



# SUBJECT OUTLINE

Subject Name:

Subject Code:

**Ethics and Law in Complementary Medicine SOCL321**

## SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Award/s:</b>	<b>Total Course Credit Points:</b>	<b>Level:</b>
Bachelor of Complementary Medicine	48	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year
<b>Duration:</b> 1 Semester		
<b>Subject is:</b> Core	<b>Subject Credit Points:</b> 2	

### Student Workload:

<b>No. timetabled hours per week:</b> 3	<b>No. personal study hours per week:</b> 2	<b>Total hours per week:</b> 5
<b>Delivery Mode*:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> On campus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Online / Digital	<input type="checkbox"/> Blended
		<input type="checkbox"/> Intensive
<b>Weekly Session^ Format/s - 1 session per week:</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> eLearning modules: Lectures: Interactive adaptive online learning modules Tutorials: can include asynchronous tutor moderated discussion forum and activities, learning journal activities or other web-based resources		
<p>*All modes are supported by the online learning management system which will include subject documents such as handouts, readings and assessment guides.</p> <p>^A 'session' is made up of 3 hours of timetabled / online study time per week unless otherwise specified. Each subject has a set number of sessions as outlined above.</p>		
<b>Study Pattern:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Part Time
<b>Pre-requisites:</b>	Nil	
<b>Co-requisites:</b>	Nil	

## SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC DETAILS

### Subject Rationale

This subject aims to broaden the student's understanding of ethical theory, ethical issues and ethical decision-making process as related to complementary medicine. This subject frames complementary medicine within the Australian legal system and within international and domestic views on human rights, offering students the opportunity to explore the principles that underpin good practice and professional codes of practice through case studies. It addresses Eastern, Western and Indigenous Australian concepts of ethics.



## Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate a depth of understanding of the moral and philosophical underpinnings of complementary medicine from Eastern, Western and Indigenous Australian viewpoints.
2. Apply theoretical frameworks for appropriate ethical responses in the field of complementary medicine.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of human rights as an interface between complementary medicine, law and ethics.
4. Critically evaluate domestic and international legal and ethical issues related to complementary and allopathic medicine in public health, end of life and reproductive issues.

## Assessment Tasks

Type	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Session Content Delivered	Due	Weighting
<b>Written Assignment 1 – Reflective Journal</b> (1000 words)	1-3	1-3	Week 7	30%
<b>Written Assignment 2 – Case Study</b> (1500 words)	1-4	4-8	Week 12	40%
<b>Final Written Exam</b> (1.5 hours)	1-4	1-13	Final Examination Period	30%
All written assessments are due at 11:55 p.m. Sunday and submitted through the LMS				

### Prescribed Readings:

1. Weir, M. (2022). *Law & ethics in complementary medicine* (6th ed.). Allen & Unwin

### Recommended Readings:

1. Baillie, H., McGeehan, J., Garrett, T. M., & Garrett, R. M. (2013). *Health care ethics* (6th ed.). Pearson.
2. Breen, K. (2010). *Good medical practice professionalism ethics & law*. Cambridge University Press.
3. Corey, G., Corey, M. S., & Callanan, P. (2015). *Issues and ethics in the helping professions* (9th ed.). Brooks Cole Cengage.
4. Egan, G. (2013). *The skilled helper: A problem-management and opportunity-development approach to helping* (10th ed.). Brooks Cole.
5. Kerridge, I., Lowe, M., & Stewart, C. (2013). *Ethics and law for the health professions* (4th ed.). Federation Press.



