



Introduction

Welcome

Welcome to Health Ethics.

This 13-week course is designed to provide you with knowledge of ethical theories and approaches, and analytical capability in examining public health research, policy and practice issues. The course content includes information about philosophical perspectives on ethics; ethics theories and principles; ethical issues for the health professional in clinical practice, research, and management.

This course will introduce students to some of the real world ethical issues and allow students to explore approaches to ethical reasoning and practice. The course combines weekly lectures in the form of pod-casts, as well as readings, online activities, and an online workshop. The workshops will be interactive, with students exploring ethics case studies and concepts.

This course is fully online and all material will be available from the course site.

We hope you enjoy this course. We're looking forward to working with you.

Dr. Neil Bretana and Dr. Connal Lee

Academic Work Definitions

External mode includes online, distance education, industry placement or directed research. Virtual classrooms are deemed to be an external mode of delivery. External mode does not normally include a face to face component, however some courses offered in external mode may require a small component of on-campus activity, or practical sessions.

The expectations of your activity and preparation for each course will be aligned to the activity being undertaken. For example, if you are studying externally and there are virtual lectures, your preparation would be as listed under the lecture section of this guide.

You may also be supported through online facilitation, with preparation required, and other learning activities provided in your course, that will each have specific preparation requirements for you. These requirements should be set out in individual course guides.

Peer Interaction is usually included in UniSA courses in both external and internal modes of delivery and is considered a critical element of the learning process that may involve activities, projects, discussion forums, presentations, practicals, workshops.

Lecture

[Student information](#)

A lecture is delivery of course content either in person, or online in a virtual classroom, that builds on the course readings and pre-lecture requirements for you and other students in the course. The primary purpose of the lecture is to comprehensively describe and explain course content, ideas or skills to provide a foundation on which students build understanding through extended study. Lectures may also be pre-recorded and embedded in online courses.

All students are expected to have undertaken required readings and assigned activities prior to the lecture.

Workshop

Student information

A workshop is a structured activity, delivered either in person or online in a virtual classroom in which the student is required to actively contribute. Your instructor will facilitate guided activities that relate to course content previously covered in a lecture and/or seminar and/or tutorial.

All students are expected to be familiar with relevant lecture seminar and/or tutorial content prior to a workshop in preparation for undertaking the activities in the workshop.

Online facilitation

Student information

Online courses generally require students to independently read, view and/or work through all required materials, including pre-recorded presentations that have been produced and provided to facilitate this form of learning.

Independent online learning is supported by Online Facilitators who supplement online teaching resources by facilitating, monitoring and moderating online forums; answering student queries via virtual office hours or help desks, online dialogue and/or phone conversations, providing formative feedback on your work or explaining comments and marking of your prior work.

Students are expected to be familiar with all relevant course content, including materials provided and assessments, and engage appropriately with facilitators within the timeframes provided.

Course Teaching Staff

Coordinator:	Dr Neil Bretana
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* Please refer to your Course homepage for the most up to date list of course teaching staff.

Contact Details

UniSA Allied Health & Human Performance

Physical Address: Level 8, Centenary Building
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Adelaide 5000

Website: <https://www.unisa.edu.au/about-unisa/academic-units/allied-health-and-human-performance/>

Additional Contact Details

Course Coordinator: Dr Neil Bretana, neil.bretana@unisa.edu.au

Online Course Facilitator: Dr Connal Lee, connal.lee@unisa.edu.au

Course Overview

Prerequisite(s)

There are no prerequisite courses to be completed before this course can be undertaken.

Corequisite(s)

There are no corequisite courses to be completed in conjunction with this course.

Course Aim

To advance students' knowledge of ethical theories and approaches and analytical capability in examining public health research, policy and practice issues.

