



Course Specifications

Course Title:	Medical Ethics
Course Code:	PHL369
Program:	Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)
Department:	NA
College:	College of Medicine
Institution:	Alfaisal University

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A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 2 (2+0+0)
2. Course type
a. University <input type="checkbox"/> College <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Level/year at which this course is offered: Sem 8, Year 4
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any): Sem 5 and 6
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any): None

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom - including Project	38	100%

7. Contact Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1	Lecture	38
2	Laboratory/Studio	
3	Tutorial	
4	Others (specify)	
	Total	38

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

This course introduces students to the ethical dimensions of clinical medicine and the related sciences. It offers them basic language and methodology to critically examine these dimensions. The course format integrates lecture and active case discussion to provide both the necessary philosophical grounding and the real-world skills sought by students.

The course is divided into 3 parts:

- 1- Introductory Topics,
- 2- Fundamental Bioethical Concepts, and
- 3- Practical Applications.

In summary, the course will provide an introduction to basic ethical theory and various approaches to clinical ethical decision-making. In addition, students will engage particular ethical issues, including truth-telling, informed consent, killing and letting die, conscientious objection, and physician-assisted suicide. Students will investigate these issues through weekly in-class case discussion and periodically through written case analysis.

2. Course Main Objective

To introduce students to the ethical dimensions of clinical medicine and the related sciences. The course offers them the basic language and methodology to critically examine these

dimensions. The course format integrates lecture and active case discussion to provide both the necessary philosophical grounding and the real-world skills sought by students.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge and Understanding	
1.1	Identify ethical issues in medicine, health care and life sciences	PLO22,27
1.2	Provide rational justification for ethical decisions	PLO22,27
1.3	Recognize dominant moral theories as they relate to the medical context.	PLO27
1.4	Understand the cultural and Islamic prospect of the medical ethics decisions based on criteria of justification.	PLO28
1.5	Research, reflect upon, and present ethical positions in both written and verbal form.	PLO27
2	Skills :	
2.1	Relate the core principles of bioethics and the Islamic ethical concepts on solving medical ethical dilemmas	PLO28
2.2	Relate the concepts of human rights and confidentiality as well as the research ethics and integrity	PLO27
2.3	Apply the ethical principles of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights	PLO27
2.4	Apply a method of analysis to cases in clinical health care ethics.	PLO22,27
2.5	Identify learning outcomes and use them in preparing and solving the assignments. Provide colleagues with feedback on their participation regarding critical thinking, problem solving, etc.	PLO27
2.6	Correctly identify and apply the core principles of biomedical ethics.	PLO27
3	Values:	
3.1	Adhere to the attendance policy.	
3.2	Maintain professional conduct with colleagues, faculty, and staff.	

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Introduction to Biomedical ethics	2
2	Introduction to Moral Theory	2
3	Islamic Perspectives of Ethics	2
4	Privacy, Confidentiality, and Non-disclosure	2
5	Informed Consent	2
6	Benefit and harm in health care	2
7	Decision Making Capacity (DMC)	2
8	Ethical issues at the end of life.	2
9	Ethical issues at the beginning of life	2
10	Protecting future generations	2
11	Protection of the environment, the biosphere and biodiversity	2
12	Introduction to Research Ethics and Integrity	2
13	Resource allocation	2
14	Sharing Benefits	2
15	Ethical Case Analysis	2

16	Project	8
Total		38

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and Understanding		
1.1	Identify ethical issues in medicine, health care and life sciences.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
1.2	Provide rational justification for ethical decisions.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
1.3	Recognize dominant moral theories as they relate to the medical context.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
1.4	Understand the cultural and Islamic prospect of the medical ethics decisions based on criteria of justification.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
1.5	Research, reflect upon, and present ethical positions in both written and verbal form.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
2.0	Skills		
2.1	Relate the core principles of bioethics and the Islamic ethical concepts on solving medical ethical dilemmas.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
2.2	Relate the concepts of human rights and confidentiality as well as the research ethics and integrity.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
2.3	Apply the ethical principles of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
2.4	Apply a method of analysis to cases in clinical health care ethics.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
2.5	Identify learning outcomes and use them in preparing and solving the assignments. Provide colleagues with feedback on their participation regarding critical thinking, problem solving, etc.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
2.6	Correctly identify and apply the core principles of biomedical ethics.	Lectures	Formative and summative assessment
3.0	Values		
3.1	Adhere to the attendance policy.		Continuous assessment

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
3.2	Maintain professional conduct with colleagues, faculty, and staff.		Continuous assessment

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Assignment	--	15%
2	Mid-term	9	25%
3	Final Exam	18	60%

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice:

The CoM program established its own mentorship program that employs all full-time faculty as mentors. Through this program, every medical student in the program is assigned a mentor at the beginning of their first semester of studies. The program has a broad scope covering academic advising and counseling. The mentors handle all aspects related to academic advising, including academic planning, academic performance review, advice on course drop or withdrawal, study skills, and time management.

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spiegel. Moral Principles and Theories: An Overview • UNESCO: Bioethics Core Curriculum • Lo. Resolving Ethical Dilemmas: A Guide for Clinicians. • Akbar Al-Mohamed. Professionalism and Medical Ethics in Clinical Practice
Essential References Materials	
Electronic Materials	PowerPoint presentations uploaded on Alfaisal E-learning Portal PubMed, Up to date, Medscape
Other Learning Materials	

2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	Classrooms
Technology Resources	AV (Audio-Visual), Smartboard, Moodle (E-learning Management)

Item	Resources
(AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Course and Faculty Evaluation Survey	Students	Survey

Evaluation areas (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	
Reference No.	
Date	