

**MDU 4031 Medicine and the Law** Spring 2019

E-Learning Canvas Online Course 3 Credit Hours

**Course Professor:**

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Assistant Professor

Springhill Health Center

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Course coordinator(s):

Ryan McCarty, B.S., Graduate Student, Clinical and Health Psychology & Psychiatry

Primary Contacts:

You can contact the course coordinator regarding any issues or questions related to the content of the course or grading. Only contact the coordinator directly via Canvas Messenger. We cannot guarantee a prompt response with any other method of communication.

Support Services: Problems with the website (such as not being able to log in, not being able to attach a document, not being able to click on a link, or not being able to view a video or reading) should be directed to the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-HELP. If there is a problem with a video, please 1) alert UF Help, 2) Email Course coordinator(s), then 3) attempt the assignment without the video.

Problems with assignments, quizzes, exams should be directed first to the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-HELP. Then the student should immediately notify the course coordinator about their difficulties. This message should include your ticket number.

**Course Description:** Introduction to Medicine and the Law provides students with insight into some of the many interactions between these two professions. This course will be helpful for those pursuing a career in health or law. Online lectures are presented by practicing attorneys and physicians. Along with the lectures, directed readings give students the opportunity to explore the fields. This course focuses on the United States.

**Course Objectives:** After completing this course, students should be able to:

* Discuss the interplay between Medicine and the Law in America
* Understand the Court System of the United States
* Identify landmark cases and laws in the history of US Medicine

**Course Disclaimer:** This course (including all materials, ideas, research, or clinical observations written or electronically conveyed) is for educational purposes only. The course does not substitute for and does not provide legal advice or suggestions. This course is simply a survey course whose intent is to familiarize the student with a wide variety of materials relevant to the study of Medicine and the Law and course participants should not use any of the course material as a basis for legal defense.

**Educational Philosophy:** The educational philosophy of the Department of Psychiatry is to provide students with a learning environment that is current, interactive and supportive. The online and unconventional nature of the course provides students with flexibility for listening to lectures, submitting assessments, writing essays and completing a research paper. The class can be completed without ever setting foot on the University of Florida campus or ever leaving home. With this freedom comes responsibility and expectations. The course is accredited for 3 UF credits and as a result, it requires at least 3 hours per week in direct “contact,” as well as 6 additional hours to complete assignments and course-related research. Due to the online nature of the course, the contact hours have been replaced with online lectures and readings. In total, this course should require up to 9 hours per week, just as any other 3-credit course would normally require. Students are asked to check their email at least twice a week (preferably on Mondays and Fridays) and to keep an account of all due dates.

**E-Learning Canvas Online Course Format:** All enrolled students must navigate to UF’s E‑Learning server found at <http://elearning.ufl.edu/> and login with their Gatorlink username and password. In order for the course to be delivered properly to your computer, it must be configured. Detailed instructions on how to do this are available on the E-Learning website above and a configuration-checker is available on the login screen. Failure to configure your computer may result in problems such as: not being able to view videos, not being able to click on links and/or readings, or not being able to submit written or extra credit assignments. Only work submitted through the website can be accepted and we will not accept work submitted via email. Please only email submissions to the coordinator(s) after 1) alerting UF Help and 2) taking a screen shot of the difficulty. The course faculty and staff are not able to assist students with computer/website issues. For help with this aspect, please DO NOT email the course coordinator(s) or staff, but rather call the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-HELP.

**General Overview of Course Content:** The course is divided into 15 modules. Each lesson introduces and overviews a major issue in the field. A typical lesson topic consists of a lecture or multiple readings, and a multiple choice quiz. The course also consists of three 500-word discussion posts with two 250-word responses per discussion post. Each discussion post assignment (original post and responses) is worth 50 points. There are also three exams, each worth 50 points.

Point breakdown:

Quizzes (15 total worth 10 points each) = **150 points**

Discussions (At the end of each of the three “Overarching Concept” sections of the syllabus, 50 points will be assigned for the completion of one discussion post and each of two responses to other students’ discussion posts) = **150 points**

Exams (3 total, 1 for each “Overarching Concept” section of the syllabus) = **150 points**

Optional Extra Credit = *Maximum 10 Points*

Total = **450 points**

Grading Scale: Final Grades are determined by the following scale and will be posted in the Canvas Gradebook.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Grade | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D+ | D | D- | E |
| % | ≥ 93.00 | 92.99 - 90.00 | 89.99 - 87.00 | 86.99 - 83.00 | 82.99 - 80.00 | 79.99 - 77.00 | 76.99 - 73.00 | 72.99 - 70.00 | 69.99 - 67.00 | 66.99 - 63.00 | 62.99 - 60.00 | ≤ 59.99% |
| Minimum Points Required | 418.5 | 405 | 391.5 | 373.5 | 360 | 346.5 | 328.5 | 315 | 301.5 | 283.5 | 270 |  |

View the current UF Grading Policy at

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** Students requesting accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to the course director when requesting an accommodation. Contact the Disability Resources Center, <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>, for information about available resources for students with disabilities. Once you have received your letter from the Dean of Students Office, please contact the Course Coordinator(s) via the email provided above and email a scanned version of your letter from the Dean of Students to ensure that all testing accommodations are made.

