

LAW AND GERONTOLOGICAL INTEGRATION: THE MIX CANNOT BE IGNORED (GRO 676-03)

A. FRANK JOHNS, JD

COURSE NUMBER: GRO 673-03

COURSE TITLE: LAW AND GERONTOLOGICAL INTEGRATION: THE MIX CANNOT BE IGNORED

CREDITS: 3 HOURS

PREREQUISITES/ COREQUISITES: Undergraduate degree.

FOR WHOM PLANNED: This program may best be utilized by those having taken undergraduate courses in social work, the basics of gerontology, basics in financial consumer education, business classes focused on ethics and health care classes that include the development and use of advance directives. Course work should be at 300 or 400 level, but not required..

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION: Office number, office hours, phone numbers, and e-mail address will be provided during the first day of class.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: The course content includes an overview of the legal assessment of cognitive function from a legal perspective and then applying that overview to the development of advance directives and how to use them; integration of multiple professional involvement when serving or servicing elderly clients; and examining multidisciplinary ethical boundaries.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students successfully completing this course will recognize the general framework of legal capacity. Once the framework is recognized, students will be able to analyze the elderly person's understanding of advance directives and other legal and financial documents being signed or contracted. Students will also demonstrate awareness of the ethical boundaries that overlap between professionals serving elderly clients and patients, and when those overlapping ethical boundaries are in conflict.

TEACHING METHODS AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR ACHIEVING LEARNING OUTCOMES: Specific instructional methods will include lectures; demonstrations; and study of written, audio/visual, or other materials that will give students an opportunity to learn the framework of legal capacity by doing mock assessments on hypothetical elderly clients. Also, in-class discussions will require students to confront the problems of vague ethical boundaries in the multidisciplinary aging environment.

EVALUATION AND GRADING: There will be quizzes at the end of each week; a midterm exam and a final exam. Student in-class work and assignments will be evaluated and account for 15% of the overall grade, attendance and participation will account for 30% of the grade, the mid-term exam will account for 25% of the grade and the final exam will account for 30% of the grade. and show the relationship between each individually graded assignment and the calculation of the midterm and final grade for the course. Assignments given to students will provide an opportunity for them to demonstrate their achievement of one or more of the stated learning outcomes described above.

REQUIRED TEXTS/READINGS/REFERENCES: Barnes, Johns and Martin, *Counseling Older Adults* (2ed ABA/ALI 2005) <http://www.ali-aba.org/aliaba/BK18.ASP> ; *Assessment of Older Adults with Diminished Capacity: A Handbook for Lawyers* (ABA Commission on Law and Aging and American Psychological Association 2005) <http://www.abanet.org/aging>

TOPICAL OUTLINE/ CALENDAR: The course outline will be available at the first class, providing weekly details of the areas to be discussed, examined and studied.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE: Each student is required to sign the Academic Integrity Policy on all major work submitted for the course. Refer to UNCG *Undergraduate Bulletin*.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Faculty expectations for course attendance should be documented in the syllabus,

FINAL EXAMINATION: A paper and a final exam will be required.