

DEPARTMENT: Educational Studies, Leadership and Counseling

COURSE PREFIX: HDL

COURSE NUMBER: 625

CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. TITLE:

Legal and Ethical Issues

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITE(S):

This course will present the legal and ethical ramifications that being leader in today's complex society demands. An in-depth examination of current contemporary leadership issues will highlight the course.

Prerequisite(s): Admission to graduate studies at Murray State University and graduate standing.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The student will be able to:

- A. To develop appropriate knowledge, skills, and attitudes for professionals in the workplace as they are faced with legal and ethical concerns and decisions.
- B. To demonstrate the ability to comprehend and apply professional ethics codes, relevant to particular concentration areas in the Human Development and Leadership program, to the workplace or organizational setting.
- C. To develop the capacity for making informed, effective decisions when confronted with complex legal and ethical questions, that are appropriate for the organization and for the individuals within that organization

IV. CONTENT OUTLINE:

- A. Legal Issues in the Workplace
- B. Ethics & the Law
- C. Ethical Theory
- D. Ethical Decision Making
- E. Ethical Standards & Strategy
- F. Individual Ethical Issues
- G. Personal Values & Their Roles
- H. Influence & Ethics
- I. Ethical Leadership
- J. Developing Ethical Organizations
- K. Ethics & Society

V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- A. Lecture
- B. Class participation/discussion
- C. Small group activities
- D. Projects/ position papers
- E. Research and presentation

VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:

Students will develop a field-based project that relates to legal and ethical issues in their particular workplace setting or intended workplace setting.

VII. TEXT(S) AND RESOURCES:

Blanchard, K., & Peale, N.V. (1988). *The power of ethical management*. New York: Fawcett Columbine.

Johnson, C. E. (2012). *Meeting the ethical challenges of leadership: Casting light or shadow*. United States: Sage Publications.

Live Text Software (for HDL students beginning the program during or after Fall 2011)

VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURES:

- A. Evaluation and grade will be determined by tests and assignments based on texts, supplementary readings in professional journals, lectures, group activities, and class discussion.

B. Students will successfully complete the following Common Assignment:

Field-based Project. Identify a legal and/or ethical issue that is of importance in your future or current career setting. Investigate through interviews and educational research how that issue currently impacts individuals in your workplace or intended workplace setting. Present your findings with a graduate level paper and a multimedia presentation.

The body of the paper should be 8-10 pages in length and include the following:

1) the history and background of the question, 2) critical legal and/or ethical issues surrounding the question, 3) rationale and interpretation of applicable laws and/or ethical codes that relate to the issues and question, 4) a strategy outlining possible solutions and/or recommendations for the legal/ethical issue. A minimum of 10 scholarly resources and APA style are required.

This project should be summarized and presented in a PowerPoint presentation submitted through Blackboard. Students beginning the Human Development & Leadership program during or after Fall 2011 should also submit this Common Assignment through Live Text.

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current MSU Bulletins.

Click here to enter additional attendance policy if necessary.

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

Violations of Academic Honesty include:

Cheating - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

Fabrication and Falsification - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

Multiple Submission - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

Plagiarism - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days. Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Equal Opportunity. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT:

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable

accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Director of Equal Opportunity, 103 Wells Hall, (270) 809-3155 (voice), (270) 809-3361 (TDD).

Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, or term papers, or the presentation of unacknowledged material as if it were the student's own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

Note: Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any examination or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the examination has been compromised.

XII. Other required departmental or collegiate committee information

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