

## INTRODUCTORY CLASS

### Course Description

#### **Basic Applied Ethics Series**

DU's Center for Professional Development is proud to offer a 5-class series on ethics, helping professionals from many backgrounds discover ways that ethical principles can protect them from liability and also improve the service that they provide. Join Thomas Kerkhoff, co-recipient of the 2016 Thomas Martin Ethics Award, as he uses real-world examples to illustrate the ways that you can use ethical concepts in your daily life – professionally and personally.

Often, ethical concepts are taught as theoretical courses, hearkening back to Greek philosophers who wrote lengthy essays on the topic. This series, however, brings ethical concepts off the reference shelves and into your daily life, providing practical applications that you can use as soon as you leave the classroom.

#### **Class 1: Introduction to Ethics**

In this introductory course, which will meet one evening on the University of Denver campus, Dr. Kerkhoff provides an overview of the four moral principles that are at the foundation of most ethical considerations: autonomy, nonmaleficence, beneficence and justice. Using in-class exercises and examples that class participants share, Dr. Kerkhoff explains how you can identify the ethical principle(s) underlying all of your professional activities. This knowledge then enables you to engage in effective decision-making from an informed ethical perspective. For those who provide healthcare, legal or education services, this new way of thinking will help you to deliver higher quality outcomes as it also helps you to stay out of conflict. Learn why ethics are not impossible ideals but, when put into daily practice, can help you to develop beneficial, tactical thought processes.

- People in nearly every field could benefit from this course, but especially those in the healthcare, legal or educational fields.
- Course can stand alone or be taken as part of the series.
- Continuing education (CE) credits available.

### Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Gain knowledge regarding the four moral principles (autonomy, nonmaleficence, beneficence, justice) and related ethical concepts
- Be able to demonstrate working knowledge of the application of moral principles to everyday professional decision-making and behavior
- Be able to demonstrate working knowledge of an applied ethical decision-making procedure and its rationale

### Materials/Assignments:

- *Textbook:* Beauchamp T. & Childress, J. (2012) *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*. New York, NY; Oxford University Press
- *Technology:* PowerPoint content slides with video commentary from the Instructor
- *Post-tests:* One 20 question multiple-choice post-test



## **AUTONOMY CLASS**

### Course Description

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#### **Class 2: The Ethical Concept of Autonomy**

In this online course, Dr. Kerkhoff examines the ethical concept of autonomy, which maintains that people are in charge of themselves and have the freedom to make their own decisions. This concept is most commonly applied in the healthcare field, which holds that people have the right to make decisions regarding their health, as seen in advanced directives or when people choose to forego medical treatment for cancer. However, many other professionals also make daily decisions that require a high level of moral preparedness; decisions that could be well-served with a better understanding of autonomy. Using exercises and real-world examples, Dr. Kerkhoff helps you to identify the source of ethical challenges you may face and, using the concept of autonomy, helps to unravel even complex issues to their core question. Students will discover ways to hone their ability to identify ethical issues regarding autonomy and to refine their own problem-solving skills based on this new knowledge.

- People in nearly every field could benefit from this course, but especially those in the healthcare, legal or educational fields.
- Course can stand alone or be taken as part of the series.
- Continuing education (CE) credits available.

### Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Gain working knowledge of the following ethical concepts: principle of autonomy, autonomous choice, informed consent, capacity/competence, disclosure, understanding and voluntariness

### Materials/Assignments:

- *Textbook:* Beauchamp T. & Childress, J. (2012) *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*. New York, NY; Oxford University Press
- *Technology:* PowerPoint content slides with video commentary from the Instructor
- *Post-tests:* One 20 question multiple-choice post-test



## **NONMALEFICENCE CLASS**

### Course Description

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Often, ethical concepts are taught as theoretical courses, harkening back to Greek philosophers who wrote lengthy essays on the topic. This series, however, brings ethical concepts off the reference shelves and into your daily life, providing practical applications that you can use as soon as you leave the classroom.

#### **Class 3: The Ethical Concept of Nonmaleficence**

In this online course, Dr. Kerkhoff examines the ethical concept of nonmaleficence, which maintains that people should do no harm to others. Professionals in many fields face nonmaleficence challenges, including lawyers, teachers, healthcare professionals, social workers, mental health professionals and criminal justice professionals. For example, if someone in prison is harmed while incarcerated, did the criminal justice system fail its ethical duty to protect a person in their care? If a lawyer fails to inform a client of all of his or her options, has the person's case been harmed? Using exercises and real-world examples, Dr. Kerkhoff helps you to identify the source of ethical challenges you may face and, using the concept of nonmaleficence, helps to unravel even complex issues to their core question. Students will discover ways to hone their ability to identify ethical issues regarding nonmaleficence and to refine their own problem-solving skills based on this new knowledge.

