



## **Module Specification**

### **Ethical Issues in Health and Social Care**

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 20 Jul 2023

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Ethical Issues in Health and Social Care

**Module code:** UZWY5W-20-2

**Level:** Level 5

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 20

**ECTS credit rating:** 10

**Faculty:** Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

**Department:** HAS School of Health and Social Wellbeing

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Acute and Critical Care Adult Nursing

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** Yes

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** This module will help you to identify a comprehensive overview of the field of health care ethics. It will help you to explore the nature of health care and the ethical dimensions of health care practice. Principle-based frameworks of ethical decision making will be applied to specific case examples, potential moral disagreements drawn out and solution options critically evaluated.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** See Learning Outcomes

**Outline syllabus:** Principles of Ethical and Legal Reasoning:

Ethical principles and philosophical approaches. Moral rules and health and/or social care practice

The concepts of rights and duties.

Informed Consent in Theory and Practice:

The moral and legal basis of informed consent to treatment and what this means for practice

Dilemmas about truth telling, confidentiality and experimentation.

Ethics and Legal Dilemmas concerning Right to Life and Death:

Theological and philosophical theories about what constitutes personhood

Issues and dilemmas in withdrawal/withholding of treatment.

Ethics, Law and Competence:

Respecting autonomy

Examination and application of principle-based ethical decision-making approaches.

The Allocation of Resources in Health Care:

Choosing who gets what in the face of scarcity

Competing moral theories for just decisions in the face of scarcity.

Ethical Issues in Health and/or Social Care Research:

Informed consent and other ethical aspects of health and/or social care research

Roles and responsibilities in the health and/or social care team.

Approaches to Decision Making in Professional Practice:

The role of service users, carers, professionals in decision making

Cognitive, emotional and cultural factors in ethical decision making

Accountable and autonomous professional practice in ethical and legal context.

### Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

**Teaching and learning methods:** A range of approaches will be used which may include: student led seminar series; lecture, mini lecture, video and group discussion. Where appropriate students will be expected to bring examples from their own professional practice in order to facilitate an appreciation of the benefits and the limitations of particular theoretical approaches.

In relation to your agreed assessment topic, you will be expected to identify relevant reading material and this should be reflected in your reference list. The development of literature searching skills is supported by the library. Additional support is available through the faculty web-based study skills pages.

**Module Learning outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**MO1** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of one or more ethical theories/approaches.

**MO2** Outline the relationship between theoretical ethics and professional practice.

**MO3** Discuss how an understanding of theoretical ethics informs health and social care.

**MO4** Begin to evaluate both their own ethical understanding and their contribution to ethical practice.

**Hours to be allocated:** 200

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 164 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 200

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzwy5w-20-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzwy5w-20-2.html>

## Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** You will have the opportunities for formative assessment and to discuss your approach as part of the module.

You will be asked to analyse legal issues with regard to the ethical and professional implications for the practitioner. The work must make reference to relevant law and ethical theory.

2500 word submission.

### Assessment tasks:

#### Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: 2500 word assignment that will focus on an ethical issue relevant to a practice situation.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

#### Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: 2500 word assignment that will focus on an ethical issue relevant to a practice situation.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

## Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Nursing (International) {Top-Up}[BIBM] BSc (Hons) 2023-24