistance and to arrange meetings. Activity in the portal will be communicated to your Webster University email account. The Student Success Portal is available via your course home page in WorldClassRoom or via Connections. Learn more about the Student Success Portal at http://www.webster.edu/success/students.html.

**University Library**

Webster University Library is dedicated to supporting the research needs and intellectual pursuits of students throughout the University's worldwide network. Resources include print and electronic books, journal articles, online databases, DVDs and streaming video, CDs and streaming music, datasets, and other specialized information. Services include providing materials at no cost and research help for basic questions to in-depth exploration of resources. The gateway to all of these resources and services is http://library.webster.edu. For support navigating the library’s resources, see
Drops and Withdrawals

Drop and withdrawal policies dictate processes for students who wish to unenroll from a course. Students must take proactive steps to unenroll; informing the instructor is not sufficient, nor is failing to attend. In the early days of the term or semester, students may DROP a course with no notation on their student record. After the DROP deadline, students may WITHDRAW from a course; in the case of a WITHDRAW, a grade of W appears on the student record. After the WITHDRAW deadline, students may not unenroll from a course. Policies and a calendar of deadlines for DROP and WITHDRAW are at:

**Undergraduate**  

**Graduate**  
[http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/graduate-catalog/enrollment.html](http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/graduate-catalog/enrollment.html)

Current tuition rates, policies, and procedures, including details of pro-rated tuition refunds, are available in the “Tuition, Fees, and Refunds” section of Webster’s Academic Catalogs:

**Undergraduate**  

**Graduate**  
[http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/graduate-catalog/tuition.html](http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/graduate-catalog/tuition.html)

Student Handbook and Other Important Policies

Student handbook and other non-academic policies may apply to you and may impact your experience in this class. Such policies include the student code of conduct, privacy, technology and communications, and more. Please review the handbook each year and be aware of policies that apply to you. The handbook is available at:


Sexual Assault, Harassment, and Other Sexual Offenses

Webster University makes every effort to educate the community to prevent sexual assault, harassment, and other sexual offenses from occurring, and is committed to providing support to those affected when this behavior does occur. To access information and resources or to review the Policy on Sexual Assault, Harassment, and Other Sexual Offenses, visit:

[http://www.webster.edu/sexual-misconduct/](http://www.webster.edu/sexual-misconduct/)

Research on Human Subjects

The Webster University Institutional Review Committee (IRB) is responsible for the review of all research on human subjects. The IRB process applies to all Webster University faculty, staff, and students and must be completed prior to any contact with human subjects. For more information on the IRB, visit:

[http://www.webster.edu/irb/index.html](http://www.webster.edu/irb/index.html)

Course Evaluations

At the end of this course, you will have the opportunity to provide feedback about your experience. Your input is extremely valuable to the university, your instructor, and the department that offers this course. Please provide your honest and thoughtful evaluation, as it helps the university to provide the best experience possible for all of its students.
**Important Technology Information**

**Connections Accounts**

Webster University provides all students, faculty, and staff with a University email account through Connections. Students are expected to activate their Connections account and regularly check incoming University email. Students may choose to have their University email forwarded to an alternate email address. Connections account holders can call the Help Desk (314-246-5995 or toll free at 1-866-435-7270) for assistance with this setup. Instructions are also provided on the Information Technology website at:

[http://www.webster.edu/technology/service-desk/](http://www.webster.edu/technology/service-desk/)

**WorldClassRoom**

WorldClassRoom is Webster’s Learning Content Management System (LMS). Your instructor may use WorldClassRoom to deliver important information, to hold class activities, to communicate grades and feedback, and more. WorldClassRoom is available using your Connections ID at:

[https://worldclassroom.webster.edu/](https://worldclassroom.webster.edu/)

**Webster Alerts**

Webster Alerts is the University's preferred emergency mass notification service, available free to current students, faculty and staff at all US campuses. By registering a valid cell phone number and email address, you will receive urgent campus text, voice mail and email communications. Valuable information concerning a range of incidents affecting you - from weather-related campus closures, class delays and cancellations, to more serious or life-threatening events - are immediately and simultaneously delivered through multiple communication channels. To register for Webster Alerts, visit:

[http://www.webster.edu/technology/services/webster-alerts/](http://www.webster.edu/technology/services/webster-alerts/)