

Western Technical College

10544207 Legal & Ethical Issues of Aging

Course Outcome Summary

Course Information

Description	Covers concepts and structures involved in the legal and financial realm of gerontology including Power of Attorney for Health Care/Finance, guardianships, trusts, reallocation of assets, spending down, Medicare/Medicaid benefits, supplemental insurance, Social Security, financial exploitation, elder abuse/neglect, reporting abuse/neglect and relevant governmental policy. Learners will be able to apply knowledge by learning advocacy techniques to benefit senior populations on a community, local, and federal level.
Career Cluster	Health Science
Instructional Level	Associate Degree Courses
Total Credits	3

Textbooks

Ethics, Aging, and Society: The Critical Turn. Copyright 2011. Holstein, Martha B., Jennifer Parks, and Mark Waymack. Publisher: Springer Publishing Co. **ISBN-13:978-0-8261-1634-5**. Required.

The New Politics of Old Age Policy. 3rd Edition. Copyright 2014. Hudson, Robert B. Publisher: Hopkins Fulfillment Services. **ISBN-13:978-1-4214-1487-4**. Required.

Course Competencies

1. Differentiate between Power of Attorney for Health Care, Power of Attorney for Finance, and Guardianship.

Assessment Strategies

1.1. Reflection

Learning Objectives

- 1.a. Explore Advanced Directives. (Living Will; Power of Attorney for Healthcare; Power of Attorney for Finance/Property)
- 1.b. Explore Guardianship.
- 1.c. Investigate the concept of autonomy to the older adult population.
- 1.d. Examine the phrase "to have capacity."

2. Outline the administrative structure of services at the federal, state, and local levels.

Assessment Strategies

2.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 2.a. Explore federal government structure and services.
- 2.b. Explore state government structure and services.
- 2.c. Explore local government structure and services.
- 2.d. Differentiate common law, statutory law, and administrative law.
- 2.e. Examine laws that impact older adults.

3. Explore governmental policy development surrounding the older adult population.

Assessment Strategies

- 3.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 3.a. Differentiate law and policy.
- 3.b. Explore the policy-making process.
- 3.c. Examine the impact of policy on the daily lives of older adults.
- 3.d. Investigate top policy issues affecting older adults.

4. Summarize the role of Social Security.

Assessment Strategies

- 4.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 4.a. Explore components of Social Security.
- 4.b. Examine the history/evolution of Social Security.
- 4.c. Explore financial challenges facing Social Security.
- 4.d. Explore potential avenues of reform for Social Security.

5. Compare and contrast Medicare and Medicaid services for the older adult.

Assessment Strategies

- 5.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 5.a. Define Medicare and Medicaid services.
- 5.b. Examine eligibility requirements for Medicare and Medicaid services.
- 5.c. Differentiate Medicare services from Medicaid services.
- 5.d. Diagram sources of funding for Medicare and Medicaid services.

6. Examine the concept of supplemental insurance as it applies to older adults.

Assessment Strategies

- 6.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 6.a. Explore supplemental insurance.
- 6.b. Examine services covered by supplemental insurance.
- 6.c. Investigate the value of supplemental insurance.

7. Compare and contrast trust plans, reallocation of assets, and spending down.

Assessment Strategies

- 7.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 7.a. Examine trust plans.
- 7.b. Explore the reallocation of assets.
- 7.c. Investigate "spending down".
- 7.d. Explore estate planning.
- 7.e. Determine the value of a will.

8. Investigate financial exploitation in the aging population.

Assessment Strategies

- 8.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 8.a. Explore various types of financial exploitation of older adults.
- 8.b. Examine potential perpetrators involved in the financial exploitation of older adults.
- 8.c. Examine potential ramifications of financial exploitation of older adults on society.
- 8.d. Investigate the Elder Justice Act.

9. Identify Elder Abuse and Elder Neglect.

Assessment Strategies

- 9.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 9.a. Examine various forms of Elder Abuse and Elder Neglect.
- 9.b. Explore potential characteristics of victims and perpetrators of Elder Abuse and Elder Neglect.
- 9.c. Explore the challenges of the justice system related to Elder Abuse and Elder Neglect.

10. Follow proper procedure for reporting Elder Abuse and Elder Neglect.

Assessment Strategies

- 10.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 10.a. Differentiate criminal law and civil law.
- 10.b. Explore mandatory reporting laws for Elder Abuse and Elder Neglect.
- 10.c. Outline the steps for reporting Elder Abuse and Elder Neglect.
- 10.d. Examine potential repercussions for failure to report Elder Abuse and Elder Neglect.

11. Defend the need for advocacy within the aging population at the federal, state, and local levels.

Assessment Strategies

- 11.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 11.a. Explore advocacy.
- 11.b. Examine various forms of ageism.
- 11.c. Investigate the importance of aging in the community.

12. Analyze the ethical dimensions of current issues in aging as they relate to personal, social, and professional value systems.

Assessment Strategies

- 12.1. Written Objective Test

Learning Objectives

- 12.a. Differentiate legal and ethical.
- 12.b. Contrast autonomy and paternalism.
- 12.c. Examine ethical decision making.
- 12.d. Align ethical decision making to current issues in aging.