Course Objectives

On completion of this course, students should be able to:

CO1. To apply contemporary ethical theory to real world public health practices

CO2. Develop ethical reasoning skills (including analysis, integration of evidence, and formulation of ethical argument) to resolve ethical issues in public health practice, policies and programmes

CO3. Link real world practice with theory to develop an understanding of core perspectives and concepts in public health ethics

CO4. Enhance students capacity to analyse and make informed decisions about ethical problems of public importance

Upon completion of this course, students will have achieved the following combination of Graduate Qualities and Course Objectives:

		Graduate Qualities being assessed through the course						
		GQ1	GQ2	GQ3	GQ4	GQ5	GQ6	GQ7
CO1		•		•		•		•
CO2		•	•	•		•		•
CO3		•	•					•
CO4		•	•	•	•		•	

Graduate Qualities

A graduate of UniSA:

GQ1. operates effectively with and upon a body of knowledge of sufficient depth to begin professional practice

GQ2. is prepared for life-long learning in pursuit of personal development and excellence in professional practice

GQ3. is an effective problem solver, capable of applying logical, critical, and creative thinking to a range of problems

GQ4. can work both autonomously and collaboratively as a professional

GQ5. is committed to ethical action and social responsibility as a professional and citizen

GQ6. communicates effectively in professional practice and as a member of the community

GQ7. demonstrates international perspectives as a professional and as a citizen

Course Content

Philosophical perspectives on ethics. Ethical issues for the health professional in clinical practice, research and management. Health professionals in society.

Teaching and Learning Arrangements

External

13 weeks

Unit Value

4.5 units

Use of recorded material

This course will involve the production of audio and/or video recordings of UniSA students. To protect student privacy, you must not at any time disclose, reproduce or publish these recordings, or related material, in the public domain including online, unless the videoed students give consent for reproduction, disclosure or publication. This requirement is consistent with University statutes, by-laws, policies, rules and guidelines which you agreed to abide by when you signed the Student Enrolment Declaration.

Student recording of learning activities

Students must seek permission prior to recording any UniSA learning activity. See [A-56 Policy Student recording of learning activities](https://i.unisa.edu.au/siteassets/policies-and-procedures/docs/academic/a56_student-recording-of-learning-activities.pdf) (https://i.unisa.edu.au/siteassets/policies-and-procedures/docs/academic/a56_student-recording-of-learning-activities.pdf)

Breaches of this Policy contravene the principles of academic integrity, and attract the penalties provided in the [Academic Integrity Procedure](https://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/university-policies/) (https://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/university-policies/).

Further Course Information

Communication with Students

The University's primary method of communication with students is electronic, through the UniSA student email account and the student portal. All students are expected to check their UniSA student email account and any announcements on the student portal on a regular basis (every second day). If you normally use an alternative email, or commonly forget to check your UniSA email, it might be a good idea to redirect your UniSA email to your preferred email (<https://i.unisa.edu.au/askit/students/email/using-email/redirect/>).

Learning Resources

Textbook(s)

There are no textbooks listed for this course.

Reference(s)

All relevant readings and resources will be provided on the course site.

learnonline course site

All course related materials are available on your learnonline course site which you will be able to access from the 'my Current Studies' section in myUniSA (<https://my.unisa.edu.au>).

Access to Previous Courses

You will have access to your previous course sites for a period of 4 years. After this time, the course sites will be archived and will be unavailable.

Note: Course readings provided via the University Library are only made available to current students and staff due to licensing and copyright restrictions. Students may download their course readings while they are enrolled in the course for their personal research purposes only.

Assessment

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the foundation of university life and is fundamental to the reputation of UniSA and its staff and students. Academic integrity means a commitment by all staff and students to act with honesty, trustworthiness, fairness, respect and responsibility in all academic work.

An important part of practising integrity in academic work is showing respect for other people's ideas and being honest about how they have contributed to your work. This means taking care not to represent the work of others as your own. Using another person's work without proper acknowledgement is considered Academic Misconduct, and the University takes this very seriously.

The University of South Australia expects students to demonstrate the highest standards of academic integrity so that its qualifications are earned honestly and are trusted and valued by its students and their employers. To ensure this happens, the University has policies and procedures in place to promote academic integrity and manage academic misconduct. For example, work submitted electronically by students for assessment will be examined for copied and un-referenced text using the text comparison software Turnitin <http://www.turnitin.com>.

It is an offence for any person or company to provide academic cheating services to students of Australian universities, irrespective of whether the service is provided by an Australian or overseas operator (see [Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Amendment \(Prohibiting Academic Cheating Services\) Bill 2019](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2020A00078) - <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2020A00078>). "Academic cheating services" includes providing or undertaking work for students, where that work forms a substantial part of an assessment task.

