



# Nursing Ethics and Professional Development II Module

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**Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nursing Degree**  
**Department of Nursing and Midwifery**  
**Faculty of Allied Health Sciences**  
**University of Sri Jayewardenepura**

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**NURSING ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT II MODULE**

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# Module Development Committee

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# **NURSING ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT II MODULE**

## **Introduction**

The subject Nursing Ethics and Professional Development- II offered in the fourth year of the BSc. Nursing curriculum as a continuation of Ethics and Professional Development- I in the first year.

The curriculum components learnt in the first year will be revised and it will further develop knowledge and skills and enhance favourable attitudes among students towards upholding the ethical principles in the provision of nursing services. Further, students will gain a deeper understanding of bioethics and will examine a range of problem - based scenarios related ethical, cultural, legal and managerial topics. The discussions will include conflict management, group dynamics, problem solving and decision-making.

Ethical reflection is encouraged through group discussions and student seminars will be held with the guidance of the subject coordinator to enhance students' skills in critical thinking, presentation, constructive criticism and giving feedback through the in-class activities. Attitudinal development is enhanced through role plays and students seminars followed by discussions to reflect upon their own feelings and values. The students will explore ethical issues related to death and dying, organ transplantation, surrogacy and euthanasia incorporating the religious and cultural views in the region and Sri Lanka.

Developments in nursing as a profession and professionalism are further discussed with greater emphasis in building and maintaining sustainable relationships with health care team members as well as the public. Professional development of individual student is further encouraged through the educational sessions conducted by the Career Guidance Unit (CGU) with the guidance of skilled resource persons within and outside the university. Gaining a deeper understanding of the attributes of a graduate nurse with a favourable change of behaviour incorporating employment etiquette is expected through the above training at the CGU.

# NURSING ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT II MODULE

Credits: 1.5

Placement: Term 10-11 (4<sup>th</sup> year)

Teaching Unit: Department of Nursing and Midwifery and Career Guidance Unit

| Subject                                      | Lecture/<br>Tutorial | Lec.<br>credits | Lab<br>Hrs | Lab<br>credits | Practice<br>Hrs | Prac.<br>credits | Total<br>Hrs | Total<br>credits |
|--|----------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Nursing Ethics & Professional Development II | 22.5                 | 1.5             | -          | -              | -               | -                | 22.5         | 1.5              |

## Unit 1 – Nursing Ethics II

### Course Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this subject, students will be able to,

1. Discuss the social and cultural factors that influence ethical decision-making in nursing.
2. Discuss occupational factors that affect nurses in ethical decision-making.
3. Identify major bioethical issues related to health care.
4. Discuss ethical dilemmas in direct nurse – patient relationships.
5. Discuss specific ethical issues related to nursing practice.

|    | Main content areas :                                     | Lectures/Tutorials<br>(Hours) |
|----|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Ethical decision-making                                  | 01                            |
| 2. | Factors affecting ethical decision-making by nurses      | 01                            |
| 3  | Introduction to bioethics                                | 02                            |
| 4  | Ethical dilemmas in direct nurse – patient relationships | 03                            |
| 5. | Ethical issues related to nursing practice.              | 02                            |
| 6  | Politics, ethics and access to health in Sri Lanka       | 01                            |
|    | Total  | 10                            |

## Unit 2 - Professional Development II

### Course Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course the student will be able to,

1. Develop positive attitudes towards maintaining appropriate personal and professional relationships in practice.
2. Identify professional development in nursing education and nursing services in Sri Lanka and in other countries.
3. Appreciate the need for self-development and developing others in nursing practice.
4. Describe characteristics of a nurse as an effective care giving leader in the multi-disciplinary team of health care.

|    | <b>Main content areas</b>   | <b>Lectures/Tutorials<br/>(Hours)</b> |
|----|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Contributions of an individual nurse to the nursing professional development      | 01                                    |
| 2. | Working relationships with other professionals                                    | 02                                    |
| 3  | Responsibility and accountability   | 02                                    |
| 4  | Employment etiquette  | 05                                    |
| 5. | Facilitating colleagues and student nurses in their learning in clinical settings | 1.5                                   |
| 6  | Career development  | 01                                    |
|    | Total   | 12.5                                  |

## Unit 1- Nursing Ethics

### 1. Ethical decision-making

| Intermediate objectives   | Broad Content Areas   | Activity               | Duration |
|---|---|------------------------|----------|
| Discuss the determinants influencing ethical decision-making within health care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-introduction to ethical decision making</li> <li>-Social and cultural attitudes</li> <li>-Science and technology</li> <li>-Social change and legislation</li> <li>-Funding for health care</li> </ul> | Lecture/<br>Discussion | 1 hour   |

### 2. Factors affecting ethical decision-making by nurses

| Intermediate objectives  | Broad Content Areas   | Activity               | Duration |
|--|---|------------------------|----------|
| Discuss the ethical, social and personal factors affecting ethical decision-making by nurses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- values and ethics</li> <li>- Status as an employee and collegial relationships</li> <li>- Authoritarian and paternalistic backgrounds</li> <li>- Consumer involvement in health care</li> <li>- Hospital ethics committees</li> <li>- Informed consent and assent</li> <li>- Facilitating patient decision making</li> <li>- Emotional intelligence</li> </ul> | Lecture/<br>Discussion | 1 hour   |