Subject Content		
Week	Lectures	Tutorial / Practical Activities
1.	<p><b>Introduction</b> (Subject Outline / Subject Aims / Assessment / Teaching Resources)</p> <p><b>Introduction to Philosophy, Morality and Ethics in the Western Perspective</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Introduction to the philosophy of morality and ethics</li> <li>➤ Why study healthcare ethics?</li> <li>➤ The development of ethics from their moral and philosophical beginnings; Ancient Greek, Christian and secular</li> <li>➤ Academic Disciplines related to ethics</li> <li>➤ Exploration of the ethical and moral perspectives of leading theorists</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Activities such as live webinars and videos on the Loop are developed to allow the students to explore relevant concepts, expand on ideas and have peer and lecturer interaction. Activities also allow for formative assessment and feedback.</li> <li>➤ Explanation of the assessment tasks/activities/expectations</li> <li>➤ Overview of the subject and introduction to the prescribed readings</li> <li>➤ Discussion on the conflicting perspectives of the leading theorists in the field of morality and how their ideas influence our personal and societal realities – for example Aristotle, John Stuart Mill, Jeremy Bentham, Immanuel Kant</li> </ul>
2.	<p><b>Overview of Ethical Principles: Western</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ethical principles</li> <li>➤ Ethics of character and conduct</li> <li>➤ Case study</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitated discussion surrounding ethical principles and how they apply to society and complementary medicine</li> <li>➤ Case study discussion designed to highlight the different approaches of ethical theories and their historical framework to real world examples</li> </ul>
3.	<p><b>Overview of Ethical Theory: Buddhist and Hindu Ethics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Five Precepts and the Eightfold Way of the Buddha</li> <li>➤ Achara and Dharma in Hinduism</li> <li>➤ Ethical conduct or Sadachara in Hinduism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitated discussion of the concepts from Buddhist and Hindu philosophy, supported by relevant readings</li> <li>➤ The relevance of these in ethical clinical practice</li> <li>➤ Their relations to the current Codes of Ethics</li> </ul>
4.	<p><b>Overview of Ethical Theory: Islamic and Indigenous Australian Ethics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ethical concepts found in the Qur'an</li> <li>➤ Shari'a or God's Law</li> <li>➤ Australian Indigenous perspectives on the relationships between ethics and law and spirituality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitated discussion of these concepts and relationships</li> <li>➤ Importance of these concepts for ethical clinical practice</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>Ethical Issues in Complementary Medicine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Professionalism and conduct</li> <li>➤ Empathy and care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitated discussion of these issues based on case study analyses</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Conscience and the healthcare professional</li> <li>➤ Consent and Confidentiality</li> <li>➤ The challenge of holism</li> <li>➤ Case study</li> </ul>	
6.	<b>Ethical Decision Making 1: Deontology, Reason and Motive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Kant and moral imperatives</li> <li>➤ The primacy of reason in decision making</li> <li>➤ Considerations of motive in decision making</li> <li>➤ Case studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitated discussions based on case study analyses</li> </ul>
7.	<b>Ethical Decision Making 2: Consequentialism, Intuition and Conscience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Bentham and Mill on the primacy of consequences, both implicit and explicit</li> <li>➤ The role of intuition in decision making</li> <li>➤ The role of conscience in decision making</li> <li>➤ Case studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitated discussion based on case study analyses</li> </ul>
<b>NON-TEACHING WEEK</b> (note that make-up classes may be scheduled in this week) <b>Online students</b> – The non-teaching week falls between Weeks 7 and 8		
8.	<b>The Legal System and Complementary Medicine 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Introduction to the Australian legal system</li> <li>➤ Torts</li> <li>➤ Scope of practice</li> <li>➤ Obligations, duties and rights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitated discussion of the <i>Health Practitioner Regulation National Law 2010</i> (ACT) and follow up legislation</li> <li>➤ Ethical dilemmas</li> </ul>
9.	<b>The Legal System and Complementary Medicine 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Professional misconduct</li> <li>➤ Negligence</li> <li>➤ Contracts</li> <li>➤ Civil rights</li> <li>➤ Case studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitated discussion on these issues based on case study analyses</li> </ul>
10.	<b>Regulatory Issues in Complementary Medicine</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Therapeutic Goods Act</li> <li>➤ Medical Records</li> <li>➤ Restricted acts and protected titles</li> <li>➤ Licences and insurance</li> <li>➤ Case studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitated discussion of these issues based on case study analyses</li> </ul>



11.	<b>Human Rights in Complementary Medicine</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Context for human rights: what are they, how do they come into being, how are they enforced</li> <li>International conventions</li> <li>Associated obligations</li> <li>Stature in law</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitated discussion of human rights and their importance for ethical clinical practice</li> </ul>
12.	<b>Reproductive and End of Life Issues in Complementary Medicine</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Right to live and right to die</li> <li>End of life care—including decision making, no-CPR orders, care for the elderly, dementia, palliative care, euthanasia and assisted suicide</li> <li>Organ donation</li> <li>Reproductive conflicts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitated discussion of case studies - complementary medicine and end of life issues</li> <li>Ethical and legal aspects of reproductive technologies and ethical challenges</li> </ul>
13.	<b>Complementary Medicine and Rural and Indigenous Populations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indigenous rights</li> <li>Medical services</li> <li>The law and Closing the Gap initiatives</li> <li>The unique role of Complementary Medicine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group comparative analysis using case studies taken from Indigenous Law Bulletin linking indigenous legal sovereignty, indigenous health and traditional medicine</li> <li>Facilitated discussion of common health problems in immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers in a climate of legal and cultural uncertainty</li> </ul>
14.	<b>Non-Teaching Week/Practical Examination Week 1</b> Note that make-up classes may be scheduled in this week	
15.	<b>Non-Teaching Week/Practical Examination Week 2</b> Note that make-up classes may be scheduled in this week	
16.	<b>Final Examination Week 1</b> Students are required to sit examinations using the Respondus Lockdown Browser software per the <a href="#">Examination Policy – Higher Education</a> . Refer to your local campus calendar for exam opening and closing times.	
17.	<b>Final Examination Week 2</b> Students are required to sit examinations using the Respondus Lockdown Browser software per the <a href="#">Examination Policy – Higher Education</a> . Refer to your local campus calendar for exam opening and closing times.	