More information about academic integrity and what constitutes academic misconduct can be found in the [Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](https://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/university-policies/academic/ab-69) (<https://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/university-policies/academic/ab-69>).

To learn more on academic integrity and how to avoid academic misconduct, please refer to the Academic Integrity Module: <https://lo.unisa.edu.au/mod/book/view.php?id=252142>

Important information about all assessment

All students must adhere to the University of South Australia's [procedures about assessment](http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/): <http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/>.

Assessment Details

Details of assessment submission and return are listed under each assessment task. Assessment tasks will be returned to you within 15 working days of submission.

Cover sheets

A cover sheet is not required for assessment tasks submitted via learnonline, as the system automatically generates one.

If the Course Coordinator allows submissions in hard copy format, you will be required to attach an Assignment Cover Sheet which is available on the learnonline student help (https://asklearnonline.unisa.edu.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/2222/kw/coversheet) and in myUniSA.

Assessment Descriptions

Assessment 1

Single		40% of Course Total			Objectives being assessed:CO1, CO3, CO4		
Title	Team work	Length	Duration	Due date (Adelaide Time)	Submit via	Re-Submission	Re-Marking
Analysis of an ethical issue	No	2000 words	-	24 Apr 2023, 11:00 PM	learnonline	No	No

Further information on re-marking and re-submission is available in the academic policy, AB-68 P4 Re-marking and Re-submission Procedure

The aim of this assessment is to analyse a real-world ethical issue and discuss ethical theories of relevance to resolving the issue.

You'll also demonstrate your ability to communicate information effectively to a chosen population, along with providing solutions or strategies to prevent the issue.

Please make sure that you address the course objectives in your submissions.

Topics and context for the assignment

The ethics issue that you focus on for this assignment can be chosen from the following three topics:

Should the government pay smokers to quit?

Is it morally permissible for doctors to prescribe placebos to patients?

Should there be a human right to health? Why? Why not?

Assessment 2

Multiple			60% of Course Total		Objectives being assessed:CO1, CO2, CO3			
Title	Team work	Length	Duration	Sub-weighting	Due date (Adelaide Time)	Submit via	Re-Submission	Re-Marking
Part 1 Group presentation	No	1000 word equivalent	-	20%	26 May 2023, 11:00 PM	learnonline	No	No
Part 2 Reflection	No	1500 words	-	80%	26 May 2023, 11:00 PM	learnonline	No	No

Further information on re-marking and re-submission is available in the academic policy, AB-68 P4 Re-marking and Re-submission Procedure

Part 1. Group presentation

The group presentation will allow you to build on your skills by implementing the concepts applied in Assessment 1 to a group situation. You will work with a group of students to apply the 6-step ethical framework to a specific case.

Your presentation will be via Zoom. One member of the group can share the screen and each group member should have an opportunity to describe how the framework was used to address the issue. Your presentation should be recorded. One student in the group will be responsible for submission of the recorded presentation to the learnonline site.

Part 2. Reflection on ethical practice

This reflection will require you to consider your approach to ethical practice in the context of your current career

and career aspirations. You should also consider how your approach may differ to that of your colleagues and how you might negotiate these differences. Begin by considering the processes associated with completing Part 1 of this assignment, the group presentation. Do you believe your ethical practices and values differed from those of other group members? Without naming other group members, describe whether there were differences in perceptions between group members and how this was managed. You should also consider how you approach ethical issues in your current role. What are some of the issues that have or might arise in this role? How have you dealt with these issues in the past and have you learned approaches in this course that might change the way you approach ethical practice? 5% of the mark in this reflection represents your contribution to the discussion forum each week across the 13-week semester. You are expected to contribute a post that is relevant to the case study for that week or to the trolley problem discussion. This could be in response to a post already on the forum or a new post, raising a point, opinion or observation.

Feedback proformas

The feedback proforma is available on your course site.

Additional assessment requirements

There are no additional assessment requirements identified for this course.

Penalties for late submission

Late submission of assessment tasks policy

Late submission of assessment tasks in this course will result in a penalty unless an extension has been granted or the student can provide evidence of unexpected or exceptional circumstances.

