**Stephen F. Austin State University**

**Contemporary Health Care Ethics**

**Course description:** This course is designed to introduce students to ethical theories and principles used in decision making in healthcare settings. Legal precedents, statutory guidelines and philosophical underpinnings are presented to provide a variety of frameworks for ethical decision-making and policy analysis.

**Credit hours**

3 hours

**Course objectives:**

1. Assemble concepts and principles of the arts, sciences, humanities, and nursing in order to formulate both personal and professional responses to ethical issues encountered by advance practice nurses.
2. Examine ethical and legal principles used in healthcare delivery and research.
3. Relate ethical frameworks to evidence based practice.
4. Integrate moral, ethical, economic, and legal issues into the provision of nursing care to clients, families, and the global community.
5. Integrate the use of healthcare information systems, patient care technology, and social media into the legal and ethical frameworks used in the delivery of healthcare.
6. Evaluate the role of the APN as a member of the interdisciplinary healthcare team, respecting holistic, socio-economic, spiritual, and ethno-culturally diverse characteristics of clients.

**Topics: 4 hours each unless noted**

1. Introduction to ethical principles and frameworks
2. Introduction to bioethics, healthcare ethics, and ethical decision making
3. Introduction to jurisprudence in the healthcare system
4. Ethics and legal issues in advanced nursing practice
5. Ethics and legal issues in organizations and leadership
6. Ethics and legal issues in the care of individuals
7. Ethics and legal issues in the care of families
8. Ethics and legal issues in the care of aggregates
9. Ethics and legal issues related to local, state, national and international policy
10. Ethics and legal issues involved in the use of healthcare information systems, patient care technology, and social media 6 hours