Course Syllabus

Course Prefix / Number: HSC4658
Course Title: End-of-Life Ethics
Course Credit Hours: 3
Instructor Name and Contact Information: Karen Valaitis, ph: 857-6005; kvalaitis@uwf.edu
Prerequisites or Co-Requisites: None

Course Description
This course will explore conflicting world views related to the confrontation of illness, suffering and death.

Course Goals
Upon completion of the course, students will explore the philosophical approaches and classical approaches of medical ethics. Also students will study current events pertaining to end of life issues and learn how to use the medical ethics lenses when looking at sensitive situations.

Topics
1. Introduction to Medical Ethics
2. Medical Futility
3. Assisted Suicide
4. Real cases
5. Importance of DNR and Advance Directives
6. Top Issues in Medical Ethics
7. Death with Dignity
8. End of life movies/Readings
9. Participation in discussion forums

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)
1. Define basic terms and philosophies of medical ethics.
2. Summarize the meaning of futile care.
3. Summarize the meaning and use of Advance Directives.
4. Explain the current issues in bioethics.
5. Determine the importance of Dying with Dignity
6. Explore and reflect on issues dealing with end of life.

Texts / Materials
Required text:
Required Materials:
1. Internet Access
2. E-mail Account
3. Capability to rent or purchase the following movies:
   - Million Dollar Baby
   - Wit
   - The Doctor

Grading & Evaluation
Evaluation will be based on a total of 330 points:
- Glossary = 10 points
- Quizzes (3) = 40 total points
- Essays (8) from topics within modules: 150 total points
- Discussion Forum = 30 total points (must be answered with some thought. I will not accept 2 word answers such as "I agree". Each of these discussions I have chosen are meant for you to put some thought into them and apply what you have learned from this class as you submit your thoughts to the discussion board.
- Final: 100 points

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:
- 90 - 100%: A
- 80 - 89%: B
- 70 - 79%: C
- 60 - 69%: D
- 59% or less: F

Minimum Technical Skills and Special Technology Utilized by Students
This course is totally online. All instructional content and interaction takes place over the WWW. In addition to baseline word processing skills and sending/receiving email with attachments, students will be expected to search the internet and upload / download files. In addition, students may need one or more of the following plug-ins:
- Media Player: http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/
- Real Player: http://www.real.com/realplayer/search
- Adobe Flash Player: http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
- Accessibility Resource Guides: http://www.desire2learn.com/access/resources/

Expectations for Academic Conduct / Plagiarism Policy
Academic Conduct Policy: (http://uwf.edu/osrr/) |
Plagiarism Policy: (http://libguides.uwf.edu/plagiarism) |
Assistance for Students with Disabilities
The Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) at the University of West Florida supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, such as time-limited exams, inaccessible web content, or the use of non-captioned videos and podcasts, please notify the instructor or the SDRC as soon as possible. You may contact the SDRC office by e-mail at sdrc@uwf.edu or by phone at (850) 474-2387. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the individual.

Accessibility Resources
- Accessibility Resources: http://elearninghelp.uwf.edu/About-Accessibility.ashx
- Features in D2L: http://www.desire2learn.com/products/accessibility/

TurnItIn
UWF maintains a university license agreement for an online text matching service called TurnItIn. At my discretion, I will use the TurnItIn service to determine the originality of student papers. If I submit your paper to TurnItIn, it will be stored in a TurnItIn database for as long as the service remains in existence. If you object to this storage of your paper:
1. You must let me know no later than two weeks after the start of this class.
2. I will utilize other services and techniques to evaluate your work for evidence of appropriate authorship practices.

Weather Emergency Information
In the case of severe weather or other emergency, the campus might be closed and classes cancelled. Official closures and delays are announced on the UWF website and broadcast on WUWF-FM.
- WUWF-FM (88.1MHz) is the official information source for the university. Any pertinent information regarding closings, cancellations, and the re-opening of campus will be broadcast.
- In the event that hurricane preparation procedures are initiated, the UWF Home Web Page and Argus will both provide current information regarding hurricane preparation procedures, the status of classes and the closing of the university.

Emergency plans for the University of West Florida related to weather or other emergencies are available on the following UWF web pages:
- Information about hurricane preparedness plans is available on the UWF web site: http://uwfemergency.org/hurricaneprep.cfm
- Information about other emergency procedures is available on the UWF web site: http://uwfemergency.org/