The penalty for late submissions will be:

1. a deduction of 10% of the available marks, for each day (or part thereof) that the assignment is late up to a maximum of 5 days.

Thus, for an assessment item that is one day late the maximum mark available will be 90%, and for two days late 80% etc. By way of example, if a student achieved a mark of 65% for an assignment that was submitted one day late, their adjusted mark would be 65% of a total available mark of 90%, so the mark would be adjusted to 58.5%.

2. assignments which are more than 5 days late may not be assessed and will be assigned a zero grade inclusive of non-graded pass work. Whether or not an assignment that is more than 5 days late will be assessed will be at the discretion of the Course Coordinator.

Rationale for Late submission of assessment tasks policy

If unexpected or exceptional circumstances occur that result in late submission, or if an extension has been granted for an assessment item, there will be no penalty.

However, where no extension has been granted, and there were no unexpected or exceptional circumstances that resulted in late submission a penalty will be applied. This is to prevent students from seeking to obtain an unfair advantage, compared with their peers, by having more time to complete an assessment item.

It was considered that if a student were to work on an assessment item for one day they might be able to improve their mark by 10%, so a 10% penalty has been applied to offset any such advantage that might be gained.

The 10% deduction will be from the available mark rather than the achieved mark to ensure equity between students. By way of example:

1) If a student achieved a mark of 77 (Distinction), but the assessment item was submitted two days late, their grade becomes 77% of 80 = 61.6 which is a true 20% reduction.
If the 20% deduction were applied to the achieved mark this would be $77\% - 20\% = 57\%$, which would actually represent a 26% reduction of their achieved grade.

2) If a student achieves a mark of 54 (P2) and is 2 days late in submitting the assessment item, their grade becomes 54% of 80 = 43.2 which is a true 20% reduction. If the 20% deduction were applied to the achieved mark this would be $54\% - 20\% = 34\%$ which represents an actual 37% reduction of their achieved grade.

Thus, if the deduction were applied to the achieved mark both students would experience a different real deduction depending on the actual mark they achieved. Thus, in the interest of student equity the deduction will be taken from the available mark.

Negotiable assessment methods

Extensions

Requests for an extension of time for submission of an assignment should be made prior to the due date of the assignment and must be supported by documentary evidence (e.g., medical certificate, counsellor report). Requests for an extension must be directed via the online extension request link to the course coordinator. Students with disabilities or medical conditions may be entitled to reasonable adjustment to assessment arrangements including extra time and alternative forms of assessment.

See: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/Disability/>.

Late Submission of Assignments Policy

Late submissions penalties will be applied as per the following:
Late submissions accrue 10% deduction per day or part thereof.
Assignments submitted more than 5 days after the due date will not be marked.

Re-submissions will be considered for Assignment 1 and 2, and only for those who received an F1 grade. For further information regarding re-submissions refer to section 5.2 of the Assessment Policies and Procedures Manual.

Re-marking will occur as per section 5.1 of the Assessment Policies and Procedures Manual.

Exam Arrangements

This course does not have an exam

Deferred Assessment or Examination

Deferred assessment or examination is available for this course.

Supplementary Assessment

Supplementary assessment or examination offers students an opportunity to gain a supplementary pass (SP) and is available to all students under specific conditions unless supplementary assessment or examination has not been approved for the course.

Specific conditions and further information is available in the Variations to Assessment Procedure. <http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/>

Supplementary assessment or examination offers students an opportunity to gain a supplementary pass (SP) and is available to all students under the following conditions unless supplementary assessment or examination has not been approved for the course:

1. if the student has achieved a final grade between 45-49 per cent (F1) in a course
2. if a student who has successfully completed all of the courses within their program, with the exception of two courses in which they were enrolled in their final study period, a supplementary assessment or examination may be granted where the final grade in either or both of these courses, is less than 45 percent (F1 or F2) and all assessments in the courses were attempted by the student. Supplementary assessment will not be available for a course under investigation for academic integrity until the investigation is completed, and determined that it did not constitute academic misconduct.