**Extra Credit:** There will be opportunities throughout the semester to earn extra credit. No more than 10 extra credit points (2 assignments) can be earned. Attempting these extra credits does not guarantee that you will earn a full bonus. You must complete the tasks thoroughly and exceptionally and the Coordinator will grade them as separate scores. The first extra credit assignment is an optional discussion post due during the middle of the course. The other extra credit assessment is the course evaluation at the end of the semester that will be made available contingent on at least 50% of the class completing the faculty evaluation.

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| Spring 2019 |
| **Module #** | **Topic** | **Due Sunday at 11:59PM EST** |
| ***Overarching Concept 1: Introduction and Mandated Treatment Laws*** |
| 1 | Course Introduction and Syllabus | January 13th, 2019 |
| 2 | Introduction to the American Court System | January 20th, 2019 |
| 3 | The History of Mandated Treatment Laws  | January 20th, 2019 |
| 4 | Marchman Act/Involuntary Substance Treatment  | January 27th, 2019 |
| 5 | Baker Act/Involuntary Commitment | January 27th, 2019 |
|  | Discussion 1 Due | February 3rd, 2019  |
|  | Exam 1 Due | February 10th, 2019 |
| ***Overarching Concept 2: The Law and Medical Practice*** |
| 6 | Effect of Legal Cases on the Medical Practice | February 17th, 2019 |
| 7 | Malpractice Insurance and Tort Reform | February 17th, 2019 |
| 8 | Overview of the Affordable Care Act | February 24th, 2019 |
| 9 | Challenges to the Affordable Care Act | February 24th, 2019 |
| 10 | Informed Consent | March 3rd , 2019 |
|  | Extra Credit Discussion Due | March 10th, 2019 |
|  | Discussion 2 Due | March 17th, 2019 |
|  | Exam 2 Due | March 17th, 2019 |
| ***Overarching Concept 3: Introduction to Forensics*** |
| 11 | Not Guilty By Reason of Insanity | March 24th, 2019 |
| 12 | Fitness to Stand Trial | March 31st, 2019 |
| 13 | Physicians as Expert Witnesses | April 7th, 2019 |
| 14 | Case Example 1 | April 14th, 2019 |
| 15 | Case Example 2 | April 14th, 2019 |
|  | Discussion 3 Due | April 21st, 2019 |
|  | Exam 3 Due | April 28th, 2019 |
|  | Extra Credit 2 |  |

All quiz assessments and discussion assignments are due on the specified Sunday by 11:59 PM EST. Be sure to continue to check your email for updates and announcements. Class materials for any given assignments will be open at least two weeks prior to any due date. All quizzes open two weeks before the due date. All discussions open at the beginning of each overarching concept. All exams open one week before the due date.

**Opinion Disclaimer:** Please note that sometimes the professionals being videotaped or the author of an assigned article may offer an opinion about health care, perhaps even a controversial one. We wish to encourage open-minded thinking, evaluation, and critiquing in this course and so we also have web-posts where you may voice your opinions. However, it is important to recognize that the opinions expressed by the course lecturers/authors do not necessarily reflect those of the course professors, teaching assistants, the UF College of Medicine, the Department of Psychiatry, or the University of Florida.

Video Lectures and Interviews: This class seeks to break out of the conventional lecture format by providing brief, targeted videos and readings.

If a video is not opening or playing for you, try clicking the “Open in YouTube” button on the video player. If the video continues to not display, please contact the UF Help Desk at 352-392-HELP for assistance in updating their computer software BEFORE requesting assistance from the Course coordinator(s).

Required/Recommended Reading: There is no required textbook. All PDF research articles, lecture slides, and other resources (such as website links) listed within each module should be considered required reading unless otherwise noted. These resources should provide you with enough information on the topic to appropriately answer all quiz and exam questions.

Class demeanor/netiquette: All students should be courteous to each other and to course coordinator(s)s and instructors in all their communications, including discussion post assignments. Those found to be disrespectful of others run the risk of point deduction. View a guide for appropriate online communication at

<http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

Students should not upload or duplicate copyrighted information on online class discussion boards without express permission from the copyright holder. Students must complete assignments on time. Check email at least twice a week for course announcements, read and follow directions carefully, be aware of your grades and raise any issues you have in a timely manner.

Quizzes and Assessments: All of the lessons contain a quiz located in the Assessments tab consisting of 5-10 questions, worth a total of 10 points per quiz. All questions are based on the readings, videos, and web links. They are designed to not only ensure that you have viewed the video and completed the readings, but to also test your ability to apply what you have learned. All quizzes should be graded shortly after the deadline has passed. You should then be able to view your score.

