

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **NURS 501**

#### **HEALTH POLICY AND ETHICS**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines policy decisions and related issues that shape the organization, financing, and implementation of health care services and delivery systems. Ethical, social, and political issues that affect the provision of health care, nursing services, communities, and society are critically analyzed. Dynamics related to the roles and influences of health care providers and consumers, government, and law are discussed. Advanced nursing practice and its impact on policy decision making and health care is emphasized.

#### **RATIONALE**

This course prepares the student for leadership roles and active involvement in the political process relevant to the development, implementation, and evaluation of health policies that are economically and ethically sound and designed to promote health and access to health care for individuals, families, communities, and society.

#### **I. PREREQUISITES**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word and PowerPoint
- D. Access to a printer/scanner

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify major influences that have an effect on health care policy and the health care system in the United States.
- B. Compare legislative and regulatory processes involved in the development and implementation of health policy.
- C. Discuss economic implications of health planning, organization of personnel and resources, payment methods, and cost-effectiveness of various health care delivery systems.
- D. Critique socioeconomic, legal, ethical, and political issues relevant to policymaking and provision of equitable, safe, and quality health care at the local, state, and national levels.
- E. Analyze common ethical dilemmas and their impact on patient care and population health outcomes.
- F. Evaluate ethical decision-making from personal and organizational perspectives, while discussing potential for conflicts of interest that may arise and proposing actions to resolve conflicts.
- G. Interpret the value and importance of the advanced practice nursing role(s) to policy makers, health care professionals, and consumers.
- H. Analyze issues relevant to health policy from a Christian worldview and biblical perspective.

#### **V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist  
After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forum  
Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to submit a thread in response to the provided prompt. The thread must be at least 500 words. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 250 words. The student must support each thread and reply with at least 1 citation in current APA format.
- D. Legislative Letter  
The student will conduct an Internet search, select a current federal bill relevant to nursing, patient care, or health care, and then write a 1–2-page formal, business-style letter expressing his or her views on the issue. In addition, the student must include a title page and a reference page in current APA format. The student must support his or her letter with at least 1 citation in current APA format.

E. Reflection Assignment

The student will write about an event that has occurred in his/her professional practice in which an error was made, an ethical dilemma arose, or a breakdown in team work, collaboration, and communication among the healthcare team negatively impacted a patient's care or health outcome. The assignment must be 2–4 pages (not including the title and reference pages), include 1–2 peer-reviewed journal articles published within the last 5 years, and be in current APA format.

F. Case Studies Discussion (2)

The student will review legal case briefs and submit a thread in response to the provided prompt. Each thread must be at least 500 words and be supported by 2 peer-reviewed journal articles in addition to the course textbook and the Bible. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 250 words and be supported by at least 1 journal article.

G. Health Policy Issue

Paper

The student will submit a 12–15-page paper in current APA format addressing a state or federal health bill/policy that has been introduced but not passed, already exists, or is in need of revision or elimination. The student must support his or her paper with 10–15 citations. The paper must include a title page, an abstract, and a reference page. The page count does not include the title page, abstract, or reference page.

Position

The student will prepare a presentation as if briefing policy decision makers about a relevant state or federal bill/policy, or local ordinance, that has been introduced **but not yet passed**, or one that exists and is in need of revision OR elimination. The student's position must be delivered via a method that incorporates both audio and visual components. Examples include (but are not limited to) PowerPoint with voiceover, use of a screen casting application (Screencast-o-matic, Jing) or a YouTube Video. The presentation must be 10 slides (not including the title slide and references slide), and must not exceed 15 minutes. A minimum of 5 scholarly citations published within the last 5 years in current APA format are required.

Position Feedback

The student will post their position presentation within a Group Discussion Board Forum and will be required to review the work of his/her peers and give substantive feedback.

H. Quiz

This quiz will cover material on informed consent. The quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain 5 multiple-choice and 2 essay questions, and have a 30-minute time limit.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A. Points

Course Requirement Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forum	100
Legislative Letter	100
Reflection Assignment	100
Case Studies Discussions (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Health Policy Issue	
Paper	225
Position	175
Position Feedback	25
Quiz	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

B. Scale

A = 940–1010    A- = 920–939    B+ = 900–919    B = 860–899    B- = 840–859  
 C+ = 820–839    C = 780–819    C- = 760–779    D+ = 740–759    D = 700–739  
 D- = 680–699    F = 0–679

D. MSN Policies

Refer to [MSN Handbook](#).

E. Quizzes/Test

Any quiz or test submitted that exceeds the maximum allotment of time allowed will receive 1 point deducted for every 5 minutes over the allotted time frame. Students must not complete a test or quiz over the same IP address within one hour of another student, as this is defined as collusion, and is a breach of the Liberty University Graduate Code of Honor.

F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **NURS 501**

Textbook: Mason et al., *Policy & Politics in Nursing and Health Care* (2016).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Mason et al.: chs. 1–9 1 presentation 1 website	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Legislative Letter	10 0 100
<b>2</b>	Mason et al.: chs. 16–23 1 presentation 2 articles	Reflection Assignment	100
<b>3</b>	Mason et al.: chs. 10, 14–15 Bible Readings 3 presentations 1 article 1 website	Quiz	75
<b>4</b>	Mason et al.: chs. 11–13, 59 1 presentation 3 websites 1 article	Case Studies Discussion 1	100
<b>5</b>	Mason et al.: chs. 56–66, 71 1 presentation 1 article	Case Studies Discussion 2	100
<b>6</b>	Mason et al.: chs. 40–41, 43–44, 46, 48, 50, 52–54 1 presentation 1 website	Health Policy Issue – Paper	225
<b>7</b>	Mason et al.: chs. 72–75 1 presentation 1 website	Health Policy Issue – Position	175
<b>8</b>	Mason et al.: chs. 81–82, one “Taking Action” chapter of the student’s choice 1 presentation	Health Policy Issue - Position Feedback Discussion Board Forum	25 100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.