More information about supplementary assessment is available in section 7.5 of the Assessment Policy and Procedures Manual.
<http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/>

Special Consideration

Special consideration is available for this course. Note: Special consideration cannot be granted for a deferred assessment or examination, or a supplementary assessment or examination. APPM 7.7.6

Variations to assessment tasks

Details for which variation may be considered are discussed in the [Variations to Assessment Procedure](http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/) (<http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/>). Variation to assessment in unexpected or exceptional circumstances should be discussed with your course coordinator as soon as possible.

More information about variation to assessment is available in the [Variations to Assessment Procedure](http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/) (<http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/>).

Students with disabilities or medical conditions please refer to **Students with disabilities or medical conditions**.

Students with disabilities or medical conditions

Students with disabilities or medical conditions or students who are carers of a person with a disability may be entitled to a variation or modification to standard assessment arrangements. See the [Variations to Assessment Procedure](http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/) at: <http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/> and Policy C7 [Students with Disability](https://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/university-policies/corporate/c-7/) at: <https://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/university-policies/corporate/c-7/>

Students who require variations or modifications to standard assessment arrangements must first register for an Access Plan with the UniSA Access & Inclusion Service. It is important to contact the Access & Inclusion service early to ensure that appropriate support can be implemented or arranged in a timely manner.

Students who wish to apply for an Access Plan must book an appointment with a UniSA Access & Inclusion Advisor by contacting Campus Central or via the Online Booking System in the Student Portal. For more information about Access Plans please visit: <https://i.unisa.edu.au/students/student-support-services/access-inclusion/>

Once an Access Plan has been approved, students must advise their Course Coordinator as early as possible to ensure that appropriate supports can be implemented or arranged in a timely manner.

Students are advised there are also strict deadlines to finalise Access Plan arrangements prior to examinations. Further information is available at: http://i.unisa.edu.au/campus-central/Exams_R/Before-the-Exam/Alternative-exam-arrangements/

Action from previous evaluations

There was no requirement to amend this course based on the evaluation of its first delivery in 2020.

Unplanned learnonline outages

The alteration to assessment due dates and communication strategy is designed to minimise the impact of major unplanned learnonline system service outages on students and staff. They should only be considered when an unplanned outage occurs within 3 days of an assessment activity.

Any implementation or revisions are at the discretion of the course coordinator.

Outage Duration	Alteration to due date	Alteration to examination
Less than 1 hour	Nil impact	Nil impact
Between 1 and 4 hours	consider extension	Nil impact
Between 4 and 24 hours	24 hour extension	Consider when marking
Longer than 24 hours	48 hour extension	Consider when marking

Any changes to assessment activity will be communicated to you from your Course Coordinator via:

- Email

- SMS message

Course Calendar

Study Period 2 - 2023

	Weeks	Topic	Assessment Details (Adelaide Time)
	13 - 19 February	Pre-teaching	
	20 - 26 February	Pre-teaching	
1	27 February - 5 March	WEEK ONE: How to do ethics	
2	06 - 12 March	WEEK TWO: Benefits, Harms and Rights	
3	13 - 19 March	WEEK THREE: Our Genetics	
4	20 - 26 March	WEEK FOUR: Autonomy, Choice and Personal Responsibility for Health	
5	27 March - 2 April	WEEK FIVE: Harm, Paternalism and Limits on Individual Freedom	
6	03 - 9 April	WEEK SIX: DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE, FAIRNESS AND MAXIMISING RESOURCES	
7	10 - 16 April	Mid-break	
8	17 - 23 April	Mid-break	
9	24 - 30 April	WEEK SEVEN: PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE	Analysis of an ethical issue due 24 Apr 2023, 11:00 PM
10	01 - 7 May	WEEK EIGHT: DECISION-MAKING MODELS	
11	08 - 14 May	WEEK NINE: PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNICATION	
12	15 - 21 May	WEEK TEN: NATIONAL POLICY MAKING	
13	22 - 28 May	WEEK ELEVEN: DEVELOPING CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS	Part 2 Reflection due 26 May 2023, 11:00 PM Part 1 Group presentation due 26 May 2023, 11:00 PM
14	29 May - 4 June	WEEK TWELVE: SOLIDARITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH	
15	05 - 11 June	WEEK THIRTEEN: GLOBAL JUSTICE AND GLOBAL HEALTH	
16	12 - 18 June		
17	19 - 25 June		
18	26 June - 2 July		