Discussion Posts: Discussions will open at the beginning of an Overarching Concept section and close at the end of the section (i.e. Concept Exams 1, 2, and 3). At the end of each Overarching Concept, up to 50 points will be assigned for the completion of a discussion post and two responses to another student’s discussion post. This is to promote collaboration and discussion among peers. Discussion posts are designed for students to present an academic argument on different topics. Discussion posts will require research, outside reading, and preparation. Specific topics and the rubric for grading will be presented within the discussion board. There is also a very detailed PowerPoint that breaks down the rubric. Students who closely adhere to this PowerPoint do well on the discussions; students who ignore it tend to do poorly. The discussions are graded stringently and tend to take more time than students expect. Leaving it to the last minute will likely result in a poor score so start it early! You will receive your discussion grades at minimum three days prior to due date of the next.

Tests: Each of the Overarching Concept sections contain a test located under the Assessment tab. The tests are in a variety of different formats and are worth 50 points per test. All questions are based on what you learned from the readings and videos. They are designed to not only ensure that you have viewed the lecture and completed the readings, but to also test your ability to apply what you have learned. You will be given 40 minutes to complete the test once you start.

Late/Make up policy: All quizzes, tests, and discussion posts are due on the specified dates by 11:59 PM EST. Students are given at least one business week to complete each assignment. However, given the online nature of this class, we understand that many of you may have conflicts with other courses, family events, illnesses, etc. that may interfere with your performance. Therefore, with the exception of extra credit assignments and exams, you may take up to one week past the deadline, **without penalty,** to submit your quiz or discussion posts. However, since students are informed of topic areas and deadlines at the beginning of the semester, given a one week “grace period” for submissions, excuses (illness or otherwise) for late assignments after the grace period has passed will not be accepted. If you fall ill prior to the deadline and believe it may impact your ability to submit your work one week after, **you must message the course coordinator.** Further, as previously mentioned, by waiting until the last minute to begin working you may run the risk of computer problems. Websites being down or your personal computer giving you technical problems is not an excuse for late work. For this reason, we strongly suggest working on all assignments and quizzes at least 1-2 days ahead of the deadline to avoid such issues. This grace period is intended as a backup to be used only when necessary, not an extension of your deadline.

If you believe you have a legitimate reason for missing work, you may request an extension from the course coordinator before the deadline passes. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

In regard to medical excuses, if you are located in Gainesville your note must come from the University of Florida Student Health Care Center, or another University of Florida provider. For students outside of Gainesville, please have your doctor fax your excuse note to UF Psychiatry at 352-294-0434. Please follow up with the Course Coordinator to make sure that the note has been received. View the UF policies regarding [medical excuse](http://shcc.ufl.edu/forms-records/excuse-notes/) from classes at:

 <http://shcc.ufl.edu/forms-records/excuse-notes/>

**Grading questions and disputes:** If you find any of the exam or quiz questions ambiguous or if you have a conflict with the scoring, post the question number only in the appropriate post of the *Grading Questions and Disputes Board.* If, after the question has been reviewed and responded to, you still have an issue with the question, you may contact the course coordinator for further clarification.

Please note that students may have special circumstances and still be taking the exam or quiz. Therefore it is crucial that you only post the question number in the *Grading Questions and Disputes Board.* Do not post editorials as to why you are disputing it. If someone has already posted the question number, do not post it again. Failure to follow the rules of this board will result in your dispute being removed and ignored.

Dispute Deadline:Students have 24 hours following an exam’s due date (i.e. the Monday after) to dispute an exam question. Students have a 24 hour period following the end of a quiz’s grace period (i.e. the Monday one week after the due date) week to dispute a quiz question. Students must follow the guidelines established in the section above. Students have one week after receiving their discussion grades to dispute their score. Specific feedback is provided to all students regarding what errors they commit on discussion posts, however students are highly encouraged to message their grader for clarification should they not understand the feedback they were given.

Academic Honesty: Online classes are subject to the same guidelines of academic honesty as all on-campus classes. Please review and be familiar with the Student Honor Code, which can be found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>. UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code, and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obliged to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult the instructor or course coordinator(s).

Special Note on Plagiarism: Plagiarism is presenting another’s work as your own. Cheating and plagiarizing are against the University of Florida Student Conduct Code and will not be tolerated. Every submission in this course is checked via Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>), an online service that compares documents with each other and with every page on the Internet as well as with other assignments turned in this and previous semesters. If portions of your document were directly copied and pasted from another student’s assignment (past or present) or from a World Wide Web page, that constitutes plagiarism. Any form of plagiarism will be investigated as set out by the University of Florida Student Conduct Code. Procedures on investigations can be found at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/>. Students in this course caught cheating (copying) and plagiarizing, will be immediately given a failing grade and prosecuted in the UF Honor Court. The reader of your paper should know exactly from where all your outside information originates. It may be acceptable to place a few comments in quotes with a citation, but it is never acceptable to copy and paste a long string of text from a source, even if it is cited and even if you change a few words. Anything from another source that is not in quotations must be paraphrased. Also, please note that UF policies require that you create original work for each course. Thus, students are not permitted to submit papers they prepared previously outside of this class, such as for high school or other UF courses.

Course Evaluation: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course. Evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> and are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester. Students will be told the specific times when evaluations are open. Summary results of these assessments are available at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.