- People in nearly every field could benefit from this course, but especially those in the healthcare, legal or educational fields.
- Course can stand alone or be taken as part of the series.
- Continuing education (CE) credits available.

### Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Be able to demonstrate working knowledge of the following topic areas: principle of nonmaleficence, concept of harm, negligence/standard of due care, withholding and withdrawing treatment, ordinary and extra-ordinary treatment, sustenance technologies, intended effects/foreseen effects, optional/obligatory treatment, quality of life judgments, killing vs letting die, intentionally arranged death, advance directives

### Materials/Assignments:

- *Textbook:* Beauchamp T. & Childress, J. (2012) *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*. New York, NY; Oxford University Press
- *Technology:* PowerPoint content slides with video commentary from the Instructor
- *Post-tests:* One 20 question multiple-choice post-test



## **BENEFICENCE CLASS**

### Course Description

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Often, ethical concepts are taught as theoretical courses, harkening back to Greek philosophers who wrote lengthy essays on the topic. This series, however, brings ethical concepts off the reference shelves and into your daily life, providing practical applications that you can use as soon as you leave the classroom.

#### **Class 4: The Ethical Concept of Beneficence**

In this online course, Dr. Kerkhoff examines the ethical concept of beneficence, which maintains that people have the duty to do good for others when they have the means or skills. Professionals in many fields face beneficence challenges, including lawyers, healthcare professionals, social workers, teachers, mental health professionals and criminal justice professionals. For example, healthcare professionals who are trained in CPR are taught that it is their duty to perform these skills on strangers who may be facing heart attacks or other trauma. If teachers fail to challenge their students properly, have they failed their ethical duty to use their skills to help others? Using exercises and real-world examples, Dr. Kerkhoff helps you to identify the source of ethical challenges you may face and, using the concept of beneficence, helps to unravel even complex issues to their core question. Students will discover ways to hone their ability to identify ethical issues regarding beneficence and to refine their own problem-solving skills based on this new knowledge.

- People in nearly every field could benefit from this course, but especially those in the healthcare, legal or educational fields.
- Course can stand alone or be taken as part of the series.
- Continuing education (CE) credits available.

### Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Be able to demonstrate working knowledge of the following concepts: principle of beneficence, obligatory vs ideal, general and specific beneficence, duty of rescue, reciprocity based justification, paternalism, suicide intervention, requests for non-beneficial procedures, surrogate decision standards, balancing benefits costs and risks, risk assessment, quality of life

### Materials/Assignments:

- *Textbook:* Beauchamp T. & Childress, J. (2012) *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*. New York, NY; Oxford University Press
- *Technology:* PowerPoint content slides with video commentary from the Instructor
- *Post-tests:* One 20 question multiple-choice post-test



## JUSTICE CLASS

### Course Description

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Often, ethical concepts are taught as theoretical courses, hearkening back to Greek philosophers who wrote lengthy essays on the topic. This series, however, brings ethical concepts off the reference shelves and into your daily life, providing practical applications that you can use as soon as you leave the classroom.

#### **Class 5: The Ethical Concept of Justice**

In this online course, Dr. Kerkhoff examines the ethical concept of justice, which maintains that we must maintain equity in allocating resources. Professionals in many fields face justice challenges, including lawyers, healthcare professionals, social workers, teachers, mental health professionals and criminal justice professionals. For example, if a financial officer provides unfair fee-for-service discounts for favored clients, that action is seen as unethical under the principle of justice. Likewise, our society grapples with providing healthcare access to all, a dilemma founded on the concept of justice. Using exercises and real-world examples, Dr. Kerkhoff helps you to identify the source of ethical challenges you may face and, using the concept of justice, helps to unravel even complex issues to their core question. Students will discover ways to hone their ability to identify ethical issues regarding justice and to refine their own problem-solving skills based on this new knowledge.

- People in nearly every field could benefit from this course, but especially those in the healthcare, legal or educational fields.
- Course can stand alone or be taken as part of the series.
- Continuing education (CE) credits available.

### Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Be able to demonstrate working knowledge of the following content areas: principle of justice, traditional theories, recent theories, fair opportunity and unfair discrimination, demographic disparities, vulnerable populations, undue inducement/profit/exploitation, national health policy/right to health care, allocation/prioritizing/rationing of resources

### Materials/Assignments:

- *Textbook:* Beauchamp T. & Childress, J. (2012) *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*. New York, NY; Oxford University Press
- *Technology:* PowerPoint content slides with video commentary from the Instructor
- *Post-tests:* One 20 question multiple-choice post-test