**3. Introduction to bioethics**

| Intermediate objectives   | Broad Content Areas  | Activity                                      | Duration |
|---|--|---|----------|
| Discuss the bioethical issues reflecting on personal and professional ethics, beliefs and moral frameworks in resolving them. | -Bioethical issues concerning birth, death, and organ transplant,<br>- Euthanasia<br>- Surrogacy<br>- End- of- life care | Lecture/<br>Discussion<br><br>Student seminar | 2 hours  |

**4. Ethical dilemmas in direct nurse – patient relationships**

| Intermediate objectives  | Broad Content Areas  | Activity   | Duration |
|--|--|--|----------|
| Reflect on ethical dilemmas related to nursing practice with the use of ethical principles, theories and morals. | -Ethical theories<br>- Disclosing information, truth telling<br>- The right to refuse treatment<br>- Ethical concerns of behaviour control<br>- Ethical reflection in nursing practice<br>- Moral distress | Lecture/<br>Discussion<br><br>Ethical reflection/<br>Case discussion | 3 hours  |

**5. Ethical issues related to nursing practice.**

| Intermediate objectives   | Broad Content Areas  | Activity  | Duration |
|---|--|---|----------|
| Describe the nursing considerations in ethical issues related to patient safety in health care settings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Self-evaluation, self-evaluation plan</li> <li>Responsibility for supplies, Recommending a care provider, Dealing with poor care</li> <li>-The chemically impaired nurse</li> <li>-Issues related to patient safety                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Clinical dishonesty</li> <li>- Error reporting</li> </ul> </li> <li>-Patient advocacy</li> </ul> | <p>Lecture/<br/>Discussion</p> <p>Ethical reflection/<br/>Case discussion</p> | 2 hours  |

**6. Politics, ethics and access to health in Sri Lanka**

| Intermediate objectives   | Broad Content Areas  | Activity               | Duration |
|---|--|------------------------|----------|
| Describe the ethical issues related to health care for vulnerable populations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vulnerable populations and health care</li> <li>- Ethical issues pertaining to politics and access to health care.</li> </ul> | Lecture/<br>Discussion | 1 hour   |

## Unit 02 – Professional Development II

### 1. Contributions of an individual nurse to the nursing professional development

| Intermediate objectives   | Broad Content Area  | Activity | Duration |
|---|---|----------|----------|
| Describe the importance of personal and professional development of self and others | -Contributions of nurses in developing education and service sectors in nursing<br>- Writing and publishing<br>- Developing self and others | Lecture  | 1 hour   |

### 2. Working relationships with other professionals

| Intermediate objectives   | Broad Content Areas   | Activity                                      | Duration |
|---|---|---|----------|
| Discuss the ways and means of maintaining professional relationships with clients and other health care professionals | -Maintaining professional boundaries<br><br>-Workplace ethics, values and attitudes | Lecture/<br>Discussion<br><br>Student seminar | 2 hour   |

### 3. Responsibility and accountability

| Intermediate objectives   | Broad Content Areas   | Activity                               | Duration |
|---|---|--|----------|
| Demonstrate skills in recording and reporting with special consideration of legal aspects regarding safety of nurses and their clients. | -Recording & reporting<br><br>-Legal aspects in documentation<br><br>-Incident reporting<br>Error reporting | Lecture/<br>Discussion<br><br>Tutorial | 2 hours  |

**4. Employment etiquette**

| Intermediate objectives  | Broad Content Areas  | Activity  | Duration |
|--|--|---|----------|
| Demonstrate skills and attributes of a professional nurse within the health care system. | - Developing a curriculum vitae<br>-Writing official letters<br>- Facing an interview<br>- Conducting meetings | Lecture/<br>Discussion/Small<br>Group activities<br>Study<br>visits/Activities in<br>Job fair | 3 hours  |
|  | - Social graces II<br>-Hosting, dinning etiquette<br>-Social dancing   | Dancing<br>competitions   | 2 hours  |

**5. Facilitating colleagues and student nurses in their learning in clinical settings**

| Intermediate objectives   | Broad Content Areas                              | Activity               | Duration  |
|---|--|------------------------|-----------|
| Describe the roles and functions of an effective clinical supervisor and a mentor for colleagues and student nurses | - Clinical supervision and clinical learning     | Lecture/<br>Discussion | 1.5 hours |
|   | - Role of mentorship in professional development | Tutorial               |           |

**6. Career development**

| Intermediate objectives                                       | Broad Content Areas  | Activity               | Duration |
|---|--|------------------------|----------|
| Describe the opportunities for a nurse for career development | -opportunities for nurses in the advancement of their career<br><br>-career pathways/ladders within the heath sectors locally and globally | Lecture/<br>Discussion | 1 hours  |

**Assessments:**

Continuous Assessments - Fourth year

- Nursing Ethics & Professional Development II - Group presentations 20%
- Trends and Issues in Nursing - Group presentations 20%

BSc. (Hons) in Nursing Part IV examination:

- Nursing Ethics & Professional Development II & Trends and Issues in Nursing
  - Structured Viva - 20%
  - SEQ (04) - 40%

**Recommended readings**

1. Burkhardt, M.A., Nathaniel, A.K., Walton, N.A. (2014) Ethics and Issues in contemporary nursing, Nelson Education Ltd.
2. Burnard, Philip (latest edition) Learning human skills, Elsevier Science Ltd. Oxford.
3. Marthenez, T. Social Graces and Professional Ethic, Tharanjee printers. Gangodawila
4. Young, L.E., Paterson, L.B., (2007) Teaching Nursing: developing a student-centered Learning Environment, Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, Philadelphia.

**Reference**

*BSc. (Hons.) in Nursing curriculum*, (2018). University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka.