

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith**  
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**Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649**  
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## **General Syllabus**

### **MHCA 5033 Healthcare Law and Ethics**

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: MHCA 5013 Healthcare Policy and Governance

Effective Catalog: 2017-2018

#### **I. Course Information**

##### **A. Catalog Description**

Addresses the major legal and ethical issues of the healthcare system. Focuses on corporate liability, medical malpractice, admission and discharge processes, organizational bylaws, HIPAA, informed consent, patients' rights, medical records and governmental regulation of personnel and healthcare facilities.

##### **B. Additional Information**

Serves as a foundation course for students.

#### **II. Student Learning Outcomes**

##### **A. Subject Matter**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply the principles and theories of law as it relates to healthcare delivery and administration.
2. Examine the risks and liabilities facing healthcare practitioners and healthcare organizations.
3. Analyze models of ethical decision making.
4. Apply models of ethical decision making to ethical issues in healthcare.
5. Interpret the process for ethical decision making that protects the practitioner, the patient, and the organization from liability.

##### **B. Program Learning Outcomes**

This graduate course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

1. Goal: Healthcare Systems and Environment - Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of healthcare systems and the environment in which healthcare managers and providers operate.
  - a. Objective: Demonstrate knowledge of healthcare systems, service delivery, and operational environments including interdisciplinary approaches.
  - b. Objective: Demonstrate knowledge of the broad healthcare environment, including the role of healthcare policy, law, regulation, and ethics.
2. Goal: Healthcare Management and Business - Utilize business principles, including systems thinking, to the healthcare environment.  
Objective: Develop critical thinking, analysis, and problem solving skills that can be applied to all aspects of healthcare management.
3. Goal: Professionalism and Ethics - Practice professionalism and ethical behavior through personal and professional accountability, employ a service orientation, and display a commitment to lifelong learning and improvement.  
Objective: Uphold and act upon ethical and professional standards, including ethical business principles.

### **III. Major Course Topics**

- A. Government, law and ethics overview
- B. Healthcare and corporate law
- C. Employment law
- D. Healthcare ethics
- E. Patient consent, rights, and responsibilities
- F. Healthcare reporting and recording
- G. Current issues in healthcare law and ethics